

■ FRIENDS OF GLENAN WOOD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 2020

- **Date:** December 8, 2020
- **Time:** 19.30
- **Place:** Remote
- **Trustees in attendance:** Mark Appleton, Rob Borusso, Heather Cattermole, Andree Hawke, Katherine Lowrie, Eve MacFarlane, Niall McFarlane, Robin Webster, plus trustee elect Ed Pybus. The total number present remotely was 25 with four apologies for absence received.

Sufficient FoGW trustees and members of the public were in attendance (via Zoom) to ensure the meeting was quorate

1. Chairman's welcome Chairman Robin Webster welcomed those in attendance on the Zoom call and outlined how virtually all of the year's planned activities had been thwarted by the Covid pandemic. He explained that having been successful in applying for a BoostIt loan for the building of camping huts, the plans had not been approved by the council in their current form have therefore been put on hold before further discussions with the council and among the trustees could take place.

Robin further explained that a grant application for £9500 has been successful with the money to be used to create a community fruit orchard on the plantation site.

2. Election of trustees Ed Pybus was nominated by Eve and seconded by Katherine and duly elected and welcomed to the board of trustees. Mark Appleton stepped down, was proposed for re-election by Robin and seconded by Rob Borusso. Eve MacFarlane stepped down, was nominated by Robin and seconded by Niall McFarlane so both were duly re-elected to the board.

3. Constitution The constitutional clarification of the maximum length of terms of office by trustees was voted on and duly approved. The constitution now includes the following text: "A retiring Charity Trustee shall be eligible for re-election after one term of office. A retiring Charity Trustee shall not be eligible for re-election after two consecutive terms of office until a period of one year in which they have not been a Charity Trustee has passed. A term of office shall be no longer than three years."

4. Accounts Niall ran through the figures for both the financial years ending 2019 and 2020. Last year had a starting balance of £300, income was just over £1,100 from grants and donations and expenditure was just over £600. The closing balance was £803, but the main activity was the grant for the purchase of the land and funding for the Development Officer and Forest Ranger.

For the current year we have received £50,000 from the BoostIt fund for the pod or other project. Other funding came from the Tighnabruaich Development Trust. The end of year balance was £56,449, however, of that figure only £1,700 was unrestricted funds with the rest being reserved for BoostIt spending and wages. These are, however, unaudited figures and in future Niall said we would still need to secure additional income.

5. Ranger's Report Rhyddian expressed his thanks to board members and the community for welcoming him into the community but given time restrictions suggested that he would send out his proposed presentation to board trustees and members of the charity.

6. Questions from the floor There was a question about the proposed pod development and Robin explained that Argyll and Bute planning officers had expressed reservations and that plans were therefore currently up in the air. He outlined the idea for a community orchard and the possibility of a structure to be used as a base for educational activities.

Rhyddian was able to provide some information about his research into procuring a charcoal retort to turn rhododendron into charcoal. There were expressions of support and questions about camping from the floor, which were answered insofar as possible given the time restrictions of the Zoom meeting.

ends