

Highland Perthshire Communities Land Trust  
**Scottish Charity Number: SC032801**

**Minutes of Trustees' Meeting held at Laurenbank, Aberfeldy  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7.30 pm.**

Present: Andy Walker (chairman), Margaret Jarvis (minutes), Tim Fison, Julie Gardiner, Heather Hamilton, Bill Hoare, John Marshall , Willie McGhee, Mike Nixon, Richard Paul, Richard Rees, Trish Waite,.

1: Apologies, Ann Macintosh, Emma O'Shea, Andy Pointer, Bobby Wardle, Kelsey Wilson, Ian Wilkinson

2: Minutes of previous meeting , 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2018: approved

3: Matters arising.

- Photos and brief biographies of Trustees/ advisers for web site
- Template for recording volunteer hours
- Tree planting week
- Visit to JMT Glenlude
- Business sponsorship for HoSFP
- Standardised distribution lists

Discussion of these topics deferred until after AGM.

4: Financial Report: A spread sheet had been circulated by MN. The balance in the business account is £14087 and in the project account £5687

Forms have been completed to facilitate internet banking. Approval of Trustees for this is essential for Limited Companies such as HPCLT. **Trustees gave their approval.**

5: Project officer's report. This had been circulated by email.

- The end of the current Rural Skills course has been delayed by the weather; graduation will be some time after ATV training next week.
- Tuesday volunteer days were also affected; some filling in of potholes in the car park has been done
- The first aid course in February was another casualty of the weather; HH will re-book it asap.

**ACTION: HH**

- There has been a lot of interest in ‘Tree Planting Week’ 17<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> March. 200 people are expected and help will be needed. Please see HH’s email of 23.02.18.

**ACTION: ALL**

- The confirmed dates for this year’s black grouse lek were listed
- A regular HoSFP volunteer work day on the last Saturday of the summer months has been suggested, organised by HH and Liz Auty of JMT.
- Rab Robertson will provide an estimate for work on the Schiehallion fence when he starts work on it, hopefully in late spring.
- JMT have put forward plans for fund-raising from local businesses.

#### 6: Forestry and deer culling report:

- RC has shot three roe deer and one red. He suspects there are still a couple of roe and possibly one hind within the fence. On 04.03.18 there were about 30 red deer just outside the fence on the JMT march; they had been tracking the fence and would definitely be onto Dun Coillich had they found a weak spot. The volunteers involved in making the fence secure were congratulated. BH asked what should be done in the event of a mass break-in of deer; answer: inform RC asap.
- WMcG commented that JMT were erecting fencing within 100m of the black grouse lek. He criticised this as potentially damaging to the grouse.
- The amount of the second stage instalment of our FC grant should soon be finalised. WMcG expects that it may be more than the £18K entitlement agreed so far because a larger area of successful tree establishment has been taken into account.

#### 7: Dun Coillich Management Group: Discussion deferred until after AGM.

#### 8: EGM and AGM preparations:

- AW and BH have distributed the necessary papers, together with a covering letter, to members and supporters (Agendas for EGM and AGM; Minutes of 2017 AGM; Annual Report and Accounts).
- The Kynachan hall is booked from 12 noon. The charge of £10 per hour gives access to the main hall, committee room and toilets. Directions to it will be posted on the website and Facebook pages.

**ACTION: AW**

- The speaker will be David Hetherington from the Cairngorms National Park Authority; the title of his talk is ‘Mountain Woodland Restoration in the Cairngorms National Park’. He is also an expert on lynx. HH has sourced a copy of Robin Hull’s ‘Ravens over the Hill’ as a gift for the

speaker. It was agreed that a bottle of malt whisky would be added to the gift. WMcG kindly offered to donate this.

**ACTION: WMcG**

- The AGM has been publicised in The Quair and other local magazines. Unfortunately, the February issue of The Bridge (Dunkeld & Birnam) had included only the photo and title but it is in the March issue. AW will send information to the Perthshire Advertiser and the Courier.

**ACTION: AW**

- RP was applauded for the poster he had designed, which will be distributed as follows:
  - AW: Weem to Kenmore
  - TF: Killin
  - BH: Aberfeldy, Grandtully, Strathtay
  - MN: Ballinluig
  - JG: Pitlochry, Blair Atholl.
- RP will publicise at the meeting of the local SWT group on 19th March.

**ACTION RP and those named above.**

- There will be a vote to adopt the new Articles of Association at the EGM. Only paid-up members may vote. IW has provided a list of those who have paid. Others may pay at the EGM. A coloured paper slip will serve as a voting card. If a household has paid £20 it is allowed two votes; if £10 then only one. For the meeting to be quorate 20% of paid-up members must be present or be represented by a proxy.

- Nominations for Trustees; retirees etc: BH has the situation worked out. AW has contacted James Banks of Kindrogan and is waiting for his response. HH has contacted a former Trainee. Nomination forms must be in by 16<sup>th</sup> March; any late nominations can be co-opted for the time being.
- AW will introduce the Annual Report. He will mention the success of various grant applications and of the Training Courses, which have resulted in the participants getting jobs. HH will give AW a list. The HoSFP video will be shown. HH will provide a copy.

**ACTION: HH**

Retiring Trustees and the stalking team will be thanked.

- Tim Ambrose will introduce the accounts in the absence of IW.
- Displays:
  - Photos of volunteers, visitors and Trainees at work
  - Archaeological information
  - Wildlife at DC

**ACTION: HH and BH, calling on help as required**

- JG will organise refreshments (tea, coffee, fruit juice, home baking) with assistance from TW and MJ.

**ACTION: JG, TW, MJ**

- There will be no raffle. There will be fleeces and the booklet about the Rural Skills course for sale.

**ACTION: HH, WMcG**

#### 9:AOCB

- RP made the suggestion of a sand martin wall, to be called ‘The Robin Hull wall’. Decision deferred.
- At the last AGM, Richard Jarvis suggested guided walks on DC. Two or three such walks had been organised, but had mixed success because of poor weather at the time.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm with thanks to BH for hospitality.

#### 10: Date and Venue of next meetings

24<sup>th</sup> March: AGM Kynachan hall 2pm – 4 pm

9<sup>th</sup> April: post-AGM tba