

## **Laide and Aultbea Community Woodland**

### **Minutes of Directors' meeting 12th February 2012**

#### **Present**

John Rippin. Tony Carpenter. Andrew Jackman. Nick Murray. Alan Turnbull. Peter Jarosz.  
Also present, Paul Boulton, Ruth Macleod, Martin Rowe.  
Apologies, Kevin Ginty. Janet Barclay.

#### **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

#### **Treasurer's report**

Peter reported that we have approximately £31,000 on account, net after current expenditure £23,000  
Membership dues are in line with last year and should reach £1,500.  
Peter also gave details of our insurance cover, with the usual caveat in relation to the chainsaws.

#### **Working Parties**

John reported good progress clearing up the wind blown and leaners by the main path. Monday afternoons being well supported with some new faces.  
Col MacDonald will be approached to use his tractor to move the building frame work to the north car park. Martin suggested care should be taken when re stacking and we agreed it should be strapped.  
John reiterated that no one should feel obliged to take part in any work parties that they might feel uncomfortable with or do any tasks that they did not feel up to.

#### **Willow Culture**

Martin told us that the material for the hide screen had been cut and that now was a good time to put it up as the ground was soft.  
It was agreed to start on Monday. Some photos to be taken of the progress.  
There followed discussion about coppicing and it was also agreed to cut a supply of canes for a demonstration that the Museum were setting up in May.  
Andrew cautioned us about the amount of time coppicing might involve and also suggested that as storage might be a problem, it would be alright just to leave the product on the ground, there was in any case no urgency to do the work this year.

#### **Summer program**

Ruth went through the program and we all received a list of the detail.  
Dates were agreed for each item ( see separate list).  
The problems around car parking for the primrose walk were discussed and it was agreed that we should approach the Police for advice as the best bet would be on the road side.  
Peter asked what areas might require possible grant assistance and Ruth said she would discuss this with Janet.

#### **Equipment**

£300 had been spent on Hand tools which had already shown their worth and Nick reminded us that the ATV needed a service. Tony agreed to take it in on Monday. It was also agreed to purchase a builders barrow.  
Paul gave us details of the Two wheel tractor and possible attachments for which we have available grant income of £7,300. ( This will be kept at NTS for security and they will have use of

it if they need it).

### **Building Progress**

Andrew gave us some detail of the proposed building costs from Swedscot Ltd in preparation for submission to funders. ([www.swedscot.co.uk](http://www.swedscot.co.uk))

There followed some discussion about possible internal layout , John was concerned about office security. The position of the building to the south side of the car park would allow for future development clear of the existing area.Finally Andrew estimates the overall cost to be in the region of £200,000.

### **Other business**

Peter brought up the idea of a pet Cemetery which was universally welcomed and was agreed to be considered as a future income stream.

Next meeting to be Aultbea Hall 7.30pm Thursday 30th March 2012