**Minutes of the RAW Committee held at the Proudfoot Institute on Thursday 24th June 2021**

Present; Peter Dreghorn, Andy Stott, Jackie Galley, Norma Fears, Andy Tunnicliffe, Nick Chisholm, Gareth Pedley

Apologies: Steven Gillespie

1. **Welcome**Peter welcomed everyone to our first face to face meeting and Andy explained he had apologies from Steven.
2. **Introductions**As it was the first face to face meeting everyone took turns to introduce themselves.
3. **Minutes of Last Meeting**Andy had circulated them. The meeting accepted them. Andy would change the status from Draft and upload to the RAW website and add the link.*Action: Andy*
4. **Actions arising from the minutes.**
2) Constitution, held over

3) Business plan – held over to the next meeting

4) Donate Button – It was decided to put on hold until the committee felt we had enough recent evidence of activities. Gareth offered to find out what the WTT has set up.
*Action: Gareth*

5) Peter had contacted Michael Fearns (the Annan bailiff) and explained what RAW was about and invited him to join. He said he was too busy.

6) Bank of Scotland Treasurers account is now set up. Andy T has pain in the cheque from MDCC.

7) Andy agreed spoke to David Booth re usage of the grant we have, and David said we could spend it as we wished as long as we could prove where the money has gone when he asked. Nick stated that this year’s grants from Galloway Glens have been spent up.
As well as Matthew White, where we need to volunteer to maintain the trees we plant Peter explain that Peter Hughes at Annan Side Cottage where there is ½ hectare which could take 100 trees max. Peter agreed to speak to him.
*Action: Peter*
Gareth has some pictures from Linnholm he took that day... Looks very nice site and the planting has been successful. He has also some pictures from the reports that were written.

Peter reported he had been up to Bodesbeck and has taken pictures.

8) Summer Litter Pick
Andy reported that he had sent out a Doodle poll , but it only covered July. He will send out another for late July and August.
*Action: Andy*
On the basis of the first Doodle poll, Sunday 11th July looks to be promising.
Nick to contact the council re collection of what we manage to pick and arrange for the delivery of pickers
*Action: Nick*

9) Picnic in the Park
Andy spoke to Linne from Moffat promotions re the event, it is not a fund raising event though, it has to be fun and educational. We have a site for a stall for RAW. It is in Sunday 15th August. Ideas required for what we could do
Nick has a lot of video clips from earlier picks and is putting together a film about 10 minutes long which we could use as there will be a big screen.

10) Peter has set up private Facebook page. We need to look also at Instagram or TicTok.
Peter to contact his neighbour’s young son to see if he can help.
*Action: Peter*

11) Online form created, on the RAW website and has been tested by Norma and Andy. Their feedback has been incorporated. The data is recorded but Andy needs to discuss with Steven. But form is ready to be ‘electronically distributed’
*Action: Andy*

12) All other actions completed.

1. **SOSE Progress**Peter to write again to SOSE pointing out that lots of other organisations are grant funded. They want us to use PES, Payment for Environmental Services. But only viable service we could offer is carbon offset. So, Peter is going to incorporate that. If we got the money, then it would be used for a project officer. But the PES service is not up and running properly yet.
2. **Coop**Peter has applied to the Coop for £10k, Peter was asked to join the Coop and they asked him to apply for funding. If we get it, we will get the money is October. He has also applied to the Annandale and District Windfarm fund for £20k. This has to be matched funding and they have said the Coop funding would be fine.
These would be used for a project officer for 12 months. A debate followed re the period offered and the post.

Andy offered to share the business plan
*Action: Andy, & then all to read and discuss at the next meeting*
Possibility of working alongside the Trust on a 50:50 basis

Peter made the case for sending out the form beforehand to generate work for a project officer. Fencing is £11 per m.
There may be opportunities to follow up on SEPA work to identify breaches with offers to help.

It was agreed that we need as a minimum £30K for a part time project officer.

Nick to find out who the Ward officer is.

In the meantime we can get on with small projects ourselves.
Look to Pip for what synergies exist, with the wider re-wilding projects.
We need to get the project officer when we have the work specified for them to do.

Send out the questionnaire now and gather the feedback and plan to create a bid for larger work over the next few months.
Possibility or approaching the Galloway Fisheries Trust for part funding?
Nick to approach the SNFU to help with sending out the questionnaire.
*Action: Nick*
Nick to talk to Pip Taylor of the Galloway Fisheries Trust about working with us.
*Action: Nick*

Agreed to try and work in partnership with other groups.

Jackie summed up the discussion
a) we keep doing things locally ourselves
b) we apply for the £30k funding (2-3 years projects)
c) Wider east of D&G landscape projects/ economic drivers etc
3. **Litter Pick on 11th July**
Nick to get pickers etc. and arrange for collection of the waste
*Action: Nick*
4. **Riverflies**
Peter to give tuition to Norma and Andy.
*Action: Peter*

Possibly investigate BugLife..
*Action: Andy to investigate*

Peter to investigate trainers
*Action: Peter*
5. **Milnbie Caul**
Jackie stated that someone from Scottish Water should be contacting Peter about timing and photographs putting in an eel pass. To date no call has been received.
6. **AOB**
Peter told the meeting that Chris Miles has offered to conduct a botany survey, on riverside vegetation, as a course for locals.
All agreed this was a great idea.
*Action: Peter*
7. **Next meeting**

Andy to send out Doodle poll for Face to Face.
*Action: Andy*

Andy Stott
4th July 2021