

Balloch Village Trust
Minutes of Board Meeting, 6 August 2015
(postponed from 24 June)

1 Welcome	
Present: Charles Stephen (chair), Carolyn Gethin (treasurer), Susan Williams (secretary), Elspeth Fraser, James MacKenzie, Gary Murphy	
Apologies: Moira Unwin, Geoff Robson, Gillian Spalding, Rachel Arkell	
Minutes proposed by CG, seconded by JM.	
2 Matters arising	
<p>Beech tree Crown lifting has removed fewer branches than expected and subsequent growth will need to be monitored.</p> <p>Carving of the sycamore stump Another contractor should be sought. EF confirmed that BCC have £1000 set aside to pay for this.</p> <p>Garden waste Chairs of BVT and BCC contacted neighbouring householders and agreed BVT should erect a post and rail fence to define woodland northwest boundary.</p> <p>Paths for All course Still awaiting course documents.</p> <p>Lyme Disease Project This was well attended and there is a follow-up meeting later in September.</p> <p>Membership The Baptist Church have become associate members. Total membership is now 78.</p>	All
3 Treasurer's report	
The BVT account balance is £621. CG noted that Stuart Paterson has agreed to act as independent examiner. Cost to be confirmed.	
4 Community woodland	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Davie and Adam completed second felling in early June. A well-attended work party cleared and shredded the brash in late June. 2. Chair BCC has offered to strim the cleared area and to contact Davie re timing of next tranche of felling. 3. Horse riders shouldn't need to use the woodland paths now that fallen trees on main paths are cleared. Use of motorbikes in the woodland was noted as a problem. 4. Preferred solution to repair bridge on western path is to use culvert pipe and fill in with hardcore and crusher dust. This could be done by BVT. CS to contact Ben Clinch of Moray Estates to take up his offer of piping. 5. Fruit trees - these should be sourced and planted this autumn. 	IW CS
5 Noticeboards	
Chair BCC approached Norbord who have offered to supply a noticeboard. It was agreed that one free-standing and preferably opening board for the Forest Drive entrance would be sufficient.	IW

6 AGM/Succession planning	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AGM has been arranged for Wednesday 30 September, Balloch Small Hall, 7.30pm. 2. JM, EF and CS all retiring as Directors. CS thanked JM for his contribution to BVT over the years and wished him happiness in his new home. EF is standing down as BCC rep and CS as Chair. Remaining Board members in attendance indicated their intention to stay on. The Board would benefit from the election of further members who wish to be active in the management of the woodland. SW to email BVT members. 	SW
7 Playpark	
The application to Awards for All for funding for a Feasibility Study into the wider needs of the community was rejected. No further report.	
8 Fundraising	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It was agreed that we should take up Scotmid's offer of in-house printing and have another 500 woodland maps printed. CS to organise. 2. CS had started an application to Awards for All for funding of the path work but it was agreed this should be held over for till the new Board for action. He also suggested that the new Board should apply early to the Ward Discretionary Budget for up to £5000 of funding - info on Highland Council website. 	CS
9 AOCB	
SW will circulate a new woodland rota.	SW
10 Date of next meeting	
Wednesday 30 September 2015, immediately following the AGM.	