

Highland Perthshire Communities Land Trust

Scottish Charity Number: SC032801

Minutes of Trustees' Meeting on Monday 26th November 2012 at West Tempar, Rannoch at 7:15 pm

Present: Richard Paul (chairman), Margaret Jarvis (minutes), Andy Pointer, Trish Waite, Ian Wilkinson, Sandra Winter.

Advisor: Paul Jarvis.

1. **Apologies:** Ben Henderson, Richard Legate, Nici Ward.
Advisor Bill Hoare.

2. **Minutes of previous meeting on 26th August 2012:** Approved (prop IW, sec AP)

2. **Matters arising;** MJ commented that still no-one had recorded their volunteer hours. This may no longer be essential for match funding and seems unlikely to be achieved.

3. **Grant Applications**

RP was thanked for all the work he had put in.

The application to *John Muir Trust* (£1850) requires only invoices, which have now been provided. RP expects a successful outcome.

RP had made an application to the *Bank of Scotland* for £20,000., closing date 30th September. A response is expected in about eight weeks.

Griffin fund The SSE person dealing with the Griffin grants had phoned for more information and had sounded positive. We should hear the result before Christmas.

- a. *Gannochy Trust* A draft application has been written by WMcG. The controversial part of this involves a salaried employee. TW and NW are not in favour. Points made in discussion were the necessity of adequate management of this employee and the provision of a detailed job description. RP reminded the meeting that liaison with training organisations was part of the job. TW thought that management of an employee would be difficult; IW disagreed. A vote was taken on whether to submit the final draft application. **Carried by 5 votes to 1 ACTION RP and WMcG**

4. **Volunteers:** The 'Dirty Weekenders' (Edinburgh University Conservation Volunteers) had come on 28th October, planted pines and enjoyed their day.

Two groups, each of 21 Pitlochry HS S1 pupils, had planted 420 mixed species, with canes and spirals, donated by the Woodland Trust, on the area between the head dyke and the burn. A further pack of 420 wetland species will be planted in March, again by S1 pupils. The Whitebridge area was agreed. There was some discussion about the re-instatement of the car park area.

Further tree packs, free to schools, may be applied for (schools: Pitlochry HS secondary, primary and nursery ;) RP has contacted other schools by email (Dunkeld, Blair Atholl, Grandtully, Glen Lyon, Kenmore, Breadalbane secondary and primary) to encourage them to apply for tree packs to plant on Dun Coillich.

6: Fencing RP There will be a fencing day on Thursday 29th November to complete the necessary work on the roadside fence, begun by Balfour Beatty. Meet at 9.30 a.m. at the car park. The height needs to be raised and chicken wire, now purchased, fastened.

The water gates need to be checked again. Five posts near the Shirley Jones bench need replacing. **ACTION RP and other volunteers**

7: Tree Planting. PJ reported from the Tree Group. A list of trees ordered for delivery in the spring had been circulated. The number will be made up to 22,500 by ordering more species. Sessile oak from Scotland, and aspen, are proving difficult to source. **ACTION PJ**

. SW had contacted Willie Shorthouse: he will take delivery, look after the plants, and plant 22,500 next spring for £220 per thousand, screefed (or £120 per thousand if planting positions are ready-prepared. This option was rejected) SW will find out if the price is inclusive of VAT **ACTION SW**

SW reported that some of the newly planted pines had their tops nipped off. Willie Shorthouse thought this was the caused by hares. However hares had rarely been seen by those present and no action was suggested.

8: Shirley Jones memorial bench. TW reported that the bench has been completed by Sam, who had enjoyed the job. It had been featured on radio Scotland 'Out-of-doors'. He had been paid £2000, plus £200 extra. Margaret George, Shirley's sister, and the whole family, was delighted. They will come to see it in the spring and will then attach a brass plaque.

TW was thanked for organising this project.

11: Treasurer's Report Spread sheets showing details of expenditure and income for the current financial year to date had been circulated by email. Unrestricted funds stand at £9,123.49 and restricted (raised for the visitor hut) at £3472.30.

12: AOB: The 10th anniversary celebration had gone well.

A hall for the AGM in March needs to be booked in good time, when a speaker has been arranged. Geoffrey Boulton was the preferred possible speaker. PJ will contact him **ACTION PJ**

RP emphasised that more Trustees are needed and urged everyone to look out for suitable recruits. Various possible people were suggested. AP will contact Innes Smith. **ACTION AP.** Martine McKay, Annie and Bob Benson, David Frisney and Tober Brown, of the Big Shed, were also suggested. **ACTION SW.**

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Date of next meeting: Monday 26th November, probably at Ailean Chraggan, at 7.15pm (RP to check)
ACTION RP