

## **Portmoak Community Woodland Steering Group**

**Meeting** 18th December 2008, The Well Country Inn

Present J.Shephers, KMcDonnell, S.Garvie, M.Brown

Apols: E & D.Carruthers, R.Barlow, M.Hogg

Minutes from previous meeting agreed.

### **Woodland Trust Update**

**A Thank-you event** for donors had been arranged for the 17th of January, Start at Church car park at 1:30pm Walk along the road and up the steps, then along the MBW to where it leaves the site (stopping at various points for a bit of chat about our plans for the new land and Kilmagad in general). Then those that don't want to continue will be escorted back the same way and straight to the pub (a round trip of about 45 mins) Those that are keen for a climb will do the loop over the hill to the view point indicator (location of !!!) and back down (a round trip of about 1:15h). Mulled wine shortbread etc in the pub - official conclusion about 3-30pm, although can stay on longer

**Shooting adjacent to the Moss** RB has been in touch with Grahamstone in relation to signage placed at the Scotlandwell entrance to the Moss warning of shooting. Members of the public had expressed concern and indeed some had not walked the Moss on seeing the signage, copy of letter to be made available at the January meeting.

**Sing a Long** RB has processed the invoice to release payment of £140 to cover costs of Sing a Long. JG has suggested that a donation of £25 be made to the Film Club for providing access to equipment this was agreed KMcD to arrange. Balance sheet to be available for January meeting.

### **Duke of Edinburgh Award**

Callum has been awarded the DoE Silver and accepted for the Gold Award programme. He has assisted with the water level monitoring and JG will update data and graphs for web site. We need to arrange a work day for removal of the dead rhododendron. Additional volunteers will be required to assist DoE plus provide additional activities for those undertaking the award scheme.

### **Interpretation**

Master copy with the WT hoping to have finished boards by end of Feb 2009. RB to update.

### **Burns Supper**

Arrangement well underway, 60+ tickets allocated, posters up prior to Christmas break, tickets on sale from 5th January. KMcD to co-ordinate.

Esme McIntyre volunteered to do Selkirk Grace.

JG to do 'To a Haggis'

### **Community Woodlands Association 8th November**

A thank-you from CWA had been sent bu email, and a piece relating to the purchase of our new land was included in the most recent ebulletin circulated to CWA members.

### **Curling Pond**

WT advised that this potential project does not fit within their acquisition criteria for a number of reasons, they can however provide advice to Curling Club if required

**Dark Skies Event 19th Nov**

This had been an incredible success, the schoolchildren had an excellent time and as we observed the night sky a fire ball 'flew' across in plain view. KMcD suggested that PCW hold a star gazing from within the Moss during 2009.

**AoCB****Website**

JG requested some 'words' to publicise the Burns Supper and any pictures from the Singa longa Sound of Music to upload.

**Calender**

JG has started to take pictures within the woodland for a 2010 calendar, other folk should also consider capturing suitable pictures for inclusion.

**Christmas 2009**

Suggested that remove christmas trees from the Moss particularly those on the peat bank during december 2009. Also consider holding a christmas craft event to include birch weaving to reduce birch scrub.

**Next Meeting Thursday 15th January 2009**