

Minutes of Trustees Meeting held on Tuesday August 13th, 2002, at Duireaskin, Aberfeldy at 7.15 p.m.

Present: Paul Jarvis (chairman), Ruth Atkinson, Beryl Coope, Marjorie Finlayson, Bill Hoare, Andrew Pointer, Ian Riddell, Innes Smith, Margaret Jarvis (minutes secretary).

1. *Apologies:* Robin Hull, Hamish Nicholson.
2. *Minutes of Trustees meeting of 15th July, 2002:* Accepted and signed
3. *Matters arising:* The Gift Aid form is not yet on the web site but AP will add it as soon as possible.

IS had e-mailed the background to the Battleby meeting to launch the Tayside Biodiversity Action Plan to PJ. PJ and AP will produce a poster to display at this meeting. **Action AP and PJ.** IS explained that the Tayside Biodiversity Action Plan is a component of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP). Dùn Coillich is an example of an upland montane region, included in the Plan.

PJ said that we now have a letter from the insurance company confirming our policy.

IS had passed a book on Health and Safety to AP. This will be necessary when we have the car park. AP will carry this forward. **Action AP.**

Newsletter distribution: BC said that we have very few non-member supporters whose addresses we know. MJ will ask Tourist Information Centres to display the Newsletter. **Action MJ**

Car Park: Colin Liddell acted for a local grant-giving body that had £2,500 available to be awarded to each of two charities.. He had invited six charities to apply and had said that a design study for the car park would be a suitable project. PJ had sent a one page application. He had asked William Jackson if he was interested but WJ was too busy at present. Robin Baker, Gaia Architects, had visited the site with PJ, was willing to do the job and an estimate from him had been sent with the grant application. The estimate would cover all work up to planning consent stage. BC asked about a role for Charlie Ramsay and was assured that a lot of time for consultation had been allowed for. IS emphasised that all Trustees must be comfortable with the final design.

RA reported that permanent markers for surveying should arrive soon.

Dave Picken, JMT Award Scheme, was very keen to collaborate with HPCLT. There is to be a new appointee for this area who will make contact. Alec Cunningham is the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme coordinator for the area and might also be interested in being involved. **Action BC**

Education: BC had booked the Locus Centre for 29th August, 7 to 9 p.m. PJ had now received a reply from the P and K director of Education saying that Carol Bell would contact HPCLT. IS reiterated that Perth College are very interested in using Dùn Coillich for virtual reality work. He had contacted the college and given them further information. MF asked how many primary schools were still involved in "Growing up with Trees". She said that Logierait still had a tree nursery.

PJ had not yet written to Tim Ambrose but would do so. **Action PJ**

BC is opening an interest-bearing account. Several thousand pounds will then be transferred into it. Signatories of cheques will need to take ID into the bank in Aberfeldy. **Action signatories**

PJ will ask CL for any signed Gift Aid Declarations. **Action PJ**

4. *Surveying:* RH had provided printed record cards for distribution and use by all interested. There was some discussion about whether square numbers or grid references were to be used. Both are acceptable. No more surveying dates had been set. The next date for vegetation surveying was

arranged for Monday 19th August at 6 p.m. The local SWT group is to have a fungal foray on Dùn Coillich on 11th September.

5. *Woodland Project*: Papers 1 and 2 attached. Paper 1 is factual; paper 2 sets out the options. Documents a, b, c and d were tabled.

There had been a walkabout on Saturday, 3rd August on site to consider amendment of the Woodland Grant Scheme, followed by an evening meeting to discuss conclusions. PJ sees this as a two stage process: firstly the route to follow; secondly, what we want to see on the ground. The Forestry Commission have set dates for a new scheme, the Scottish Forestry Grant Scheme, to replace the current scheme. BH thought that paper 2 defined the options very clearly and that we should go with option 3. This was a win-all option. IS emphasised that a lot of discussion had gone into the options document. Amendments had been made after the evening discussion. He made the point that a WGS woodland was not a money-making project. As the new SFGS is not yet finalised, not all questions can be answered. We will have the option to switch to this new scheme if it seems advantageous after it is finalised. The decision was taken, unanimously, to follow option 3. PJ will obtain an application Form. Mike Strachan will need to cancel the existing contract with the McAdams. **Action PJ**.

6. *Visitor Management Policy*: The question of a visitor management policy has arisen as there has been some concern expressed about possible disturbance to wildlife, particularly at sensitive times of year such as in the breeding season. IR wondered if the Land Reform Bill had taken this out of our hands. BC warned that we must plan for the most disruptive visitor, e.g., we should ensure that there is no exit onto the hill from the car park for motor bikes. IS emphasised the need to be sensitive to a wide range of interest groups. He thought it inadvisable to pinpoint any sensitive areas by putting up notices about them. BC agreed and thought we should always take a positive approach: encourage, not discourage. IS suggested that a wide-ranging detailed discussion to define a Visitor Management Policy would be needed at a later date. He added that a Health and Safety representative had informed him that toilets will be required when we have contractors on site.

7. *Dùnkeld Community Land Trust; Tayside Biodiversity Partnership; Borders Forest Trust*: The TBP had already been discussed. A further question was whether we wished to be formally associated. IS thought we should, especially because of the link with politicians such association would provide. IR has a booklet on this which he will look out. **Action IR**.

A letter had been received by PJ from the Dùnkeld Community Land Trust. IS thought we could offer some advice on community consultation etc and offered to meet with those involved. **Action IS**

Literature about the Borders Forest Trust was tabled by PJ. This already had forest; a wood school etc, and an ongoing project to restore native woodland at Carrifran, near Moffat.

8. *Scots Magazine and Other Publicity*: The current issue of the Scots magazine has an article by RH. PJ will buy a copy for HPCLT records. **Action PJ**

The JMT Journal has an article by PJ on the first page; copies were available.

IR has contacted the P and K Countryside Trust, has material about them at home and will speak to Tim Yair. **Action IR**

9. *Any Other Business*: None

10. *Date of next meeting*: Monday, 7th October, Duireaskin, 7.15 p.m.