

Maryburgh Community Woodland Group

Thursday 7th November 2024 @ 7.00pm
Maryburgh Amenities Centre



MINUTE of meeting.		ACTION:
1.	<p>Welcomes and Apologies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Attendees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ian Fraser ➤ Siobhan Fraser ➤ Rosie MacLeod ➤ Megan Parker (Chair) ▪ Apologies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Craig Evans ➤ Ewan McHardy ➤ Elsbeth Neil ➤ Jim Neil ➤ John MacKay (MAC rep) ➤ Gareth Parkinson ➤ Donald Stuart (CC rep) ▪ MP welcomed the small group to the meeting.
2.	<p>Approval of minute of 03.10.24 & Review of actions from previous meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MP asked for approval of the minute dated: 03.10.24 Minute Approved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Proposer: Siobhan Fraser ➤ Seconder: Ian Fraser Review of Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The MAC treasurer is transferring to online banking and once this is done the MCWG can also access online banking. DS to update at next meeting. (To remain open from previous meeting) ▪ EMcH met with the Tesco community rep who suggested we apply for the blue token funding. RMacL confirmed that she had started the application. The rep offered a fund-raising table to the group and it was agreed that EMcH would select a date around Easter for the group to do this. (To remain open from previous meeting)

DS will update the group at the next meeting about banking arrangements.

EMcH to liaise with Tesco to organise a table in Tesco around Easter.



3.	Signage walk through report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The group reviewed the report and maps following the walk through assessment. All agreed in principle to everything proposed. It was noted that the style/design and location of the perch seats should discourage antisocial use and viewed photos of what they would look like. They appear to be rather uncomfortable for extended sits and would be along the main path, so use would be rather visible, hopefully they won't generate any problems. ▪ Next steps are to finalise any details on the style and design of sign. SF is to prepare blank templates showing required minimum dimensions of signs and we are all to fill in what we think would look good, at the next meeting we can discuss and develop our design for all our different signs so they can go to Scottish Forestry for approval. MP informed the group that OATs (outdoor access trust for Scotland) had been contacted and they will offer some advice and/or support to help us with our path works. 	<p>SF to send out some blank templates with the sign dimensions.</p> <p>All Members- to use SFs templates to then put together what you think the signs should look like, we can then decide on a draft design to go to Scottish Forestry for approval. Ideas to be reviewed at next meeting (9th January).</p>
4.	SMF WIAT Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MP informed those present that the SMF WIAT Application had been submitted to Scottish Forestry along with the WIG WIAT application. Approvals may not come before Christmas so we will crack on with tree safety works for the single tree which was deemed high risk even if funding is not approved. 	<p>CE to instruct [REDACTED] to fell the single tree down at his earliest opportunity. The invoice should go to RMcL once completed. He can remove the firewood.</p>
5.	Finance & Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The group has received a VERY generous donation of £570 during our woodland cleanup day. EN to confirm the donor, and draft thank you letter from the group. ▪ RMcL to continue to work on the Tesco application but will need a funding sub-committee meeting to complete this as there are questions she doesn't have answers to. ▪ EN to send out dates for funding subcommittee meetings. 	<p>EN to confirm the donor, and draft thank you letter from the group.</p> <p>EN to send out dates for funding subcommittee meetings.</p>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The account funds are growing. We had around £800 plus the £1000 from our last grant payment and now the donation of £570 so we think the tree felling this time can be paid directly and we can pay off some of the outstanding invoice balances held by MAC if they need that. 	
6.	Felling arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CE to contact [REDACTED] to get the single tree down, noting that [REDACTED] will take away the firewood. Invoice to be sent to RMcL once received. 	
7.	Next Roundabout content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It was agreed the regular woodland clean up dates should be included in the roundabout update. 	EN to highlight the clean-up days in next issue of the Maryburgh Roundabout.
8.	Confirm Clean Up dates: 07.12.24, 04.01.25, 01.02.25, 01.03.25, 05.04.25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All the proposed clean up dates were confirmed. It was noted that in advance of each we should ensure the group knows who is planning on joining (so we have at least one person and tools available) and that we know what area/tasks will be addressed. This is important to ensure we complete works which we can then claim funding for. ▪ We also discussed the idea of digging out some of the beech seedlings to then sell on at the Gala days. This should be on the agenda for the next meeting. ▪ An invitation should be extended to the Men's shed for these days, and we should send the invite directly to the community members who asked to be kept updated and provided their emails. EN to action the invites. 	<p>EN to add removal of Beech to next agenda.</p> <p>EN to send out invites to clean up days</p>
9.	AOCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The group discussed more fund-raising ideas including a winter woodland guided walk for five pounds, with hot chocolate included and possibly run in tandem with Santa's grotto to add in something else for people to come along to (or right before the grotto opens so we can encourage them to then go along to the grotto?). Another idea was a treasure hunt with prizes, Rosie noted an easter event with 	



		<p>painted wooden eggs and another one with a secret message search. (not really mentioned at the meeting but I think we should think more about our memory tree planting, we could open this up to donations from the community to get their names on the plaque for £50 or £100.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Noted that CWA membership was paid. ▪ Noted the I-naturalist webinar coming up 3rd Dec 2-3pm, we think this is worth attending to find out more, but none of us are available on the 3rd and we aren't sure if there is a cost to attend. 	<p>Attendance update on I-naturalist.</p>
7.	Date of next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EN to check if hall is available on the 9th of January 2025 	<p>EN to contact hall.</p>

