

**HPCLT Minutes 23 February 2012 – Meeting held at Weem Hotel at 7.15pm
Minutes taken by Sandra Winter**

Present: Richard Paul, Tim & Sandra Winter, Richard legate, Tim Fison, Trish Waite, Julie Gardner, Linda Cracknell, Claire Thomas, Andrew Pointer.

Apologies: Margaret Jarvis, Ian Wilkinson, Ben Henderson.

The previous minutes were approved by Andrew Pointer and seconded by Tim Fison.

Margaret Jarvis will be Minutes Secretary.

Resume of Forestry Meeting.

- 4 years to get things sorted.
- Malcolm Young has walked the area – has not yet done surveying side. Julie Gardiner has sent information via a pen
- 28 May is next meeting with Forestry Commission.
- £1,500.00 from Woodland Trust and £500 from Robin Hull's donation should pay Malcolm Young's fees.

Fencing Issue:

- Pig Wire to be added to stop roe deer getting in.
- 4 or 5 individuals can fix holes under fence – odd dips need filling in with stones.
Date: Saturday 10 March. 10.00a.m start.
Fund Raising to provide funds for fencing.

Membership Secretary.

No one present felt willing to take this on.

Secretary

Trish Waite is happy to take on this position.

Funding Co-ordinator.

No one volunteered.

Role of Chairman needs to be defined more. Current Chairman conducts AGM and the next meeting chooses Chairman annually.

The chairman congratulated Linda Cracknell on her Book Launch at Dun Coillich.

The AGM on the 24th and displays:-

Claire Thomas – Archaeological display

Sandra Winter – will organise provision of flyers and printing of them.

Trish Waite will alert Comment as to the AGM date and activities.

Richard Paul will put up a Web Page advertising the AGM and the Tree Day.

Tim Fison will publicise AGM and Tree Day to members of Dun Coillich either by email or post.

Trustees One third of elected trustees have to retire each year. June Riddell, Margaret Jarvis, Claire Thomas and Tim Fison are retiring. Margaret Jarvis is standing for re-election. Ian Wilkinson, Sandra and Tim Winter have been co-opted.

The chairman mentioned Nicky Ward as a possible new trustee. She lives at Tomphubil.

Tim and Sandra Winter will approach Brendon McKay, a retired lawyer as a possible new trustee.

Investing ways to support Tree Day

- There needs to be a display about Dun Coillich. AGM display could be utilised for this.
- Someone is needed to go around and take information from interested persons. Timing approximately 12 Noon to 4.00pm
Present: Russ Jobson – Woodland Trust, a woodland weaver, Watermill will sponsor a book stall.

Members to bring native tree seedings/saplings.

Trustees to contribute prizes for a tombola.

Refreshments from Honzon Lunch Club.

Linda's poster advertising Tree day will be e-mailed to Beavers, Pitlochry High School and Breadalbane.

- **Scottish Community Land Network**

A body that has 'info' about community involvement.

Richard Legate has registered on it on behalf of HPCLT. Info available, case histories and woodland finance management. All trustees urged to join and pool ideas they feel applicable to Dun Coillich.

Bio Climate and Michael Riddell

Linked to REDD - Can claim carbon off setting funds. Willy McKee and Michael Riddell would like to come and visit Dun Coillich round about the 15 March. Our Chairman will be available to meet with them.

Fund Raising Ideas

Robin Hall idea of life membership. Grandparents gifting life membership to grandchildren.

Raffle at AGM

Memorial of Robin Coope. Richard Paul has been in touch with Beryl who is getting back to him. This could be a brass plaque on the proposed bridge.

Linda Crackwell will put in an article to Comment every 3rd Month approximately mentioning on going 'happenings' at Dun Coillich.

Robin Hull wished to have meetings at Dun Coillich with Breadalbane Heritage Trust . Either a walk or outing.

Research Projects.

Gordian Worms or horsehair worms are strange invertebrates, possibly a metre long. They were once seen in spring at Dun Coillich.

Tim Fison will try and find the British expert on these creatures.

PhD students to be encouraged to do projects based in Dun Coillich.

Grants Possibilities.

- **Griffin Wind Farm** could be £40,000. Form has been opened by Chairman but ‘an original project’ needs to be stressed.
- **Creative Scotland.** Commissioning ‘landscape artists’ and to work with children possibly.
- **Volant Trust:** JK Rowling, must apply to solicitors.
- Safety net idea £500.00 loans from members possibly interest free.
- **Collicher Wind Farm** near Kenmore planning details still to be established. Funds available for carbon offset. The Meeting urged to ask for a grant from the Volant Trust and if that was not a possibility then a loan.

Helping and Surveying

Julie Gardiner asked to organise a group to survey trees. Record tree density, species, condition, height and browsing weed competition. We will do this on the 1st of April at 11.00am at Dun Coillich car park. We can advertise this at the AGM and Tree Day and also ask for volunteers to help.

The flyer was shown to the group. The chairman thanked Moira Menzies and Sandra Winter who were responsible for original design.

Forestry Commission

Tim asked Douglas Halliday about collecting pine seedlings from along side tracks. He expressed reservations.

Richard Legate had asked Rob Coope and permission was granted. We have some pine seeds already gathered ready for cultivation.

Deer Control

Ben Henderson is concerned that other estates are questioning ‘numbers’ of deer culled. In future Ben will keep numbers culled between himself and the Committee.

The Chairman would like to thank all cullers for their efforts.

The Chairman wished to thank Trish Waite and Linda Cracknell for their respective inputs.

Thanks to Trish Waite for hazel planting idea.

Barry Watson, Community Woodlands (F.C) would be interested giving us guidance. He is being invited to Tree Day and to possible work parties.

The Bridge

2002 minutes said we haven’t got girders.

In 2011 we still haven’t got girders but feeling is still to go ahead with a bridge. It is likely that Balfour Beatty will leave surplus materials which we can utilise.

Retiring Trustees

A quorum and the meeting unanimously passed the following motion:

Retiring trustees can become advisers and they will be invited to Trustee meetings and continue contributing to Dun Coillich business.

AOCB

Tim Fison asked for a notice to be put up re dog owners being respectfully asked to put dogs on a lead during bird nesting time.

Blackcock lek there annually. There should be a notice, but wording needs to be carefully managed.

Andy Pointer suggested this wording and the Committee approved it.

Please keep dogs under control preferably on a lead during the bird – nesting Season – April, May and June.

The next meeting will be on 12th April at Weem Hotel at 7.15pm.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.