

Minutes of the RAW Committee held via Teams on Tuesday 12 December 2023

Present; Andy Stott, Nick Chisholm, Andy Tunnicliffe, Richard Smith,

For Item2 - Fiona Gallie, Eve Gadd, Alan Thompson, Olena Kadochnikova-Yashkina

Apologies: Norma Fears, Peter Dreghorn, Martyn Lyall and Anna Griffin

1. Welcome

Nick welcomed Fiona Gallie and Eve Gadd from Keeping Scotland Beautiful and Alan Thompson and Olena Kadochnikova-Yashkina from Annan Harbour Action Group.

2. Input from Making Scotland Beautiful

Fiona described her Upstream Battle Campaign, started on the Clyde, and then moved onto the Tay in 2021, is about tackling marine litter at source, where 80% of the litter comes from. The campaign aims to tackle the problem and raise awareness amongst the public, and to do this via litter surveys and citizen science.

The litter surveys are meant to be accessible to everyone, via paper or online. Her group will collect the surveys and produce analysis for publication, eventually across all the major rivers in Scotland.

Nick has been discussing with Fiona and he is proposing an action day end of January, where the volunteers meet at a central location, a café in Lockerbie for a coffee and a bacon sandwich before setting off to location Nick has identified. Each location is about 100m long section of riverbank, and Nick will produce maps. In pairs the volunteers will have 2-3 sections to survey. We also take photos for social media etc.

After some discussion we agreed the survey would take place on Sunday 28th January, meeting at Café 91. It should take a max of 30 minutes for each survey.

Nick suggested using Eventbrite to enable volunteers to register interest and will share what Upstream Battle Campaign information.

Eve will send Andy details of the DOE activities

Andy will post details on Nextdoor in Moffat and on Moffat Community Facebook.

Proposed start at Lockerbie 08:30 should be finished by lunchtime.

3. Minutes of last meeting

These were approved, but actions update held over to the next meeting. Andy would change the status from DRAFT and upload to the RAW website. Similarly, only major items on the agenda will be covered during this meeting.

4. Treasurers Report

Andy reported that we have received the grant for more work on the tree nursery to balance is at £1847. Some of the grant has been spent on a net for the second poly tunnel frame, deep plastic planters and timber for raised beds inside the tunnel.

Nic C asked for payment dates on the FoCo scheme. Andy will inform Nic

Action: Andy T

5. Tree Nursery

Andy mentioned that we need to move large saplings out of the raised beds. We may have an excess, once Nic has determined how many he needs for the SoS scheme. Emma and Martin have done an audit of what is available.

6. Milnzie Caul

Peter has had negative responses so far, but we will keep plugging away.

7. FoCo

The first submission has been made and Treesurv have been paid. It is the first one in D&G. The scheme is aimed at landscape regeneration. They are now working on the grant applications for the schemes we have put forward. Richard to chat to Luke re linking to FIRNS and Nic to contact Luke. (Nick to forward contact details)

8. SoS Tree Planting Status

Andy explained that he now has a spreadsheet produced by Lawrence at Treesurv with status of all the applications

9. Dumfries & Galloway Woodlands

McNab Lawrie is now up and running and is processing the SoS forms.

10. Next meeting. To be arranged for mid-February, Andy to invite Luke.

Andy Stott

04/01/24