



Sent: 17th November 2019

To: All Members of the Cormonachan Woodlands Association

Cormonachan Woodlands Association Members Update No 38

The Latest News - <http://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/news.html> and Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/cormonachan> are updated regularly so in between Members Updates please look at these for news.

Last Opportunity for First Aid Training until September 2022

We have a **free** 1-day first aid course coming up for members as follows:-

Emergency First Aid at Work + F Courses

Friday 6th December 2019 9am to 5pm at Ardroy OEC, Lochgoilhead
- 6 places booked - 6 more places available.

Any member who would like to apply for training or renewal of their 3-year first aid certificates should contact the Secretary immediately as funding has been approved for this course costing £225.00.

The last *free* First Aid training course in September was attended by seven members who gained their certificates for the next three years.

There will not be funding available again for another First Aid course until the three years renewals are due in September 2022, so please make use of this offer!

"Upper Cormonachan Paths Project" Update

The "Upper Cormonachan Paths Project Fund" has now reached **£12,811.61** as at 17th November 2019.

This total has increased by the '**Adopt a Tree**' suggestion by one of our members who suggested we offer the replanting programme of the 105

trees as another way of raising funds for the new paths construction. 35 trees have already been adopted and will be planted on Friday 22nd November on the next Volunteers Day. If anyone else would like to adopt a tree or a grove, they are £5 per tree or £40 for a grove of 10 trees. Plaques or tags will be available a cost later on.

Please read the Minutes of the last committee meeting held on 12th November 2019 so you can be updated fully on the paths project and all other matters now before reading further on. Click on this link - <http://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/admin/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/CWA-Committee-Minutes-12112019.pdf>

An Update since the Minutes were prepared follow. The Association's Secretary has some updates to add following reading of the minutes, now having had a very important meeting with Forestry and Land Scotland's (FLS) Delivery Manager & Forestry Works Manager on Friday 15th November. As you have been made aware previously, we have been trying to get permission to use our 'Competent Chainsaw Operators', certificated and assessed, to fell the approved non-native trees along the new paths route but without success. In the end, the committee agreed we should take this matter to the highest authorities if we were going to be unsuccessful last Friday. We are pleased to announce that under pressure, the Forestry have now agreed to assess our chainsaw operators on Saturday 23rd November working in Cormonachan Woodlands. This is a major breakthrough after months of negotiations with many FLS managers throughout their government organisation. Our chainsaw operator members have all agreed to attend to be assessed by the FLS assessors as a result so hopefully we will be able to work in house with felling in future.

All other funding details and other matters are contained in the Minutes.

Next Volunteers Days

Friday 22nd November 10 am to 4 pm

Saturday 23rd November 10 am to 4 pm

Sunday 24th November 10 am to 4 pm

As at today's date, we have on Friday 22nd November, 9 volunteers coming working in two teams to plant 105 trees and burn brash near the Contemplation Shelter area; on Saturday 23rd we have at present 10 volunteers that will be involved with the first felling of the trees along the new paths route being done by the Fife Conservation Group and our own chainsaw operators and on Sunday 24th we have about 30 volunteers coming that will be in about 4 teams from the Fife Conservation Group (felling trees), the Police Youth Volunteers, National Park and CWA

volunteers cutting rhododendron, burning brash, pruning trees and clearing a short ditch.

We are still in need of local member volunteers to help on Friday please.

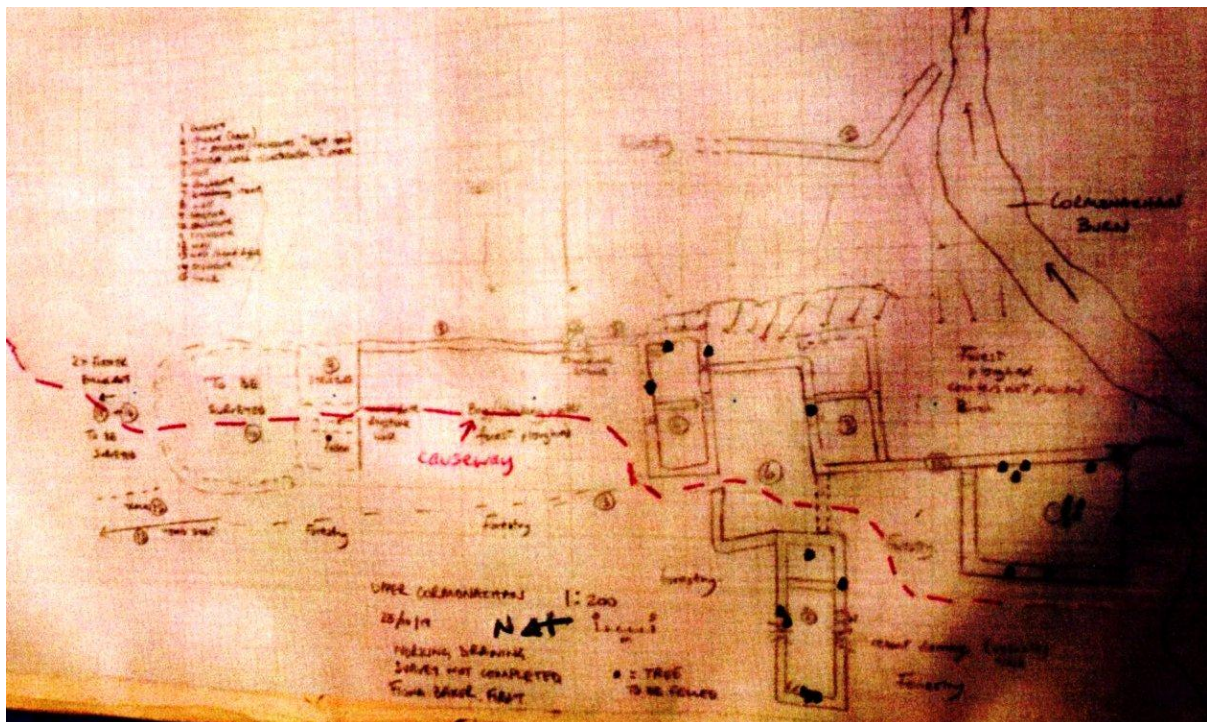
Those that volunteer enjoy the experience and we hope more members will give volunteering a 'GO'... You will be very welcome! Members will be welcome to help mornings, afternoons or all day, 10 am to 4 pm with an social half hour's break for lunch between 12.45 and 1.15 pm. It is fun!

