

FCWT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Annual General Meeting held at Forres Academy
7.30pm on 12th November 2014



MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action
1.	<p>Present: Graham Hilditch (chair), Eddie Tomkinson, John Carson, Donald Wright, Steve Hull, Gareth Whymant, Vicky Flood, Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes)</p> <p>Apologies: Wilson Metcalfe</p> <p>Apologies from Trust members: Richard Ross, Mary Kean, Jean Samuel, Chrissie Suttie, Dr Harry Morgan, Mr&Mrs Bates, Mr&Mrs Kettle, Mr&Mrs Treen</p> <p>Members in attendance: 38</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of last AGM. The minutes of the meeting held on 6th November 2013 were presented and agreed as an accurate record, proposed by David MacFarquhar, seconded by Gareth Whymant.</p>	
3.	<p>Chairman's report. The Chairman's report was read by Graham Hilditch.</p>	
4.	<p>The Treasurer's report. The treasurer's report was read by Eddie Tomkinson. The accounts were adopted by Ian Suttie, seconded by David MacFarquhar.</p>	
5.	<p>Election of Trustees. The following Trustees were confirmed - Donald Wright (proposed by Graham Hilditch, seconded by Gisela MacFarquhar), Gisela MacFarquhar (proposed by Eddie Tomkinson, seconded by Joan Tomkinson). Vicky Flood who had been co-opted was elected (proposed by Steve Hull, seconded by Gisela MacFarquhar). The following Trust members were elected - Susan Conti (proposed by Ian Suttie, seconded by Eddie Tomkinson), Dan Puplett (proposed by Fabio Villani, seconded by M Drury), and Peter Graham (proposed by Graham Hilditch, seconded by Caroline Hilditch).</p>	
6.	<p>Vote of thanks for retiring Trustees. The chairman thanked Claire Feaver and Stuart Johnston, two Trustees who had retired earlier in the year. He also thanked retiring trustee John Carson for his contributions.</p>	
7.	<p>Subscriptions. The members agreed that subscriptions should increase to £12 for family membership, £8 for individual membership, and £5 for concession. Concession was defined as people receiving state pension, jobseekers' allowance, disability allowance, and students. There should be an annual increment. The wording on the membership application form should be changed to "minimum payment" and should include the option of a donation.</p>	

<p>8.</p>	<p>AOB.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ian Suttie reported on work that had been carried out at the Muiry and Newforres during the past year. Steve Hull reported on work that had been carried out at Sanquhar Woodlands. Both reports included contracted work as well as volunteer work. Steve Hull reported that approximately 600 hours had been spent by volunteers in FCWT woodlands in the past year. It was suggested that volunteer time should be more flexible to allow people who can't attend scheduled work parties to help with volunteer work in their own time. For this purpose a schedule of jobs could be posted on the web and individuals could liaise with team leaders for supervision. It was pointed out that this could have implications for health and safety and lone working issues. • Mrs Rutherford reported that she seen three adults from Wild Things who had started a fire using a bag of fresh kindlings near the giants' heads. It was felt that the location is too close to houses and might encourage other people who act less responsibly to start fires. Members of the Board stated that they are aware that Wild Things hold bushcraft sessions which include starting fires in woodlands. Gareth Whyment said that according to the Country Access Code people are allowed to start fires in woodlands. It was suggested that a designated safe area should be set up for fires. The chairman said the Board has already contacted Wild Things and will discuss this issue with their management. • Mr Laughton from the Findhorn Fisheries Trust reported that the spread of hogweed is now in decline thanks to an eradication programme which had been financed by a government grant. He appealed to members to report any sightings of hogweed and Himalayan balsam to the trust to ensure a permanent eradication of these invasive species. 	<p>GH</p>
	<p>The official part of the meeting closed at 9.15pm. The date of the next AGM will be sent out in due course.</p>	