

Balloch Village Trust

Minutes of Board Meeting, 8 June 2016

1 Welcome	
<p>Present: Carolyn Gethin (treasurer), Susan Williams (secretary), Donald McDonald (BCC rep), Moira Unwin, Mary Quemby, Gillian Spalding (BCC rep) Apologies: Gary Murphy, Rachel Arkell Chair: Gillian Spalding</p>	
2 Matters arising	
None.	
3 Treasurer's report	
The BVT account balance is £9567.24, which includes £9261 allocated for path works, leaving £383 unrestricted funds. Plant sales, competitions and donations at the School Gala raised £74.81.	
4 Community woodland	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> GM, MQ and Ian Williams met Brandon for a site visit prior to start of paths work and marked out line of new path. Brandon will contact GM when ready to start, and rope off site. Work should take 1-2 weeks. SW to confirm that GM is happy to project manage. Following a complaint, BVT will remove the compost bins and spread the compost on the strimmed area. GS has contacted Liz Barron-Majerik at the Forestry School re felling trees but they cannot do this till October. Ideally, 4 trees should be felled to approx. 5 metres: 2 for carving and 2 for bat boxes. SW to contact the bat man re installing boxes and for details of best trees to fell. Trees 1 and 2 identified for carving; MU to get quotes for carving. DMcD to confirm that BCC will fund tree felling. 	<p style="text-align: right;">SW</p> <p style="text-align: right;">SW MU DMcD</p>
5 Funding applications	
<p>The application to Paths for All for £700 was successful so all the required funding is now in place. PFA have sent useful info and proformas to help meet the conditions for the grant. Actions required:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Send out a press release (MU) Keep a record of volunteer numbers and work days (SW) Keep a photographic (SW) and video (MU) record of the project Use social media or website to promote project Put up the promotional discs on site Organise launch event Obtain quotes from users Return review form by 31 December <p>Launch event proposed for Sunday 21 August, 2pm, in the woodland. Picnic/tea and cakes, with activities e.g. den building. GS to contact John Orr (ranger) and Jan McCormack for ideas. Invite local councillors via Charles Stephen.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">MU SW SW, MU SW, MU</p> <p style="text-align: right;">All All</p> <p style="text-align: right;">GS SW</p>
6 Playpark	
RA and GS successfully displayed options at the School Gala and will take the designs into the school for further consultation with pupils. RA investigating funding sources. Lease for	RA

site is being prepared by Highland Council legal department, planning permission not required. Some concerns were raised regarding how long a lease to agree on (25 years?), what happens at the end of the lease, costs of fencing, maintenance of equipment, insurance. GS to check with Kate Stephen.	GS
7 Website	
CG and SW agreed to look into transferring website to a better format, probably BT Community WebKit as used by BCC.	CG, SW
8 Succession planning/AGM	
AGM arranged for Tuesday 13 September, 7.30pm, Balloch Small Hall. SW will send out AGM papers in August. SW will be standing down after 5 years on the board; CG stated that she would be resigning as director at the AGM, but has agreed to continue as treasurer at least until the end of the 2016/17 financial year, if the new board requires. GS agreed to chair the AGM. The new committee needs to appoint a chair and secretary. After some discussion, it was agreed: 1. To set up a subcommittee for the playpark consisting of GS and RA as BVT directors plus other interested persons, which will report back to BVT board. CG will act as treasurer. Call for support to be put on Facebook. 2. To suggest that organisation of the Christmas carols in Cherry Park was moved to BCC.	SW GS GS, RA SW DMcD
9 AOCB	
None.	
10 Date of next meeting	
Wednesday 13 July 2016, 7pm, Community Woodland, depending on weather. Please note new time and location!	

Deferred items:

1. **Lowering membership age**
2. **Carving of the sycamore stump:** BCC have £1000 set aside to pay for this.
3. **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.
4. **Noticeboards:** Awaiting progress.
5. **Open area at north of woodland:** Purchase and planting of bare root blackthorn, dog rose, crab apple and rowan from Munro's deferred till winter 2016/17 when further brashing is completed.