

Auchterhouse Community Woodland Action Group

Minutes of AGM held in Auchterhouse Hall on 3rd June 2014

Present: Joan Adam; Iain Baird; Bob Black; Jim Dunlop; Jennifer Jeffrey; Francis Laidlaw; Doug Leckie; Robin Lofthouse; Ross Millar; Garry Stewart; Sue Stewart; Wendy Strang and Ian Wilson.

1. **Welcome.** Garry welcomed everyone to the meeting
2. **Apologies:** Linda Cockram and Liz Rae.
3. **Minutes of AGM held on 23rd April 2013.** Accepted as correct.
4. **Matters Arising** These are covered by Notes from Meeting of 24 October 2013; see following reports.
5. **Report on Balkello Woodland**

Outstanding work – which Robin will progress

- a) Control of the stream (running to the east from the car park) is nearly done just awaiting some final work at the overflow.
- b) Way markers have still to be positioned.
- c) The picnic tables are all installed, each complete with a hot plate. It was noted that one table had been bunt already – plate not used.
- d) A notice board has to be made and installed.
- e) A notice about dog poo has to be made and displayed.
- f) The fence, at east end, requires repair.
- g) Dock to be sprayed shortly.
- h) Branches, overhanging the paths, need to be cut back. Bob will attend to this.

Some rowan trees have been planted around the car park. Bob has carried out the weaving of the new willow hedge.

Additional work to do

- a) Plan for the thinning of hardwood has been drawn up and submitted to District.
- b) Robin will contact Angus dog warden to get him/her to carry out a check on professional dog walkers (with up to 20 dogs) allowing dogs to run free upsetting other walkers and to confront owner of a vicious dog (alsatian x husky) which is still allowed to run free, although the owner has been warned by police.
- c) Barrier posts at entrance to overspill area are stuck and need attention.
- d) Post at gate out of car park needs to be reduced in height to avoid difficulty operating opening catch. Gorse will be planted at the side of this gate.

6. Report on Dronley Wood

Outstanding work

- a) The removal of fallen trees along north side, including beech, is main concern. Robin will determine when a contractor can be expected.
- b) A plan for the replanting of the clear fell area (north side) needs to be created.

Additional work to do

- a) Robin will supply wire net to Iain Wilson for making fences alongside Dronley farm field more secure.

- b) Motor bikes have been taken into the wood although forbidden. Charlie Pirie from Atholl Security (tel: 07833354157) will investigate if contacted with details, e.g. registration numbers of bikes and/or van or trailer used to carry them.
- c) Robin will get 2 fallen trees, across path in south wood, removed.

7. Treasurer's Report

Cash and bank balance at 31 May was £31.96.

8. Committee Membership

It was agreed that membership would not change: -

Convener – Garry Stewart; Secretary & Treasurer – Bob Black; Minute Secretary – Sue Stewart; Balkello Member – Liz Rae; Dronley Member – Ian Baird; Member – Doug Leckie, Ross Millar

9. Future Plans

These are as noted in the reports in Para's 5 & 6 above.

10. AOCB

- a) There will be an equestrian event at Balkello on 22nd June this year.
- b) The red squirrels in the wood continue to be fed (at 3 feeders) twice each week and are thriving.

11. Date of Next Meeting

This will be in Auchterhouse hall at 7.00pm on 21st Oct 2014.