



Sent: 24th June 2019

To: All Members of the Cormonachan Woodlands Association

Cormonachan Woodlands Association Members Update No 34

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.

News Update

We are still waiting for a decision on our planning application for the Upper Cormonachan Paths Project. The National Park required further information which has had to be dealt with and so the latest update follows...

"Upper Cormonachan Paths Project" Update

Three points have arisen and have all been addressed:-

1) The West of Scotland Archaeology Service required a condition placed on the planning permission as follows:-

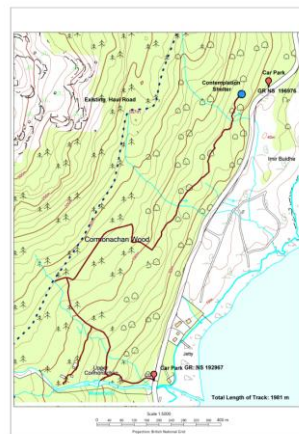
"No development shall take place within the development site as outlined in red on the approved plan until the developer has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant, agreed by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service, and approved by the Planning Authority. Thereafter the developer shall ensure that the programme of archaeological works is fully implemented and that all recording and recovery of archaeological resources within the development site is undertaken to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority in agreement with the West of Scotland Archaeology Service."

We have therefore obtained tenders for this archaeology work and the best quotation received from three archaeologists was £4,165.20 inc.

VAT. We have applied for a full grant for this work that we hope to have a decision on in the near future. This condition will not hold up the planning decision.

2) We have now managed to obtain 105 free deciduous native trees including oaks from the Woodland Trust to replace the 84 Sitka spruce and 8 Larch that will have to be felled along the route which means that for every tree felled an oak or another deciduous tree has to be replanted but away from the paths. These will be delivered in November 2019 and be planted by our volunteers. This will not hold up the planning decision as we have a letter of approval from Forestry & Land Scotland submitted to the National Park with permission for this work to be undertaken.

3) The Method of Construction Statement for the path section G to H from McGowan's of Aviemore, the hill contractors, has now been prepared in more detail, particularly along the area by Cormonachan Burn on the map below. The lower area will be serviced with material dropped in by helicopter. Now that this statement has been received and submitted to the National Park, a planning decision will follow in July 2019.

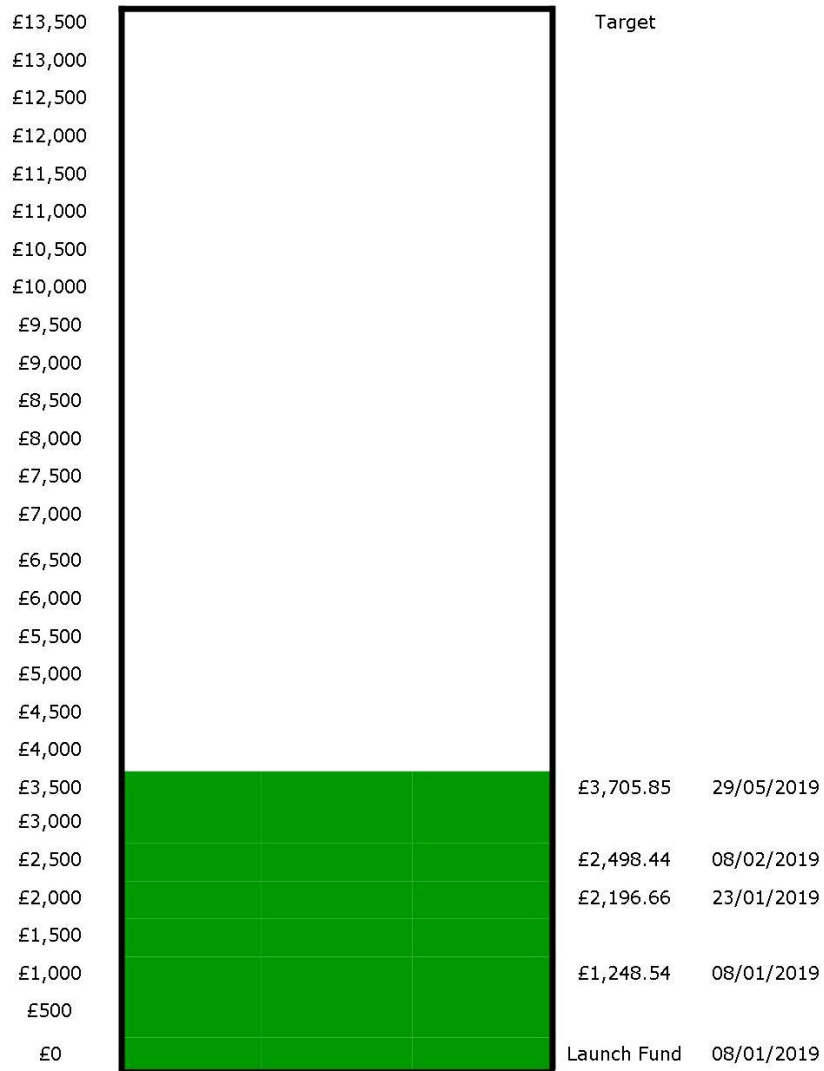


The cost of the project remains the same at £323,484.00, including VAT. We will be seeking full funding for the whole project as soon as we have planning permission from the National Park.

