

Friends of Glenan Wood
Notes from Zoom meeting held on Thursday 10th March 2022

Present:

Eve MacFarlane
Robin Webster
Mark Appleton
Robert Borruso
Craig Ward (part time)
Andree Hawke (Guest, part time)

Gaelic Event at Glenan

Andree had got some money (£200) for an event about Gaelic in the environment: it was thought that this would be a very good thing to happen at Glenan, and might also be combined with a barbecue and celebration event.

Suggested date is Saturday 25th June. Duncan McNicol will be speaking about the general idea at the Church hall on Saturday 26th March, Eve, Andree, Rhyddian (and possibly Lucy?) to organise the event at Glenan. Robin said he would help with a barbecue.

Rhododendron clearance

Rhyddian had emailed a brief report: the Rhoddies by Crispie have been cleared, and the contractors (Ascog) are now moving into more publicly accessible areas. Good progress is being made and relationships are working well: the deadline is 31st March.

Trustees

Robin asked if Leoma Armstrong might be approached as a new trustee, she was interested in Glenan and the orchard, and had helped plant trees there. This was agreed. He also suggested that a younger group of friends (not trustees) could be formed, to encourage an interest in the wood and to suggest ideas to the Board. Robin to follow this up.

AGM

Eve to check when we had our last one. Eve thought that more folk could come if we held it online, although Robert thought a physical one was better. After discussion it was agreed to hold one online, but also to plan a fun event that people could meet at. Robin said a date after 22nd April would be best for him.

Lottery Bid

Craig asked what community activities we should be applying for: it was agreed that we should focus on employing Rhyddian. Craig to meet people individually to help put the bid together, and will meet Robin on Sunday 13th March.

Orchard

The trees were all planted (thanks to all who helped!). We needed to consider a water supply. Getting mains water will be very expensive, but Robin will look into this.. We should try to get a water butt: Andree said there was a big one at the Chip Shop: Robin to ask Rudi if it might be available. (Meanwhile the holes that had been dug were a local source of water!). It was agreed that a composting toilet would be a good idea, near the existing hut.

Strip by wood chip road

There were a number of suggestions about this. Robin said he would ask Tilhill if it was of any interest to them to fell the trees, and would also ask David Lowrie, and Katharine would speak to Angus about it. Rhyddian was keen that it should be split up into small sections and different folk could be responsible for it.

Business Plan

We did not have time to discuss this, but it is important that we do clarify our priorities and put together as business plan.

Finance

Our funds are very low. Robin said he was applying for the £950 for the materials for deer exclosures: he had bought the materials and now had to get the money back from Forestry Scotland.

Eve said that she had some funds from the Glenan coffee brand that she could put into the account.

Robin asked if we could not ask our members for a small regular donation by standing order. Eve said she would put something on my the website: Robin to draft a letter (mentioning insurance costs etc) and Eve will send it to members.

It was also agreed that an honesty box by the entrance would help. Robin to send a drawing to Robert.