

Minutes of Trustees Meeting held at Duireaskin, Aberfeldy, Tuesday January 7th, 2003, at 7.15 pm

Present: Paul Jarvis (chairman), Ruth Atkinson, Beryl Coope, Julie Gardiner, Bill Hoare, Robin Hull, Hamish Nicholson, Andrew Pointer, Innes Smith, Margaret Jarvis (minutes secretary).

1. Apologies: Marjorie Finlayson, Ian Riddell.

2. Minutes of Trustees meeting of 21st November 2002: Accepted and signed

3. Matters arising: Tim Ambrose, who works for Price Waterhouse, had kindly agreed to examine our accounts at no charge. The Perth accountant contacted by BC will therefore not be needed.

Woodland Grant Scheme: The Forestry Commission, Perth, has informed PJ that the new Scottish Forestry Grant Scheme and all associated dates relating to the current WGS have been delayed by two months as a result of computer problems.

4. Arrangements for A.G.M. The arrangements for an AGM were considered in conjunction with publicity in general. The suggested date for the AGM is Saturday, 29th March, in the Town Hall Aberfeldy. PJ will check if this date is suitable for CL and MJ will check availability of the Town Hall. **Action MJ, PJ**

RH suggested that the publicity group (RH, IS, RA and BC) should organise the form the social part of the AGM would take. PJ will organise the business part. A meeting of this group was fixed for 16th January at 6 p.m. at RH's. RH will be interviewed on Heartland Radio before that and will make a preliminary announcement about the AGM. **Action RH, PJ.** BH offered a slide projector that could be borrowed if necessary.

PJ reminded Trustees that Members must be notified by mail at least 21 days beforehand and consequently the financial report, Chairman's report and other reports, together with information on procedures for the election of trustees should be available to be sent out then in the first week of March. In response to a question regarding election of trustees, it was affirmed that the Articles specify a maximum of up to 15 trustees, *including* any co-opted trustees, so that there is in principle "space" for the election of up to four more in addition to the 11 current trustees. To initiate a rolling system, one third of the trustees must stand down at the forthcoming AGM, but all those who do so are currently eligible to stand for re-election. IR, HN and BH were willing to do so. **Action PJ.**

5. Car park: BC had a letter from Robin Baker, dated 11th December, with details of tarmac etc. This was tabled, together with the drawings that would form the basis of the planning application. RB had been in contact with Charlie Ramsay, who had been very helpful. RB wanted to know what signage we would want. It was generally agreed that on the road we wanted no more than a discrete sign at the entrance with the words 'Dùn Coillich', but that we should include a general sign located within the car park in the planning application. AP emphasised the need to include bicycle racks, of the simple metal semicircular loop type ('Sheffield'). RH suggested that we now needed a ballpark figure of the overall costs of the car park in order to apply for funding. IS thought that Willie Grieve could readily provide this. PJ agreed and would take it up with Robin Baker. BC suggested that someone with more experience of car parks, organising volunteers etc might take over responsibility from her but no action was taken at this stage and BC would communicate the essence of the discussion to Robin Baker. The planning application would go in within the next two weeks and arrangements were made to pass a cheque for £220 to Robin Baker to accompany it. **Action: BC, PJ.**

6. History: RH announced that P and K libraries had accepted an outline for a book on the history of Dùn Coillich. They would need copy by autumn 2003 for a publication date in spring 2004. The Trustees welcomed this news. RH had a promise of £50 donation towards the publication costs from the barytes mining company. He had written to CR suggesting an approach to those concerned with mining aggregates for funding.

PJ pointed out that the JMT web site might contain historical information about Schiehallion that might well be of relevance to Dùn Coillich. He would look into it. **Action PJ.** RH added that he had no shortage of material!

7. Publicity. Two meetings on history, led by RH, were arranged by the publicity group: the first was held at Grandtully on 18th December, the second to be held at Moulin on 14th January at 7.30 p.m. RH reported that 16 people had attended the December meeting: a one-hour talk had been followed by an hour of lively discussion. There would also be a talk in Pitlochry in February on the wider aspects of community ownership, led by IS and RA, and a general meeting in Fortingall hall from 12 noon until 2 p.m. on 2nd February, including wine tasting organised by BC. Details are yet to be finalised of a proposed pinnacle meeting in early March concerned with forestry and natural history. **Action Publicity group.**

8. Any Other Business:

RH tabled a detailed paper on a **hydro scheme** proposed by Alastair Henderson and Jimmy Stuart, who had approached him after the Grandtully meeting and asked him to inform the Trustees. In the first instance they wish to install a water flow logger in the Allt Mor to measure the flow. PJ confirmed that such a logger would not be disruptive and RH was asked to reply giving approval for the logger to be installed, provided that the data from it would be made available to HPCLT. **Action RH.** IS suggested taking time to read the paper carefully and JG agreed that we needed time to come to a reasoned decision and to consult with neighbours. PJ thought that JMT might not agree to a weir across the Allt Mor because this would be too intrusive in the wildest part of the burn. AP pointed out that similar hydro schemes in Glen Lyon were in place and could be looked at. A sub group (PJ, AP, BH, JG) will take this forward. **Action PJ.**

JG tabled a draft of the next **Newsletter**. Dates of the publicity meetings would be available after the 16th. PJ had written an article on progress generally, BC on the car park, RA on the plants and vegetation and JG on the brooch donated by Malcolm Appleby. BH offered to lead some guided walks over Dùn Coillich from February onwards and will inform JG of the dates. PJ will send information about the AGM. **Action PJ, BH.** JG would like to have the printing done professionally and will get estimates for 200 copies. **Action JG**

RA had contacted Reforesting Scotland in December regarding **Participatory Forestry Appraisal**. They have formalised a programme of interaction with community groups and provide a grant to fund a series of talks, questionnaires, school visits etc. It might cost £3000 to employ a consultant to do this and a grant of £2000 might be available. RA thought this would be a good way to involve the community but BC pointed out that the previous community consultation done for the application to the Scottish Land Fund had been somewhat disappointing. IS emphasised that we need to listen to community opinion. RA was asked to e-mail round a suggested scheme for consideration since we need to know exactly what Reforesting Scotland would be able to do for us and what we might get out of it. **Action RA.**

In response to a question from BH about when we should begin with **management work** on the ground, PJ reminded the Trustees that the new SFGS would be delayed and thus it was likely that further surveying would be the main action this year. However, JG emphasised that tree seedlings would need to be ordered in advance and that therefore we should prepare a range of different scenarios to be considered, as decisions could not be postponed indefinitely. BH pointed out that there would be feedback from the public at the AGM and at the pre-AGM meetings. PJ expressed agreement with JG and suggested that we should initiate a more formal planning process. **Action PJ.**

Community Woodland Association: An information pack was tabled by PJ for information.

PJ reported on a meeting at Battleby in November to launch the **Scottish Forestry Forum**. This had brought together interested groups ranging from the Forestry Commission to community groups and was likely to be a useful meeting ground in the future.

Consultation with JMT and FC: PJ suggested that the time was ripe for a get together with JMT and FC to discuss management issues. Both organisations (through Nigel Hawkins and Charlie Taylor) had been very supportive to HPCLT from the outset. This was agreed. **Action PJ.**

RH tabled a document about the '**Sponsorship and Donations Yearbook**' at £85. No decision about buying a copy was taken.

9. Date of next meeting: February 24th at Duireaskin at 7.15 p.m.