There is funding available from a number of organisations for this type of project. Some of these do require some local funding through donations to show that there is local interest in the project so we are looking for 5% of the project costs from donations, an amount of £13,500.00.

The "Upper Cormonachan Paths Project Fund" has now reached £3,705.85 towards our target from members donations and the GoRaise donations. We have a year really in which to achieve this target so hope you can help if you haven't already - every donation big or little will help.

"Upper Cormonachan Paths" Project Fund Cormonachan Woodlands Association



This is a big project but the result in the end will open up all of the 58.9 ha of Cormonachan Community Woodlands to members and visitors and boast tourism to the Loch Goil area for local businesses.

The plans for the proposed paths and the car park are displayed in the Cormonachan Woodlands Association's notice board in the car park.

Membership of the Cormonachan Woodlands Association

The current membership for the year to date for 2019/2020 stands at 104 members of which 73 are Full Individual Members, 18 are Associate Members, 5 are Life Members, 4 are Corporate Members, 2 are Associate Corporate Members and 2 are Child Members (free). Membership to support the running of the Association is very important and those members that are able to physically volunteer help with the essential maintenance of the woodlands, the paths and structures.

We would like to remind our members that the Association has no paid staff, the committee members offer their time freely as volunteers and member volunteers help to maintain the community woodlands, the paths and structures.

Dennis Bolt has taken over as the Association's Membership Secretary and is a member of the Committee. He can be contacted at Membership@cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk.

Volunteers Days

Over the summer period there will only be days for strimming the paths, spraying Rhododendron ponticum re-growth and chainsaw work. These will be done by our certificated volunteer members.

The next general Volunteers Days will recommence in September, October and November and then again next year from February to June.

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 both.

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

Red Squirrel Hide Update

Since the Red Squirrel Hide was erected in March 2018, the donation box has received **£190.10** which is very helpful as that money goes towards feeding the red squirrels and pine martens that are currently getting though 130 kilos of nuts a year that costs about £155 pa. With these donations, their feeding has now become self-supporting.

Training Update

We now have funding agreed for two 2-day Emergency First Aid Courses in 2019 at £450.00 per course. One will be in September and another in December that will be for the renewal of members current certificates that expire after 3 years. We need one more member for the first course to go ahead so please apply for a free place.

Position Vacant on the Committee

The Committee are looking for a member to become the Association's **Volunteers Leader** - see <http://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/admin/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/CWA-Volunteers-Leader-Job-Description.pdf>

Douglas Locke, now 77, who has been doing this work for the last five years has had to give up physical volunteering due to painful ostio arthritis in his hips so a new Volunteers Leader is very urgently required. Full training and support will be given to this member who would serve on the committee. The Volunteers Leader organises Volunteers Days with the current five Team Leaders who lead the volunteers. We are also in need of more Team Leaders and of course more volunteers too.

Free Funds for Cormonachan Woodlands Association

GoRaise has now raised **£158.26** to Cormonachan Woodlands Association from just nine of supporters (5 full members, 2 associate members & 2 non-members) that regularly purchase on line and at no cost to themselves! One hundred & twenty purchases have been made to date donating £158.26 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> and then when registered add the 'Donation Reminder' <https://www.goraise.co.uk/donation-reminder/>.

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 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...

Come and visit the Cormonachan Woodlands Association's marquee at the **Carrick Fayre on Sunday 14th July 2019 from 1 pm to 4 pm.**

Cormonachan Woodlands Mugs are available again at £7.50 each. The profit from the sale of these goes towards the 'Upper Cormonachan Paths Project Fund'. These can be purchased at the Carrick Fayre, Loch Goil Gala Day or from the Secretary.



The next event the Association will attend will be the Loch Goil Gala Day on Saturday afternoon 3rd August 2019.

Have you visited the "Little People" in the woodlands yet? There are six "Little People" sculptures created by the Lochgoilhead Primary School children in the pine forest near the 'Have-a-Go' stone sculpture area and the tepee.

Cormonachan Woodlands Association -
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