



**March 20th 2013 Draft Minutes of Dunbar Community Woodland group  
(DCWG) held at Simon Bell's House.**

**Present - Ute Penny (UP); Simon Bell (SB); Isobel Knox (IK); Isobel Campbell (IC); Dave Crosbie (DC); Mark James (MJ)**

**Apologies - Eva Hurley**

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1. Meeting opened by SB at 19.30.

2. Minutes of previous meeting held on February 26th 2013 amended and accepted as correct.

3. Matters Arising -

3.1. Permission Letters - much discussion centred around the current wording of the permission letters for obtaining wood. This was raised because both IK and DC had seen people in the woods, with their vehicles, collecting and or sawing up wood. The current wording suggests that people may do this, which came as a surprise to some of the committee members. However, it has been noticed that some of the paths are being damaged where the vehicles are entering the woods and that the vast majority of the wood has already been taken and that there is very little left. During this discussion, DC pointed out that all this wood should really be left, in order to provide habitats for small mammals, birds and insects etc. This was appreciated and SB is to write to all people with permission letters, to rescind consent. DC (currently creating the pump track) has agreed to put several logs in place, in order to prevent access with vehicles.

4. Inspection Reports & Issues Arising -

4.1. IK received an e-mail from a Lochend Road resident, who is concerned about leaning trees. IK went to inspect them and saw that an Ash tree is leaning on Pine trees, which in turn are leaning over the property boundary. She discussed this with DC, who felt that this was a job that required a tree surgeon. IK is to contact Gary Whigham (tree surgeon).

4.2. Jim Thompson of Lochend Crescent remains concerned about the Ash trees which he thinks are undermining the walled garden. We felt there were no issues at present, but that if he is still worried, to refer him to SB.

5. Financial Statement - as at 27th February 2013, there is £19,534.53 in the account.

6. Membership Statement - we have 95 members.

7. Events, Publicity & PR Aspects -

7.1 IK said that Scottish Natural Heritage has turned down our application for funding. This is because although they are interested in local matters, woodland concerns should be the remit of the Forestry Commission. Therefore, in relation to the Seedcorn application, IK is working with Janet Barnes.

7.2. UP suggested asking people for memories of the woods as part of Civic week and that we could perhaps have a poster of them. She will ask on our Facebook page.

8.DCDC liaison - no report.

9.1. The pump track has been started and is expected to take from a month to six weeks.

9.2. IK is to oversee the tree planting with Dunbar Grammar School.

10. Next meeting 15th April 2013 without SB. Time and venue to be decided. Following meeting 1st May 2013 at 20.00hrs with SB. Venue to be decided.