

## **Laide & Aultbea Community Woodland – Directors' Meeting**

31st May 2012

### **Apologies**

Janet Barclay, Peter Jarosz and Paul Bolton and Ruth Mackenzie.

### **Present**

John Rippin, Kevin Ginty, Andrew Jackman, Tony Carpenter, Nick Murray, Alan Turnbull

### **Approval of last minutes**

Proposed Tony Carpenter. Seconded Alan Turnbull.

### **Matters arising**

Discussion regarding the use of paths by cyclists. As we can not legally stop this a Possible solution was agreed to make sign saying tracks are unsuitable. While paths were under discussion Kevin brought up the possibility of cutting a new one from the army bridge

### **Treasurer's report**

John pointed out that our capital position had remained fairly static over the last couple of years which was healthy.

### **Primrose Walk**

This was considered a great success by all. The parking was much improved. Nick asked if a barbecue might make money and John suggested a raffle and auction next time. At this point the bench for the auction was considered. Tony said that we should need to use our own wood and to cut it fairly soon into a number of standard sizes (6x2,4x2,3x2) in order to allow for drying time.

Nick brought up the matter of the water drums and the problem of rust and pine needles. It was decided to obtain plastic replacements with some form of lid.

### **Events 2012**

Kevin will report through the season in the news items on progress. It was also agreed that Jan should liaise with 'Wild about Garloch' about working together to ensure that our programmes do not clash in any way.

Kevin was concerned that there should not be any web site involvement in any poorly organised outside events that might reflect badly on us.

## **Working parties**

These are now on hold for the summer, any specific jobs will be organised by e.mail  
There was discussion about improvements to the duck race including signage and the use of sand bags to form a dam to aid improved water flow in future.

## **Aultbea Nursery**

The nursery were delighted with the logs supplied, and John suggested that the sign recovered from Ben Eighe be made into a bench for them.

## **Yurt**

This item was not discussed.

## **Dog Fouling**

This problem is getting worse, and after discussion it was agreed that the posters that John showed us should be displayed around the trails. It was further suggested that the Dog Warden be approached for advice and maybe occasional attendance in the car park. Surveillance cameras were also discussed but decided against.

## **Building**

No further progress to report. In general, it was agreed that the existing plan was suitable.

## **Free church continuing**

It was agreed that it was in our interest to offer the possibility of their use of the proposed building on Sundays, as a possible adjunct to any grant aid sought.

## **Newsletter**

Kevin told us about articles to be included about Willow and the Primrose Walk. He also asked for any articles or photos to be sent in as soon as possible. He will email guidelines for this process. Andrew suggested his details might be added to the web sight for any readers who might want to access his experience on forestry.

## **Any other business**

John brought up the subject of Andrew's move and thanked him for all his very considerable past efforts on behalf of the Wood. Andrew said he would still like to carry on his involvement, even if it had to be from further away.  
Nick brought up the matter of the building parts in the car park which were getting wet. It was agreed to get Murdo M to move it for us for use as a base for the Logosol and to quote for a concrete base. It was suggested alternatively to use railway sleepers from HIS for this.

Nick asked about the first aid course, John agreed to follow this up and to see if

others in the community might be interested to increase numbers, so that it could be organised locally through the Community Woodland Association.  
It was agreed that improvements to the waterfall path were a priority for future working parties.

**Next meeting**

7.30 Aultbea Hall Thursday July 26<sup>th</sup> 2012