

# Maryburgh Community Woodland Group

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2024 @ 7.00pm  
Maryburgh Amenities Centre



MINUTE of meeting.		ACTION:
1.	<p><b>Welcomes and Apologies</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Attendees:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Craig Evans</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Ewan McHardy</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Rosie MacLeod</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Elsbeth Neil</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Jim Neil</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Megan Parker (Chair)</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Gareth Parkinson</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Donald Stuart (CC rep)</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <b>Apologies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Ian Fraser</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Siobhan Fraser</b></li> <li>➤ <b>John MacKay (MAC rep)</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <b>MP</b> welcomed attendees to the meeting.</li> </ul>
2.	<p><b>Approval of minute of 27.06.24 &amp; Review of actions from previous meeting</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>MP</b> asked for approval of the minute dated: 27.06.24</li> <li>Minute Approved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Proposer: <b>Gareth Parkinson</b></li> <li>➤ Seconder: <b>Rosie MacLeod</b></li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Review of Actions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>DS &amp; RMacL</b> confirmed that they had arranged a meeting with the MAC treasurer for the following week and would update the group at the next meeting.</li> <li>▪ <b>EMcH</b> to continue to investigate possible Community Benefit funding sources. <b>DS</b> suggested that there may be community funding for a proposed windfarm in the Dingwall area.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**DS** and **RMacL** will update the group at the next meeting.

**EMcH** to continue to investigate the Community Benefit funding sources.



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>RMacL</b> informed the group that the artist would be willing to do the drawings as long as we can wait until winter.</li> </ul>	<p><b>RMacL</b> to continue to liaise with the local artist.</p>
3.	<b>Invasive Species Event Review</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Everyone present agreed that the event went well and the group had received a very positive response to the activity.</li> <li>▪ It was suggested that it could be done again as part of the gala week activities next year.</li> </ul>	
4.	<b>Tree Survey Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>DS</b> confirmed that he had sent the invoice for the survey to the MAC treasurer for payment.</li> <li>▪ <b>MP</b> highlighted that the group would need to address the recommendations very soon. <b>CE</b> agreed to contact [REDACTED] for a quote for the felling of tree number 517 and the removal of a branch from tree number 638.</li> <li>▪ <b>MP</b> agreed to get in touch with [REDACTED] at Highland Council to get approval for the work.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CE</b> to contact [REDACTED] for a quote.</p> <p><b>MP</b> to contact [REDACTED] for permissions.</p>
5.	<b>Woodland Signage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>MP</b> indicated that before making a decision on what we want for the woodland signage, we must first decide where we want signs to be situated.</li> <li>▪ <b>GP</b> highlighted that there may be funding from Scottish Forestry for signage.</li> <li>▪ The group agreed that a signage plan should be drawn up and costed to prepare for a future funding application.</li> <li>▪ <b>EN</b> suggested that this activity may be of interest to <b>SF</b> and <b>IF</b>. She agreed to ask them.</li> </ul>	<p><b>EN</b> to ask <b>SF</b> and <b>IF</b> if they would consider drawing up a plan about the signage for the woodland.</p>



<p>6.</p>	<p><b>Finance and Funding</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>EN</b> said that she had sent out requests to various contractors to get quotes for the path and drainage work required to be undertaken in the woodland. So far just one had replied.</li> <li>▪ <b>RMcL</b> suggested that a funding application could be made to TESCO.</li> <li>▪ <b>EN</b> suggested that most funding required match funding and therefore multiple application would have to be developed.</li> <li>▪ <b>EN</b> highlighted that one of the fundraising suggestions was to build a Santa's grotto in the woodland at Christmas.</li> <li>▪ <b>DS</b> said that MAC do a grotto at Christmas and they also do a pumpkin event for Halloween.</li> <li>▪ It was suggested that both MAC committee and the woodland group should combine effort and develop these activities.</li> <li>▪ <b>DS</b> agreed to discuss this with the MAC committee and the gala committee.</li> </ul>	<p><b>DS</b> to discuss joint venture with the MAC committee and the gala committee.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>AOCB</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>RMcL</b> said that there were areas of the path where the bushes were overgrowing the path and she asked if she had approval to trim these back. <b>MP</b> agreed that if the undergrowth was impeding the path in any way, then it could be cut back.</li> <li>▪ <b>GP</b> said that it would be worthwhile if the group could instigate regular monthly clean up days. Everyone agreed that this should be implemented.</li> <li>▪ <b>GP</b> agreed to draft an application to Scottish Forestry's Community Fund for training in carrying out the monthly woodland inspections.</li> <li>▪ <b>GP</b> asked if once prepared, <b>EN</b> could sign the document and send it in.</li> </ul>	<p><b>GP</b> to draft an application to Scottish Forestry's Community Fund.</p> <p><b>EMcH</b> to discuss the findings with the local resident.</p>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>EN</b> said that she had received a reply from the Law firm in regard to access rights in the woodland. There followed a discussion about how to control the access and a discussion about the ownership of the paths. <b>EMcH</b> agreed to discuss the findings with the local resident.</li> </ul>	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Date of next meeting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It was agreed by all present that the next meeting would take place on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> of October.</li> </ul>	<b>EN</b> to contact Steph to book the hall.

