



**January 23rd 2012 Minutes of Dunbar Community Woodland Group
Committee Meeting held in Hallhill Healthy Living Centre**

Present - Simon Bell, Isobel Knox, Isobel Campbell, Andy Morris, Ute Penny, David Andrews, Dave Crosbie, Philip Revell, Morag Hadow, Mark James

1. Meeting opened by SB. Apologies from Eva Hurley, Keith Renshaw, Jacquie Bell

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting - Accepted

3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes - Item 7 - IK said that she and UP have not yet spoken to the residents, re opening up the gates at Muirfield Road

4. Inspection Report - At least 20 trees have been toppled as a result of the high winds on Jan 3rd. Thanks to those who cleared the overhanging branches and generally cleared some of the trees blocking paths. Discussion ensued surrounding the location of a tree that still seems to be blocking one of the paths.

5. Financial Statement - DCDC have been paid by the Forestry Commission, so Gary's bill needs to be sent to DCDC for all the work done.

6. Membership Statement - Nothing of note to report, except that the membership numbers are down slightly, as some people have left.

It was also agreed that the membership subscription should remain the same price.

7. Events, Publicity and PR Aspects -

- a. Litter pick - to take place on **Feb 26th**. At the same time, we will also have a sale of wood. This means that this will have to be organised, so that it can first be collected, then sawed, split and bagged or bundled. So those with the chainsaws and training will be doing that. It was also suggested that as people turn up for the litter pick, they get sent off to

do that and committee members do the sawing, splitting, bagging and selling.

- b. Strimming work - IK and her husband will do this.
- c. Community Environment Grant - East Lothian Council are offering a grant of up to £3000. We decided that we would go ahead and apply for this, so DA and DC will put together a bid for this. The money would be put towards fixing, repairing and regular maintenance, e.g. keeping the burn clear. Feb 3rd is the deadline.
- d. Shave horse weekend - March 3rd/4th - the course is now fully booked, with 8 people on it.
- e. Beltane/Easter event - IK, who organised the last event, now has other commitments and will be unable to organise this. We may put on a smaller event, but this is on hold for the time being.
- f. DC's chainsaw follow-on - requested funds to do the follow-on course ~£100. This was agreed. There was discussion also about the possibility of acquiring a mobile chainsaw mill.
- g. Learning woods - planting needs to be continued and finished, so we will do this on **Jan 28th** from 10.00 onwards.
- h. Trim Track - MH spoke about both the Trim Track and the Pump Track. An application has already been made to Viridor for funds for this. Money has already been received for the Trim Track.

8. DCDC Liaison - nothing to report

9. Specific Items -

- a. Forestry Commission grant claim - SB outlined the problems that he is having with this.
- b. Firewood sales - see above
- c. Rhododendron eradication - discussion about strategies for eradicating this – Mark Page will treat it this year and it is in the FC grant package to do so.
- d. Ivy removal - if above grant application is successful, this can proceed. Otherwise, it is something that needs to be done.

11. Next Meeting Date - 20th Feb @20.00hrs - Hallhill Healthy Living Centre

12. AOCB -

- a. AM broadcasts from a new local radio station - East Coast FM they would like to achieve full FM status. To do this, they would like as many community groups as possible to write a letter of support. Closing dates for applications is 14th February. This we will do.
- b. Diane Laing (Scottish Native Woods - SNW) contacted IK with the information that SNW is to be wound up. We have to check what they gave us in case they overpaid us.