

Balloch Village Trust

Minutes of Board Meeting, 13 July 2016

1 Welcome	
<p>Present: Carolyn Gethin (treasurer), Susan Williams (secretary), Donald McDonald (BCC rep), Moira Unwin, Gillian Spalding (BCC rep), Rachel Arkell Apologies: Gary Murphy, Mary Quemby Chair: Susan Williams</p>	
2 Matters arising	
<p>From BCC meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. BCC and BVT were thanked by the neighbour for removing the compost bins. 2. Christmas carols: BCC reluctant to take over organisation and suggested changing date to a weekend. New board should discuss at first meeting. 3. Noticeboards: still deferred. 	
3 Treasurer's report	
<p>CG has circulated draft accounts to board for comment. Brandon has been paid for the path works. The BVT account balance is £201.30, with balance of grant from Paths for All (£175) to come on successful return of project report.</p>	
4 Community woodland	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Launch event confirmed for Saturday 21 August, grand opening 2pm. 'T in the woods'. Kate and Charles Stephen confirmed that they can attend. Tea and cakes with activities for children, e.g. den building, bring teddies. GS to contact John Orr (ranger) and Jan McCormack for ideas. SW to contact GM re rigging a tarp over seating area. MU to prepare press release and poster, press photographer and purchase green ribbon. 2. Community woodland: carry forward contact with Liz Barron-Majerik at Forestry School re felling trees in October. 3. Bat surveyor unable to source the 'log cabin' boxes but Eric Quemby has offered to try to build one. 4. MU reported that Ian Chalmers could carve tree up to about 8' high for approx. £500, possibly in October/November. 5. SW suggested that The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) Green Gym could do some basic maintenance in the woodland. There would be no cost. SW to follow up. 6. The pallets are still in the woodland. MU to check if Eric Quemby wants them, GS can move if necessary. Failing that SW to advertise on freecycle. 	<p>GS SW MU</p> <p>SW</p> <p>MU, GS, SW</p>
5 Funding applications	
<p>Actions required to submit project report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Send out a press release (MU) 2. Keep a record of volunteer numbers and work days (SW) - in hand 3. Keep a photographic (SW) and video (MU) record of the project - MU to pass to SW for submission 4. Use social media or website to promote project - in hand 5. Put up the promotional discs on site 6. Organise launch event - in hand 7. Obtain quotes from users - in hand 8. Return review form by 31 December 	<p>MU SW SW, MU</p> <p>SW</p> <p>All All</p>
6 Playpark	
<p>Highland Council have confirmed in writing that playpark can go ahead. RA/GS to confirm length of lease with Kate Stephen. After consultation with pupils and parents, decision made to go with Wicksteed. RA/GS to arrange initial meeting and set up committee to source funding and take project forward.</p>	<p>RA, GS</p>

7 Website	
<p>CG reported that she has transferred the existing web content to a BT Community WebKit site and that Calico could be asked to point to this rather than the existing Spanglefish site. The current site is still available through www.ballochvillagetrust.com.</p> <p>However, the BT package is not as sophisticated as hoped. The new board should consider whether to investigate an alternative website format which allows document archiving, easy uploading of images and a more interesting layout.</p> <p>MU has been added as admin for the BVT Facebook page.</p>	
8 Succession planning/AGM	
<p>GS agreed to chair the AGM on Tuesday 13 September, 7.30pm, Balloch Small Hall. SW to send out AGM papers in August.</p> <p>Committee for 2016-17: Donald, BCC rep Rachel, coopted BVT - agreed to stand for election Gillian, elected BVT, BCC rep Moir, elected Mary, elected Gary, coopted - ask if he would agree to be re-coopted</p> <p>CG agreed to continue as treasurer at least until the end of the 2016/17 financial year, if the new board requires. The new committee needs to appoint a chair and secretary.</p> <p>There was a discussion on the future of the board if no one is prepared to stand as chair or secretary, with the possibility that BVT might fold and thus lose charitable status for future funding applications. Further board members should be sought through personal contact, website and facebook, stressing the benefits BVT has brought and is bringing to the village but that this needs volunteers to come forward. RA to ask Alan Walls if he would like to join the board.</p> <p>SW to ask Hall re possibility of storing BVT kit: display boards, laptop, video camera, screen, hard drive etc.</p>	<p>SW</p> <p>SW</p> <p>RA</p> <p>SW</p>
9 AOCB	
None.	
10 Date of next meeting	
Immediately after AGM on Tuesday 13 September.	

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. **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.