Check out our 'Volunteering' page on our website:-
<http://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/cormonachan-history/volunteering/> for more information.

Upper Cormonachan Paths Project - Archaeological Survey

Please click on the below link to the interim report to find out more about the archaeological investigation being carried out by Firat Archaeological Services. There is still one more day of surveying to be undertaken in December before another far more detailed report will be available before the middle of February 2020.

<http://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/admin/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Upper-Cormonachan-Settlement-update-26-Oct-2019.pdf>



Private Water Supplies

Private water supplies from Cormonachan Woodlands to the houses to the east and below the woodlands have been surveyed for Forestry and Land Scotland and the findings have been passed to FLS and the National Park's planning authority and Environmental Health Officer. Condition 5 of the planning approval has now been satisfied meeting all requirements.

<http://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/admin/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/CW-Water-Extraction-Points-Survey-08102019.pdf>

Private water supply agreements will remain the responsibility of Forestry and Land Scotland and any related matters should be addressed to them. They will in the near future be contacting all owners of water supply equipment and pipe work to ask the owners to remove old or new pipe work that is not being used and also to remove old unused tanks or coverings too. When the path is constructed up the hill from the new car park to the waterfalls and settlement, existing pipe work, where these cross the proposed paths, will be put in conduits under the paths. Where the path passes close to Header Tank 2, a wooden fence will be put in front of it by the path, not to hide it but to give it more security.

All Construction Method Statements are available to be viewed on the National Park's planning website. The paths construction will not start before 1st September 2020.

Coop Local Community Fund

In the last Members Update No 37, Stop Press, we reported that the Association had been chosen to benefit from this fund for the year to 24th October 2020. The Coop donate 1% of purchases made from any Coop UK wide, providing the Cormonachan Woodlands Association has been chosen by a Coop member. If you are not a member, it costs £1 to join and you can join here - <https://membership.coop.co.uk/new-registration>.

Visit our Coop cause page at <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/36994>

Membership of the Cormonachan Woodlands Association

The current membership for the year to date for 2019/2020 stands at 141 members of which 97 are Full Individual Members, 29 are Associate Members, 6 are Life Members, 4 are Corporate Members, 2 are Associate Corporate Members and 3 are Child Members (free). Two more members are expected to join the Association this month.

Membership enquiries should be addressed to Dennis Bolt, Membership Secretary - Membership@cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk.

Red Squirrel Hide Update

Since the Red Squirrel Hide was erected in March 2018, the donation box has received **£261.42** which is very helpful as that money goes towards feeding the red squirrels and pine martens that have currently got through 137.5 kilos of nuts that has cost £186.79. With these donations, their feeding is self-supporting and we now have £74.63 in hand for more nuts and one 12.5 kg bag of nuts in stock.

Position Vacant on the Committee

As mentioned in the latest committee meeting minutes, the Committee are still looking for a member to become the Association's **Volunteers Leader** from 1st April 2020 - see <http://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/admin/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/CWA-Volunteers-Leader-Job-Description.pdf> - Full training would be given and for the first year, we can offer job share to ease you into this volunteer's position. This is mainly to organise two volunteers days a month from February to May and September to November and walking around the paths once a month.

Free Funds for Cormonachan Woodlands Association

GoRaise has now raised **£168.71** to Cormonachan Woodlands Association from just ten of supporters that regularly purchase on line and at no cost to themselves! One hundred & thirty two purchases have been made to date donating £168.71 to the 'Upper Cormonachan Paths Project Fund'.

All members could help raise free donations for the Cormonachan Woodlands Association too, just from shopping online. Join here today... <https://www.goraise.co.uk/cormonachan-woodlands-association/?refid=3950> and then when registered add the 'Donation Reminder' <https://www.goraise.co.uk/donation-reminder/> - this is essential as it automatically tells you if the seller is a contributor or not.

There are over 3,000 online retailers that take part in the scheme to give commission donations to charities and not-for-profit organisations. There is absolutely **NO** cost to you; we have **no** idea what you buy; you do **not** get any spam e-mails as a result; so why not help raise funds for the Cormonachan Woodlands Association's Projects?

Latest News

Please keep up to date by regularly looking at our Latest News page:- <http://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/news/> and by following our Facebook page too at <https://www.facebook.com/cormonachan>.



Tail Piece...

Cormonachan Woodlands Mugs are still for sale at £7.50 each. The profit from the sale of these goes towards the 'Upper Cormonachan Paths Project Fund'. These can be ordered from the Secretary.



On behalf of the Committee of the Cormonachan Woodlands Association, we wish all our members the Season's Greetings for the Christmas and New Year period soon to be upon us!

Other Information

The last Committee Minutes of 12th November 2019 and all previous ones can be viewed on this link:-

<http://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/cormonachan-history/minutes-of-meetings/>

The next Cormonachan Woodlands Association Committee Meeting is on 14th January 2020.

Cormonachan Woodlands Association -
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