



VAT. No. 310378531

## **Minutes of the Board Meeting held in The Magnus House, Aigas Field Centre on Monday 1st April 2019**

### **Present**

Peter Smith PS  
John Graham JG  
Greg Jackson GJ  
Mark Hedderwick MH  
Russell Ross RR  
Chloe Denerley CD  
Phil Masheter PM  
David Garvie DG  
Andrew Leaver AL  
Neil Valentine NV

### **In Attendance**

Helge Hansen HH  
Madeleine Robinson MR

### **Apologies**

None

### **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

None declared

### **Minutes of Meeting of 4th February 2019**

These minutes had been circulated to the Board in advance.

Proposed DG. Seconded AL. Approved.

### **Chairman's Business**

PS asked the Board to consider the Airvolution proposal to site 3 wind turbines on ACF land as part of a larger development. The Board unanimously agreed that they do not support this proposal. Airvolution is to be informed that at present the Board does not wish to enter into discussions on this matter.

PS and several Board members expressed admiration for the new stone and wood building at AFC, particularly the reciprocal roof structure. Its suitability for a bothy at ACF was discussed. NV,HH,GJ and RR are to form a working group to explore issues such as siting, planning consents and heating.

## **Vice-Chairman's Business**

PM reported that he will do further work on the car park once David Reid has finished in that area.

## **Report from Helge Hansen, Forest Manager**

HH reported that the remaining wood will be removed gradually. Some further work on paths will be done by Scottish Woodlands using a small digger.

The Board agreed payment for a further 500 trees for planting in areas where windblow has been cleared. HH will present the tree planting plan at the next meeting.

Fencing work is continuing. HH is to liaise with GJ if the work borders AFC land.

## **Matters Arising not covered elsewhere**

RR reported that the workshop cladding and doors are completed. The ceiling inside remains to be done. The posts are in the ground for the next compartment.

## **Sub-Group Reports**

### **Paths and Access Group**

There has been no meeting in the past 2months

NV plans to remove the tree at the rock above Path 1.

PS said that the CWA hope to start work on Path 1 in mid April. HH understands that they have a budget of £5-6,000. PS will arrange a project meeting.

NV noted that some drainage work is needed on Path 1 below the bridge.

### **Deer Management**

There has been no meeting in the past 2months.

### **Woodfuel**

The wood processor is mended.

JG and Duncan Fraser from the Kilmorack Community Council have delivered bags of fuel to elderly people in the area.

PS noted that a price list was needed for wood fuel.

HH is to arrange a date for further wood processing.

### **Wildlife and Ecology**

About 10 birdboxes have been put up. These are geolocated and have catches allowing them to be opened for inspection. CD is to ask Ben from AFC to provide the geolocations to HH. A squirrel box and 2 marten boxes are still to be put up.

Feeders for squirrels and crested tits are planned.

Wildflower seed will be planted on previously disturbed ground.

PS suggested liming small areas to assess the effect.

Creation of a wetland area was discussed. MH said that if this was done simply by blocking existing ditches no SEPA approval would be required. PM said that a map was needed in order to understand the proposal and HH said that he would supply one for the next meeting.

Possibilities for improving the lochan were discussed. CD suggested that it might just need further time to recover.

## **Financial Report**

JG gave an update on the changes to the insurance and reported that as of 1st April everything was fully covered, including all buildings and equipment. JG raised the issue of trustee indemnity. The Board thought insurance cover for this would be appropriate and JG will continue to explore options for obtaining it. The current bank balance is approximately £173,000.

## **AOCB**

JG reported on his research into interest rates, withdrawal notices and FSCS cover should the Board choose to move some money out of the current account. AL thought it important that a reserve fund was set aside, only to be used in an emergency.

AL said that a budget plan and more frequent financial reporting would be useful to the Board in developing strategies for the future. JG pointed out that this would involve a considerable increase in workload for him which he was not prepared to take on.

PS suggested that further discussions were needed, also involving Graeme Scott the accountant. PS will meet with both JG and AL to clarify the issues raised.

**The meeting closed at 21.25**

**The next meeting will be held in The Magnus House on Monday 3rd June 2019 at 1900.**