

Minutes of the Cormonachan Woodlands Association Committee Meeting
held on Wednesday 4th February 2015 at Cruach House, Carrick Castle at 14.30 hrs.

- 1) A welcome was made by Liz Evans to those in attendance: Liz Evans, Douglas Locke, Marion McCune, Jimmy Sim & Rowan Fraser (co-opted on to the committee). There were no apologies as all the committee were in attendance.
- 2) Approval of the Minutes of the last two meetings of 29th and 31st October 2014 were proposed by Jimmy Sim and seconded by Liz Evans.
- 3) It was proposed that Liz Evans should chair the committee as she had the experience of having dealt with the Cormonachan Woodlands over many years. This position would be for three years.
- 4) Jimmy Sim gave feedback concerning the Ardroy meeting held at the end of last year when George Bruce asked for Jan Foster to be kept informed and David Robertson of the Forestry Commission (FC). It was noted that the Resource Centre (Jan's Hut) was owned by Ardroy (AOEC Trust Ltd.) and that currently there was no lease to use the Cormonachan Woodlands. Legally the resource centre and other buildings should be removed at the expense of Ardroy, as the land should to be returned to the FC in its former state. Jimmy Sim had not yet had a meeting with the FC.
- 5) Douglas Locke reported that the Content Management System (CMS) had been installed by Bramblejam Multimedia at a cost of £150.00 and that the website had been updated. He also pointed out that he had personally paid for this work to be done and would need to be recompensed as soon as a bank account had been opened. He had a cheque for £175.00 made out to the Cormonachan Woodlands Association donated by The Wee Goil which had been thanked. A lot of missing information had been reinstalled that had been lost when the website had gone down for a period of time. Unfortunately, the accounts history has not so far been found for website recovery. Liz Evans will see if a hard copy of this has been filed at Ardroy.
- 6) Douglas Locke presented a draft Constitution for the Association. Two amendments were made – cheques to be signed by one of three signatories and the quorum for annual general meetings to be five. The Constitution (attached) was approved by the committee.
- 7) Rowan Fraser agreed to act as Treasurer. She would try and open an account at either the Co-op Bank or the Bank of Scotland. The Association had a cheque for £175.00 to pay in and a payment of £150.00 to pay out once the account was open leaving a credit balance of £25.00.
- 8) It was agreed that Liz Evans and Rowan Fraser would arrange an Open Day at Cormonachan Woodlands early in May 2015.
- 9) Training and networking opportunities. Liz Evans & Douglas Locke were booked on to two free courses in Oban on 13th February (A Wood of Our Own, Argyll – Procurement Workshop) and 4th March (A Wood of our Own, Argyll – Networking Meeting) both organised by the Community Woodlands Association. These opportunities were sent to Rowan Fraser by e-mail. She would also look into coppice management.
- 10) It was suggested that a link should be requested to the Lochgoil community website and next month give The Wee Goil an article about the Cormonachan Woodlands. Marion McCune suggested having a Facebook page too.
- 11) It was noted that the next local Loch Goil Trust meeting would be at 19.30 on Wednesday 11th February 2015 when it was hoped all would be in attendance.

12) Funding partners. Jimmy Sim said that there was funding available and this would be looked into. For the Open Day, Marion McCune said her company Scotsts Ltd. (www.scotsts.com) would be willing to contribute £100.00 to this event. Other names suggested were – Ardroy, The Wee Goil, Drimsynie, Carrick Castle Boat Club and maybe others? Liz Evans said she would look into the whereabouts at Ardroy of Dallas' presentation and survey of the woodlands. The Loch Goil Trust had an agreement with Drimsynie Estates for use of the land to the right of the TV aerial at Cormonachan Woodlands to enlarge the car park but this has been on hold since the change over from the closure of Fife Council's Ardroy OEC to the new Ardroy (AOEC Trust Ltd) and new agreements reached with the Forestry Commission by the Cormonachan Woodlands Association.

It was agreed that Liz Evans, Douglas Locke & Rowan Fraser would meet at the Cormonachan Woodlands car park to walk the paths and also Upper Cormonachan old village on Monday 16th February 2015 at 10.30 hrs.

The meeting closed at 15.50.

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