

February 22nd 2011 Minutes of Dunbar Community Woodland Group Committee Meeting held in Hallhill Healthy Living Centre

<u>Present</u> - Simon Bell (Convenor), Andy Morris, Isobel Campbell, Ute Penny, Morag Haddow, Isobel Knox, Jayne Chappell

Apologies - Philip Revell, Jacquie Bell

- 1. Meeting opened by SB at 20.04.
- **2. Approval of minutes** minutes from the January meeting reviewed and accepted as correct.
- 3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes -
- **3.1.** re item **7.2** the funding bid that Diane Laing (Scottish Native Woods) was putting in for us this was unsuccessful, however, she is looking into other avenues.

3.2. Action Plan -

Re item 1, letters have been sent out to various people, giving them permission to collect wood. SB will be keeping a record.

Re item 3, JC has someone willing to scrutinize the accounts, but yet to be done.

Re item 4, rubbish bags donated by ASDA, for forthcoming litter pick.

Re item 5, SB has written the article for East Lothian life, with some input from IK.

Re item 6, the issue regarding the discussion/review, pertaining to the lump sum, has been raised with Colin Shand. A meeting is yet to be arranged.

4. Inspection Report(s) & Issues Arising -

- **4.1. Sewage Outlet** IK has been contacted by Finlay MacKay (ELC Environmental Officer) and has discussed this issue with him. The committee is of the opinion, that a meeting needs to be arranged between all interested parties, e.g. DCDC, residents and a member of the group. Ideally, it should be before the 14th March, when Glendinning are scheduled to begin works on the paths. JB was volunteered to chase this up with FM!
- **4.2. Pond Outlet** this refers to an e-mail sent by a resident of John Muir Gardens, received by AM and forwarded on to the members. The concerns were that the elderly resident, had observed that the grille was getting blocked on a regular basis and that this (in his opinion), could cause the pond to flood into his garden. After discussion amongst the committee, it was decided that this could not happen, as the water would overflow the grille and then drain away into the culvert. It was also felt however, that it would be diplomatic to go and see the residents, to explain and hopefully, to allay their fears. SB has said that he will do this.

5. Financial Statement -

- **5.1.** there is approx. £15,000 in the bank account. £517 has been collected from the sale of the calendars. To break even we need £572. It was decided to leave the remaining calendars in their various locations and to not reduce the price any further.
- **5.2. Expenses** IK raised the point that on the various fact finding missions, members were funding these from their own pockets. Could expenses be claimed? It was agreed that they could and JC said that she would e-mail standard expense claim forms to members.
- **6. Membership Statement** AM reported that there are (at the last count) 132 members. However, although he has a list, there are one or two, who appear not to have renewed. There was some confusion about people who had joined at the Gathering In, as they had not specified whether they were joining as family or single members.

7. Events, Publicity & PR Aspects -

7.1. Arts Trust & Artists for Beltane Event - IK has provisionally booked in various people for this event. She had also designed a draft poster for it, which she showed to us and for which suggestions were made by the committee, for colour, font etc. She will continue working on it and will e-mail it to us, for further constructive criticism.

- **7.2. Beltane** there was some discussion amongst the members about charging people for their stalls. It was decided that £10 £15 seemed to be a reasonable amount. However, the issue about whether or not a Trading Licence would be need, was raised. PR is to be asked about this.
- **7.2. Newspaper Articles** IK also showed the committee, a couple of articles that had appeared in the local press about the woods.
- **7.3.** Litter Pick a reminder that this will be on the 27th February 2011. All welcome!
- **8. DCDC** Nothing to report.
- 9. Specific Items
- **9.1.Planting Progress & Contact with FC** James Brown has yet to begin the planting.

10. AOCB

- **10.1.** AM raised the issue of the rubbish that had been dumped, by one of the houses, adjacent to the woods on Brodie Road. The matter has been raised with the householder, who has said that it will be removed. The soil can be left, as it will settle and be grown over.
- 11. Next Meeting 21st March 2011 Hallhill Healthy Living Centre 20.00hrs.

Action Plan

- **1.** Accounts still need to be scrutinized. JC to oversee this.
- **2.** Meeting with Colin Shand to discuss lump sum, yet to be arranged.
- **3.** Meeting with residents/DCDC/committee member(s) to be arranged ASAP, to discuss sewage outlet. JB to chase this up, with Finlay Mackay.
- **4.** SB to go and see the resident who is concerned about the blockage of the grille at the Lily Pond.
- **5.** JC to e-mail expense forms to members.
- **6.** PR to be asked whether or not we need trading licences for Beltane.