



VAT. No. 310378531

**Minutes of the ACF Board Meeting held in Kilmorack Hall on
Monday 19th September 2022.
The meeting commenced at 19.40 following the AGM.**

Present

Peter Smith PS
John Graham JG
Madeleine Robinson MR
Andrew Leaver AL
Russell Ross RR
Jo Young JY
Neil Valentine NV
Phil Masheter PM
Chloe Denerley CD
Graeme Scott GS
Mark Hedderwick MH
Helge Hansen HH
Stephen Cotterill SC
David Garvie DG
Bob Bull
Helen Bull
C Seymour
S Noble

Apologies

Bob Hemingway BH

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None declared

Minutes of Previous Board Meeting of 7th March 2022

These minutes had been circulated to the Board in advance.
Proposed JG. Seconded BH. Approved.

Appointment of Chairman

David Garvie was unanimously elected as chairman. Proposed by MR and seconded by SC.

Appointment of Vice-chairman

Jo Young was unanimously elected as Vice-chair. Proposed by MR and seconded by NV.

Appointment of Other Officers

AL continues as Company Secretary.

JG continues as Treasurer.

MR continues as Secretary.

Chairman's Business

Nothing to report.

Vice-Chairman's Business

Nothing to report.

Report from Helge Hansen, Forest Manager

The majority of the felling is completed and the timber is shifting slowly - prices have fallen. Scottish Woodlands have approval for road closures over the next 8 weeks starting next week. Felling income overall is as predicted. Path reinstatement will be monitored and some extra expense on a track to facilitate planting may be appropriate.

Fencing is not complete but the deer grid has been purchased. HH will liaise with locals over access during the installation of this. The drainage problem at the Crask is still being discussed.

The biodiversity credits contract with SSEN for the first 3ha. is with the lawyers for some minor adjustments. A further contract for 10ha. around the mast is anticipated. The income from this will be sufficient to employ contractors for replanting. Because of the severity of the weevil damage it may be necessary to delay restocking and use more mature trees where possible.

HH estimated that about 1/5 of the forest has now been clear felled and about 1/2 either thinned or clear felled.

Paths and Access Group

Not met. It was noted with approval that new and better signage is in place at Aigas Gorge. Access points over ACF land are no longer marked.

Deer Management

Not met. HH intends to speak to the stalker soon.

Wood Fuel

Not met. JG thanked the volunteers involved in wood processing. Sales of firewood have been satisfactory.

Wildlife and Ecology

NV reported on the site meeting that had taken place jointly with AFC ecologists to plan out the wetland area. The digger work is now completed and CD praised the speed of progress. She advised patience at this stage to allow natural development.

Business Improvement Review Group

Work is in progress to develop a new protocol for payments. This will be presented at the next Board meeting.

Financial Report

GS had presented a Receipts and Payments summary at the AGM. JG reported a current bank balance of approximately £445,500.

Secretary

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday 21st November at 19.30 in the Magnus House at Aigas Field Centre.

AOCB

HH asked if anyone was interested in attending the CWA Annual Conference and AGM on 30th Sept. and 1st October. NV is going and funding is available.

The meeting closed at 20.38