

Balloch Village Trust

Minutes of Board Meeting, 26 June 2014

1 Welcome	
<p>Present: Charles Stephen (chair), Carolyn Gethin (treasurer), Susan Williams (secretary), Elspeth Fraser (BCC rep), James MacKenzie, Gary Murphy, Gillian Spalding, Moira Unwin (BCC rep)</p> <p>Apologies: Ian Thompson</p> <p>Minutes proposed by JM, seconded by EF.</p>	
2 Matters arising	
<p>Archives Selection of photos and captions for the Hall - ongoing.</p>	MU, GS
<p>Beech tree CS to coordinate cutting of beech tree and obtain quote from Tree Surgeon.</p>	CS
<p>Fundraising events A fundraising Hallowe'en community event was suggested to coincide with publicising progress with the Management Plan - ongoing.</p>	
<p>Members Moira offered to design a simple poster using a QR code for interested residents to email b.v.t@btinternet.com, and to post minutes on the BCC notice board - ongoing.</p>	MU
<p>Dog mess The biodegradable spray has been used - not possible yet to say whether it is effective in stopping the mess. GS to produce poster requesting dog-owners to 'bag it and bin it'. Poo bags are available from the Library and the shop could also be asked to supply them.</p>	GS
3 Treasurer's report	
<p>The BVT account balance is £1203. Draft accounts have been circulated and will now go to the independent examiner to be signed off, ready for the AGM. All equipment (laptop, projector and screen, video camera) now written off. SW to locate the equipment.</p>	CG SW
4 Community woodland	
<p>1. Thinning: Cut out lower branches on trees to be retained - ongoing.</p> <p>2. Bat survey: SW to check with JO if this is needed and follow up if necessary.</p> <p>3. Felling licence: CS to contact FCS Dingwall. Under exemption conditions there is no need for a felling licence if up to 5 metres³ or 6 trees/per quarter are removed. With 19 trees identified this could be done in 1 year.</p> <p>4. Felling: It was agreed that, rather than ask companies for quotes, neighbouring residents (Davie and Adam) should be asked to consider undertaking the work (6 trees/quarter) in exchange for the wood. There was some discussion as to whether the Forestry School would provide a brasher/chipper to process the smaller wood.</p> <p>5. Paths: Need to know materials and quantities before application for funding can be made. Paths for All could advise - SW to arrange site visit. CS can obtain specifications for Battlefield paths. Work to be done following removal of trees.</p> <p>6. CS offered to revise the map with re-sited sitting area and paths.</p> <p>7. The revised map and brief details of work and timescale to be published on website and noticeboard.</p> <p>8. BCC requested recent BVT minutes for info on progress with the Woodland Plan.</p> <p>9. FCS will be clearfelling area south of community woodland. CS to contact FCS District Manager re FCS' plans for this area and suggest BCC/BVT might be interested in obtaining the land to provide amenities for local people, replant native woodland and mitigate flooding.</p>	SW CS CG SW, CS CS SW, MU GS CS

5 AOCB	
<p>1. AGM: Wednesday 1 October, Balloch small hall, 7.30. Hall booked 7-9pm, £6/hour. Presentation of woodland plans and report on progress, using Powerpoint to be prepared by James McLeod. Please take photos of woodland so that we can compile a record of changes as the plan is implemented. Forward to SW in the first instance for collation by GS.</p> <p>2. GM has now been added to Companies House list of BVT directors.</p> <p>3. GS has taken over from MU as BCC representative (with EF). MU would like to stay on BVT board - CG, SW to pursue relevant paperwork.</p> <p>4. GS reported that BCC will fund the interpretation panel for the Wellside Well, currently being prepared by Culloden Youth Forum.</p>	<p>CS, GS</p> <p>All</p> <p>CG, SW</p>
6 Date of next meeting	
Thursday 28 August 2014, 7.30 pm, 11 Meadow Road.	