

Friends of Glennan Wood

Draft Minute of Meeting held at KCF on 22nd September 2017

Present (In alphabetic order):

Mark Appleton (appletonmark@hotmail.com)

Nikki Brown (nikkiwoolf28@gmail.com)

Robert Borruso (Robert@kilfinan.communityforrest.com)

Mick Eyre (michael@kilfinancommunityforest.com)

Andree Hawk (andreehawke@msn.com)

Eve MacFarlane (eve@westcoasting.co.uk)

Heather Muir (heathercattermole@live.co.uk)

Lucy Roper (lucy.mark@tiscali.co)

Anna Strachan (annasuilvenstrachan@gmail.com)

Robin Webster (robin.webster@mac.com)

1. Introduction

Eve welcomed everyone and we all introduced ourselves.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th July 2017 were approved.

3. Progress

The deeds etc had been sent to OSCR for approval as an SCIO, approximately 4 weeks ago. We expect a response within 90 days: around the middle of November.

4. Scottish Land Fund

The SLF has accepted our informal application and we are now in their programme pipeline, although we are not yet officially recognised as a SCIO. The first stage application is to be made for Development Funding, and this will require a feasibility study to be prepared by an independent consultant. This has to show that the community ownership will (at the very least) not lead to degradation of the forest. It will consider potential options for development and cover community consultation. **Action Eve to work with Rob on application for Development Funding.**

Once our application to the SLF has been approved, we will be required to go out to tender for this feasibility study, and Robert said that he would be able to help us draw up a specification of what would be required. **Action Robert**
Anna noted that there would be funding for heritage projects.

5. "Paths for All" Training

Mark had attended this a couple of days ago. They will give grants of £1.5 k. They look at an applicant's website, and consider how proactive, inclusive and community orientated the applicant has been.

Andree has been working on this (which is linked with "Heritage Trails"). She described how if every point was properly addressed and answered, it was likely that funds would be forthcoming; it had taken three months from the application being received to receiving approval and a cheque.

There was general discussion about surveys: Andree said TDDT had previously managed to get £2k for a survey.
Next round of SRDP “Improving Public Access” grants will open again in May next year. It would be worthwhile checking where Argyll had defined “core paths”

6. Insurance for Maintenance

Mick said that he had checked with KCFC insurers and they had said that KCFC volunteers would be covered for work outside KCF. Therefore if we plan work parties at Glenan, as long as we meet in KCFC’s car park (and presumably advertise it as a KCFC event), we would be covered.

7. Membership

It was confirmed that Ian, (the general manager at Portavadie Marina) had confirmed that they would be keen to be involved with FoGW: it is to be decided whether they should be offered a permanent place as a trustee.

8. Communications and Publicity

Eve said that she had started to construct the website.

Action

Eve

Robin said he would prepare some options for a logo.

Action Robin

Anna said her mother had some material that might be used in the logo, and said she would send this to Robin.

Action Anna

It was important that anyone spending time or money on the project should log this, and keep receipts, as this could be used later as “benefits in kind” when applying for grants etc.

Action All

It was reinforced that all information and/or publicity statements must be routed through Eve, to avoid confusion.

9. Red Squirrels

While it was not certain that there were red squirrels in Glenan (although it was thought likely), it would be a popular draw if we could designate the area as “a red squirrel sanctuary”, building squirrel boxes, etc. Lucy agreed to follow this up with the Cowal Red Squirrel Group, and perhaps see if it could be established if there were any there at present or not.

Action Lucy

It might be possible to do a similar thing for otters and owls: getting partnership organisations involved would be good and helpful when we apply for grants.

10. CWA Conference at Cumbernauld on 20th and 21st October.

Folk were encouraged to attend this: Eve said she would circulate the details.

Action Eve

11. Historic Environment Scotland

Anna is arranging a visit by HES to view and record the buildings and monuments at Glenan: it was agreed that this might an entire day.

Action Anna

11. Date of next meeting

This was provisionally agreed to be at **2.00 pm on Saturday 18th November**

at KCFC.