

Balloch Village Trust

Minutes of Board Meeting, 30 September 2015

<p>Present: Carolyn Gethin (treasurer), Susan Williams (secretary), Moira Unwin, Mary Quemby, Gary Murphy</p> <p>Apologies: Gillian Spalding, Rachel Arkell</p>	
<p>Being the first meeting of the new Board following the AGM and the resignation of Charles Stephen (previous Chair) the Board members present agreed to function with a rotating chair for the present. We decided to discuss a few items that need urgent attention and in future meetings to concentrate on what we can achieve in the current year.</p>	
<p>1 Ward Discretionary Budget</p>	
<p>Some work has already been done on the application for Ward funding. This would be used to build the new path at the southern end of the Woodland and repair the path from the northwest entrance. We agreed to discuss this at the next Board meeting with a view to submitting the application as soon as possible thereafter. GM offered to obtain quotes following Board's decision on the path specification.</p> <p>Please review the partially completed form (in separate email) before the meeting so that we can make a decision on the spec at the next meeting.</p>	All
<p>2 Community woodland</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At the AGM, Davie confirmed that he would take down the next tranche of trees as soon as he could. Next meeting should discuss whether we want him to remove the trees for new path or whether this should be done by the contractor building the new path. 2. 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. CG offered to confirm that CS will contact Ben Clinch of Moray Estates to take up his offer of piping. 	CG
<p>3 Culloden Forest Partnership and closer links with SSF</p>	
<p>Melanie Smith of UHI raised the items below and would like to discuss these further with BVT. SW to respond asking for more info and suggesting Melanie presents her ideas to BVT and BCC. Discuss at next meeting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of links with the Scottish School of Forestry, Inverness College UHI - in particular the annual Christmas Fair and other community engagement activities which the Trust feel could be developed. I know that you already have good links through staff at SSF and it would be to look at how these could be taken forward. 2. First notice about the early stages of development of a Culloden Forest Partnership and formation of a stakeholder group. This is a joint initiative which at the moment is being co-ordinated through its very early establishment by the Forestry Commission and SSF Inverness College UHI. I would very much like to present more details of this to the Directors of the Trust at some point soon as the involvement of BVT would be very much valued. 	SW
<p>4 Scotmid</p>	
<p>Scotmid had offered to print further copies of the woodland map as part of an earlier grant to BVT, but 500 had already been printed for the School Gala. Rather than print more maps which are unlikely to be used, it was agreed to investigate whether we could use the remaining funding for a different purpose. CG to investigate.</p>	CG

5 Carols at Cherry Park	
Date was agreed for Thursday 17 December. MU to ask Dave and Lynn Cadell if we can use their kitchen again. Charles Stephen has offered his help. SW to confirm that singers from the Baptist Church are available.	MU, SW
6 Membership age	
Discussion deferred to later in the year.	
7 AOCB	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GM questioned whether BVT should be spending money on carving the tree on western edge of woodland. 2. Woodland rota: October - SW; November - CG; December - MQ. SW will circulate a new woodland rota in the new year. 	SW
8 Date of next meeting	
Wednesday 28 October 2015, 7.30pm, 59 Culloden Road.	