



**Annual General Meeting of Dunbar Community Woodland Group
held on September 27th 2011 at Dunbar Library**

Meeting Opened at 19.36

Present - Simon Bell (Convenor), Ross Combe, Ruth Frost, David Andrews, Robin Melrose, Mary Lindsay, Colin Beckett, Eva Hurley, Lesley Renshaw, Keith Renshaw, Katie Carrick-Anderson and family, Mark James, Philip Revell, Isobel Knox, Cynthia Stephens, Isobel Campbell

1. Apologies for Absence - Susan Panton, Jayne Chapell, Andy Morris, Jacquie Bell, Morag Haddow

2. Minutes of Previous AGM - the misspelling of Cynthia Stephens name was noted and corrected.

RM proposed and IK accepted the minutes as correct.

3. Matters Arising - none

4. Convenors Report - SB presented the convenors report - see Appendix

5. Treasurers Report - SB also presented the treasurers report. Unfortunately, a copy of this is unavailable at time of writing, but please ask JC or SB for one if need be. Briefly however, there has not been much income this year and a fair amount has gone out. This is due mainly to all the path improvement work that has been done. SB also explained how convoluted the payment trail can be, as we are awaiting payment from one group, before another can be paid. There are also various running expenses that have to be taken into account, e.g. stationery, printing etc. Finally, it was mentioned that

Viridor are donating money to Scottish Native Woods, who in turn are buying and giving some trees to us

6. Membership Report - IK presented this and there are currently 127 members, although 28 are unpaid. IC asked if these unpaid members can still be included. Apparently, they have been sent reminders and are given about a year's grace

7. Election of Office Bearers - most of the office bearers are staying on, as once elected, they are in position for 5 years. As everyone was elected last year, they have some time to go. Unfortunately, JC is resigning her post as treasurer, as she is moving out of the area. SB asked all those present if anyone would be interested, but no offers were forthcoming.

We have however, been joined by three new committee members as follows:

Eva Harley, Keith Renshaw and David Andrews, who all live locally and enjoy the woods

8. AOCB - IK (as Community Liaison Officer) spoke about future plans and ideas such working in partnership with Dunbar Fitness on the Fitness in the Woods Initiative

MH is also trying to encourage people to get on their bikes and as part of this, Ms and Master Carrick-Anderson explained their ideas about a Pump Track. Apparently, one is being set up in some woods in Fife and the plans for that one, were shown to those assembled

IK also went on to explain how rural crafts might be developed and has seen Greenwood working in action, where no machine tools are used

For the immediate future, the Halloween Tree Planting Event on 30th October was mentioned. We have been given 600 trees to plant - 40(!) different species - and they will all be labelled

Use of the £1000 prize money (won by us as runners-up in the Scottish Finest Woods Awards) for buying equipment was discussed

Mention was also made of the possibility, of sharing the storage container facilities with Dunbar Primary School for all of our equipment

RM enquired if there was a possibility for the undergrowth of brambles to be cleared, which are encroaching on his path into the woods. This is done on a voluntary basis by the members and discussion ensued as to what sort of tools might be suitable for this job. He also enquired as to who is responsible for maintenance of the woodland side of his fence. He and his immediate neighbours, have staked and kept in good condition, their sides, but were wondering who should be doing the other side. No answer was forthcoming from those assembled, but it has been noted

MJ enquired on behalf of some of his neighbours, the procedure for permission to collect wood for their wood-burning stoves. SB explained the permission letter that he gives to people and made it clear, that wood-collecting is for personal use only

Meeting Closed at 20.25