



May 28th 2013 Minutes of Dunbar Community Woodland Group (DCWG)
Meeting at Hallhill Healthy Living Centre

Committee Members Present - Simon Bell (Convenor), Isobel Campbell, Isobel Knox, Craig Stebbing, Ute Penny

Others - David Bates, Dave Crosbie

NB: Point 4 amended Oct 2013 after correction brought to light by Louise Nicolson

1. Meeting Opened - at 7.40pm by SB. Apologies for absence received from Philip Revell and Morag Haddow.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 1st May 2013 - item 4.2 amended and the words '*especially the ivy clinging to the wall*' deleted. The remaining minutes were accepted as correct.

3. Matters Arising from minutes of May 1st 2013 - SB has been unable to send out rescinded permission letters, but intends to do so, time permitting. It was also decided that a general announcement would be in order, but we will wait for SB to contact letter holders.

IC has also not yet looked into the possibility of Direct Debit arrangements, but will do so.

4. Inspection reports & Issues Arising -

a) Iain Young has reported the damage to the Pump Track to the police. UP said that Louise Nicolson had contacted her through Facebook, asking either her (UP) or IK, to contact the police re the Pump Track. There will be a repair day for the Pump Track, on the 9th June, 10.30 start. The new signs should also show how to use it. IK will contact Morag with regard to this. There will be a

short Video clip, shown at both the Primary and Grammar schools which will show how it should be used. The Pump Track will need regular maintenance and SB suggested that a rota be drawn up, so that this could be done.

b) a householder in John Muir Crescent would like to plant some Hawthorn shrubs, up against her fence, which backs onto the woods. She will be given the plants to do this.

c) a Muirfield Road resident is concerned about a Sycamore tree that he says is overhanging/near his property and would like it pruned back, but in a manner that will maintain its shape. We will have a look at this.

5. **Financial Statement** - IC to find out about getting the bank statements sent to her.

6. **Membership Statement** - We now have 96 or 97 members on paper, 85 of whom have paid/renewed and 14 have been sent renewal reminders.

7. **Events, Publicity, & PR Aspects** -

a) IK said that we have an oak, a syc, and a birch potted trees for the Civic Week parade and the fun day Sunday stall on the 16th June. Other species are needed – rowan, lime, ash, beech and other common species

b) IK still has some trees that need planting, mainly Hawthorn. We may need to heel them in somewhere for the summer as it's getting a bit late in the year to plant them.

c) IK brought along a suggestion for T-shirts and is to enquire about how much it would be to get them printed.

d) Civic week - we have a stall booked for the 16th at Lauderdale Park. IK and IC are to man it. Any other offers would be most welcome.

e) Seedcorn application - IK to apply again to see if we can get some greenwood working courses funded.

f) we are planning to run greenwood working courses in the woods during August. Possibly the weekend of the 10th/11th. DC will be running these. Philip Revell (committee member) is interested in constructing a Pizza Oven in the woods. We are going to try to factor this into the funding application.

g) We did not win the Woodland Trust prize. Apparently the competition was very strong.

h) North Light Arts- Karen Gabbitas is a visual artist, with a strong interest in Intermedia, Performance and Participatory events. She gave a short presentation which gave an example of several Slow Walking pieces. This is part of the Walking a Line Project which celebrates the centenary of the publication of John Muir, My Boyhood and Youth. She would like to lead smallish groups (10 approx) of people on a slow walk through the woods, preferably on July 6th. She also wanted several volunteers to help lead, but this date proved to be problematic for most of the committee members. She proposed an alternative date - 27th July - and both IC and IK would be able to make this date.

8. DCDC Liaison -

a) communication with DCDC has proved difficult. However, both SB and IK met with Toni Shand who has taken our renewed management agreement for them to agree.

b) Insurance - despite many requests to see the certificate of insurance, there has been no communication, with regards to this. A director of DCDC needs to ask for this, but with Philip resigning from DCDC this is more difficult.

c) our management plan also needs to be updated, as it runs out this year.

d) the Old Laundry and Lochend House needs some attention. This is the responsibility of DCDC and ultimately East Lothian Council.

9. **Maintenance** - the paths and Gathering Space need to be strimmed. SB suggested a petrol Flymo but CS thought that something more heavy duty would be required. We will need to fund this ourselves and the suggestion was made that this could be incorporated into the Civic Pride fund application. IK is to contact them to see if this would be acceptable. CS will look into suitable machines and prices. DC will do the maintenance for the agreed (amongst committee members) price of £1000.

10. **Tree Planting** - there are still about 50 left to be planted - see 7b above.

11. **Date of next meeting** - **June 27th 2013 at 7.30pm** at Hallhill.

12. **AOCB** -David Bates was unanimously voted onto the committee.