

**Minutes of Trustees Meeting held at Duireaskin, Aberfeldy, Monday May 27th, 2002, at 7.15 p.m.**

*Present:* Paul Jarvis (chairman), Ruth Atkinson, Beryl Coope, Julie Gardiner, Robin Hull, Andrew Pointer, Ian Riddell, Innes Smith, Margaret Jarvis (minutes secretary).

1. *Apologies:* Marjorie Finlayson, Bill Hoare, Hamish Nicholson.

2. *Minutes of Trustees meeting of 6th May:* Accepted and signed

3. *Matters arising:* There had been further correspondence with Mike Strachan about the contract with the Forestry Commission and there is still some talking to do. MS recommended that we do not sign the contract for another 12 months, in order to give time for surveying. The same options would still be available. Authorisation of PJ to sign on behalf of the HPCLT was circulated for signature by all the Trustees present. IS will require a similar document for IACS. **Action PJ and absent Trustees**

A letter of thanks and acknowledgement of membership has now been sent to all members (with the exception of those who are Trustees or members of sub-committees). Any addresses of members held by Colin Liddell will be obtained. **Action PJ**

IS corrected a previous point: the ESA (environmentally sensitive area) scheme's specific requirement is not for grazing in any particular period but for the exclusion of grazing from mid-May to mid-August.

The map for surveying had been distributed as an 8 Mb Word file by AP. Donald Riddell will be happy to laminate maps etc for us.

The Ordnance Survey has now given us a permanent licence number, which should, strictly speaking, be printed on all copies of the map from now on.

The celebratory gathering had taken place on 10<sup>th</sup> May. We were pleased that Harry and Helen McAdam were there.

RH enquired where donations to HPCLT should now be sent. BC answered that they should go to her, made out to HPCLT, to be paid into the account in Aberfeldy. She would send an acknowledgement and a Gift Aid form, to be produced by MJ. **Action BC and MJ**

4. *Newsletter* Deferred until next meeting

5a. *Dùn Coillich management.* PJ was unclear about the result of the convened meeting of those who might be interested in forming a Dùn Coillich Management Group. IS explained that there had been two problems: firstly, the question of a Dùn Coillich management group separate from the surveying group; secondly, the demands of keeping minutes and reporting regularly to the Trustees. There had been no feedback from the meeting yet and IS thought it best to defer any further action for a couple of weeks.

IS had a broad agenda for the meeting but this had been submerged by the dominance of the discussion on surveying. A youth member, Hazel Lean, had attended and had been asked for her views on how young people could be drawn in. She had subsequently put forward some ideas, e.g., a wooden bridge over the water and something specific at the top of the hill to attract children.

PJ, BC, Russell Coope and MJ had subsequently assessed the possible areas for a temporary car park. They thought that rebuilding the roadside walls further back and spreading some gravel on the ground would enable safe off-road parking on the agricultural land just above the caravan site. BC had previously contacted the Highways Department but had not yet done so again since it was not clear if this was the responsibility of a Dùn Coillich Management group or of the Trustees. **Action BC.** IR pointed out that the Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust is concerned with bridges, paths and car parks. It was agreed that the Finance Group should contact them. **Action IR, PJ, BC**

*5b. Surveying* RH circulated a paper detailing three options regarding specialist and community involvement for consideration and advice. IS emphasised that we must not become elitist and that the community must be involved. The third of RH's options, a combination of trained observers and members of the community, was adopted. There would be a code used for especially sensitive information. A meeting of the survey group was arranged for Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> May at West Carnliath at 7 p.m. **Action RH**

*5c. Financial* This sub-committee comprised PJ, IR, BC, Gordon Evans. PJ had met an interested chartered accountant who might be willing to help, Tim Ambrose. He is a member of the JMT and the Wild Land Group, works for Price Waterhouse, and was enthusiastic about Dùn Coillich. PJ will send him a membership form. **Action PJ**

BC reported that we have £4306 in the bank account, not including funds still held by CL. The bill for conveyancing has not yet been received from Duncan Thompson. CL's bill was considered to be very reasonable.

IR has a copy of 'Guide to Scottish Trusts'. MJ had requested application forms from 'Awards for All' but not yet received them. PJ, IR and BC will meet to begin the process of applying for funding.

#### **Action IR, PJ, BC**

IR suggested that the HPCLT should become a member of the Highland Perthshire Communities Partnership, at a cost of £50 per year. This was agreed.

RH circulated Birdathon application forms. Half the money raised would go to HCPLT this year.

The Ordnance Survey had now sent an invoice for £55.81.

A GPS had been purchased for the group at a cost of £126. This represented a substantial discount given by Munros on the normal retail price. This GPS will be held by RH. (Several other Trustees also have GPSs)

*5d. Education* BC, as convenor, had contacted several people who are interested, e.g. Elizabeth Leighton, Meg Dúnn. RA suggested contacting the education officers of SNH, WWF etc.

PJ read the letter he had written to the Director of Education. No reply had yet been received. A copy of this letter will be emailed to all Trustees as the content may be useful in future. **Action MJ**

*5e Publicity* RH had written an article to be published in the August issue of Scots Magazine, which will come out at the end of July. The editor had produced an artistic impression of Dùn Coillich in 50 years time. Somewhat unfortunately, this includes a large stag!

*5f History* RH has a growing file of information about the history of Dùn Coillich and would welcome any stories about the area. **Action all**

**6. Any Other Business:** Elizabeth Leighton, WWF, would like to arrange a meeting

on the evening of 24<sup>th</sup> June with a visitor from Tanzania, Mary Shuma, who works with community projects. MJ will find out about this. **Action MJ**

IS had been approached by Catherine Lloyd of the Tayside Local Biodiversity Action Plan. She might like to use Dùn Coillich as a case study in a Montane Habitat Action Plan. This was approved.

IR suggested that planting 50 oaks might be an appropriate way of marking the Queen's Jubilee, since Dùn Coillich had been purchased in Jubilee year. JG and AP were not personally interested, but had no objection to anyone else going ahead with this.

RH said that he had called on Mr and Mrs Smith, the owners of White Bridge, and introduced himself. The Smiths were interested to hear about Dún Coilich but had expressed anxiety about their water supply, the source of which is on the hill above. PJ pointed out that this is legally safeguarded in the conveyancing document, but it is something for us to be aware of.

7. *Date of next meeting:* Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> June, Duireaskin, 7.15 p.m.