

Minutes for FOGW meeting 27th August at 9.30 @ Keeper's Cottage

Robin (chair), Rob, Ed (minutes), Rhyddian, Niall

1. Apologies

Katherine, Eve, Mark

2. Update/minutes of previous meetings.

Action points from previous minutes:

Completed

- **Robin** - To arrange visit to fruit tree orchard (Covid permitting)
Meeting arranged
- **Robin** - send round notes from meeting with Northwood
No formal notes, but email forwarded
- **Niall** to forward accounts (I think this was being discussed prior to me getting there)
- **Robin** - can you forward details of the funding application?
Done?
- **Rhyddian** to forward update notes.
Forwarded and added to minutes.
- **Rhyddian** to contact Portavadie to advise of volunteering opportunities and let them know that we are investigating the possibility of running 'team build' events and a programme of events for guests.
- **Rhyddian** to come up with some ideas for corporate 'team building' events and share with the board
- **Rhyddian** to come up with ideas for possible activities and share with the board.
- **AP - Ed** to co-ordinate work days.
- **AP: Robin** to contact Northwood and stress that FOGW need time to make decisions about involvement, and that things should not progress until it is clear that FOGW have agreed to them.
- **Robin** to find out if potential tree planting funding (The Queens Green Canopy) could cover the costs of protecting natural regeneration.
It isn't.

Outstanding

- **Eve** - Change drop box permissions to allow all board members access.
- **Eve** - Upload unredacted previous minutes and documents to dropbox
- **Mark** to look into Northwood/Big Picture Scotland funding and structure.
- **Robin** to investigate different models of FOGW having a fundraiser (e.g. an employee, someone paid by results, etc)
- **Eve** to forward details of potential funds received from ABC
- **All** consider any opportunities to apply for funding
- **Mark** to consider options and work on application (Ed/Niall to assist)

- **Eve** to contact ACT to see if they can help with admin/funding
- **Ed** to contact 'carbon offsetting' broker to get more information [Rhyddian/Robin to forward contact details from Northwood]

3. Financial Report.

Accounts shared [Niall I misplaced the accounts you gave me. Can you add details in here?]

Notes: KCFC need invoice for £150 for OWL teen club held in teh summer.

AP: Niall to send invoice to KCFC.

4. Forest Ranger Report.

1. Rhyddian will reduce hours to 1dpw from October till March.
2. ACTIONED: Negotiated 4 x corporate development training half days with Iain Jurgenson at Portavadie. Suggested rate is £300 per half day. First day requested to take place in November.
3. ACTIONED: Rhyddian has joined the portavadie staff facebook page and has advertised a weekly working group at the orchard for portavadie staff.
4. ACTIONED: Rhyddian has sent a list of private events and suggested prices for advertising via the wild about argyll website for 2022 season to the board for approval/comment.

AP: Rhyddian to resend.

5. Rhyddian met with Alastair Barge and Evanachan farm for a presentation about the Kilfinan Connect project proposal. I have agreed to represent FOGW on a working group he is proposing to form to advance the aims of the project.
6. Rhyddian met with Ian Dow of ACT. ACT is aiming to draw down 40K of funds to tackle our ponticum issue. Will forward more detail as soon as it becomes available.
7. Proposed that our apple processing equipment is securely stored at KCFC and used as a central location for community to process apples.
8. Spoke to Tom Webster re video. Tom has agreed to adding Logo, credits and link to website. Rhyddian asked board to submit any other suggestions in next two weeks as he wished to sign off and recieve final copy.
9. Rhyddian has spent two days in orchard cutting brash.
10. Three lines are now erected at fenced area.

5. Potential Funding.

5.1 Portavadie arrangements

Notes: Rhyddian has spoke with Portavadie. Agreed to provide volunteer opportunities for staff on a Thursday. Has agree to hold 4 half day events for staff as 'team building' events. The first one in November.

AP: Rhyddian to draft page for website on our 'offer' for team building events.

AP: Rhyddian to share ideas for half day events for members of the public with the board.

Next steps: Create a business plan around hold events for members of the public.

5.2 Potential Sponsors (Northwood/SBP)

Notes: Draft MOU circulated. Still waiting for FOGW specific memorandum

Decision : Draft something to the members to gauge support for Northwood involvement/ sponsorship

AP : [Someone] draft email/blog/article.

5.3 Community Woods Association/ Future Woodlands Scotland Research and Innovation Fund

Notes: CWA have applied for funding to study impacts of community ownership. Project is across 6 CWA members

Decision: Agreed to be partner with CWA for funding

5.4 Windfarm

AP: Rhyddian to arrange meeting between Iain, Niall and Ed to get more details.

5.5 Scottish Forestry Community Fund

5.6 Queen's Green Canopy

5.7 Argyll Countryside Trust: £40k for rhododendron clearance?

Notes: Application has been made. If successful ACT will hold money and pay contractors to remove rhododendron. FOGW will have control over how this is done.

Next steps: Can FOGW be paid management fee for Rhyddian's time?

5.7 Other sources/fundraiser?

AP: Ed to write letter to Oak Foundation

AP: Robin to apply to big lottery funding for funding for Rhyddian's post

AP: Robin to investigate further funding from the land fund to extend Rhyddian's post

AP: Rob to investigate Covid 'Bounce Back' fund

6. Orchard site

Notes: Soil tests shows that site is slightly acidic.

Rhyddian has been cutting some of the material that needs to be removed.

Next steps: A sufficient amount of the site needs to be cleared to allow for the planting of trees in the next couple of months.

7. Video

8. Other business

AP: Eve and Niall to meet to discuss email, website, donation button and drop box access.

Note: As per email the coastguard have some suggests on how to make the site safer for walker.

AP: Ed and Eve to discuss application to TDDT for signage.

9. Date of next meeting

AP: Robin to circulate email to decide the best day/time to meet in the last week of October.