

Culduthel Woods Group: Open Community Meeting and AGM

Meeting held on Tuesday 10th December 2019 at 1930 at the Green Drive Hall

| Attendees | Apologies (Management Committee Only) | Distribution |
|--|---|----------------------------|
| Murray Ferguson (Chair) David Chiffers Jon den Tieter Alasdair MacDougall Bill Leslie John Campbell Roddy Dyce + Members of the Community as captured on sign-in sheet | Craig Aburn Ian King | - Attendees - Apologies |

1. Attendance

- In total, 33 members of the public attended, of which 13 were members (including office bearers).

2. Format of Evening

- Short Talk: Tree safety issues by Judith Webb MBE (UHI Scottish School of Forestry and the National Tree Safety Group - NTSG)
- Update on Progress and Plans & the new Charity (SCIO)
 - Formation of the Culduthel Woods Group
 - Investigation into land ownership
 - Assessment and determination of tree safety
 - Community consultation outcomes
 - National networking
 - Litter picking
 - Direct action
 - Tree removal works
 - Options and plans for:
 - Woods ownership
 - Woodland management
 - Volunteer programme
 - Use by young people and the community
- Management of Culduthel Woods Group as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO)
 - Trustees explained
 - Near-term requirement for additional support outlined
 - Membership options explained and sign up process commenced
 - Next actions:
 - Bi-monthly meetings
 - Membership drive and fund-raising
 - New website planned
 - AGM of SCIO in November 2020
 - Short Talk: Community Woods in North Scotland by Jon Hollingdale (Community Woods Association)

3. Discussion of Concerns Raised

- The crack in the stone wall on Culduthel Road was highlighted. This is already known to the CWG. The crack appears to be stable and the dead tree adjacent to the crack will be felled soon. The wall will be monitored.
- Attenuation pond neglect was discussed:
 - The attenuation pond has not been maintained and no longer functions as originally intended.
 - It is unclear who is responsible although Tulloch were responsible in the past.
 - CWG SCIO management plan to consider the attenuation pond.

4. AGM of the "old" Culduthel Woods Group (as an Unincorporated Association):

- Quorum achieved (min. 10 members, not including Office Bearers).
- Chair's report and financial accounts presented:

Culduthel Woods Group - Income & Expenditure at 30th November 2019

| Income | Balance |
|--|---------------------------|
| Funding from Lochardil & Drummond Community Council - September 2018 | 5,000.00 |
| Forestry Commission - March 2019 (see below) | 980.00 |
| Albyn Housing, Community Fund, June 2019 | 250.00 |
| | Subtotal: 6,230.00 |
| Expenditure | |
| Murchison Law - Title Investigations + Outlays, November 2018 | 676.00 |
| Misc Expenses, Stationery, etc, November 2018 | 35.00 |
| Community Consultation (funded by Forestry Commission (see above) | 980.00 |
| P.A.L.S Tree Survey, January 2019 | 1,498.80 |
| | Subtotal: 3,189.80 |
| | Balance: 3,040.20 |

- Two motions were put forward:
 - Motion 1
 - Proposal to transfer funds from "old" CWG to the new CWG SCIO.
 - Proposed by Roddy Dyce, seconded by Bill Leslie.
 - 13 members voted in favour of the proposals, 0 people were against.
 - Motion 2
 - Proposal to dissolve "old" CWG.
 - Proposed by Roddy Dyce, seconded by John Campbell.
 - 13 members voted in favour of the proposals, 0 people were against.
- It was therefore agreed to close down the organisation and it was noted that the work identified in Chair's report would be taken forwards by the new SCIO"

5. Acknowledgements and Thanks

- Public bodies: CC, THC, HIE, SF, OSCR
- Charities: CWA, DTAS, CLS
- Sponsors: Albyn Housing, Tullochs, Co-op
- Suppliers of services: Murchison Law, PALS, APEX
- Too many individuals to mention....!
- Green Drive Hall Committee

6. Date of Next Meetings

- Next routine meeting: Tuesday 14th January 2019 at 19:30 at the IRA (CWG SCIO Trustees only).
- CWG SCIO AGM: November 2020.