

Minutes of the RAW Committee held via Zoom on Wednesday, July 6th 2022

Present; Peter Dreghorn, Andy Stott, Norma Fearn, James Short, Nic Major

Apologies: Nick Chisholm, Gareth Pedley & Andy Tunnicliffe (due to sudden illness)

1. Resignation

Jackie Galley has resigned from the group, and we are hoping she will nominate a suitable SEPA candidate, hopefully with Riverflies experience as her replacement.

2. 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

3. Actions arising from the minutes.

a) River Litter Pick – Postponed until better weather, also need to check on Insurance position, see later.

Action: Andy

b) River Flies

Riverflies training has been completed by John Clayton. Andy collected nets etc from Michael Fearn. All enjoyed the training and learnt a lot. The nets have been returned, and Andy successfully applied for a grant from MCC which has been used to buy 2 further kits. Andy & Janice will keep one, Norma the other.

Action: Complete

c) RiverWoods film

Successful event with almost 50 attendees, with very positive feedback. Andy is following up local school participation with Shona Routledge

d) Tree Nursery Proposal

a) We have a site, at Beattock House

b) We will need to investigate appropriate insurance for the poly tunnel

c) Norma to send details of the Old Theatre Safeguarding documents

d) We need to amend our constitution to add a clause stating where any remaining funds would go if RAW was wound up.

Action Andy

Gareth mentioned that the Eden River Trust is doing something similar. He will email Andy

Action: Complete

e) Meeting with Lord Annandale

Peter rang today, and the secretary is to chase up wrt location of a tree nursery and also planting

Action Peter

- f) South of Scotland Tree Funders Visit
Visitors from Galloway Glens, Woodland Trust, Borders Forest Trust and the Tweed Forum had a successful visit to Moffat on the 16th June and visited our recent planting sites provided via their grants.
- g) **Insurance**
Andy explained that we need insurance for the poly-tunnel and had been in contact with Zurich for 3rd party liability cover too. He had forgotten to mention the litter picking activities, but had included the fly life sampling etc. Andy will send the proposal for comment.
Action: Andy See Later
James to check his insurance cover for volunteers etc.
Action: James : Treasury cover does not include volunteers. DONE
Gareth mentioned that he was producing some documentation re safety, risk assessments etc, for the EA he agreed to share. Also, the River Trusts may have some guidance on their websites.
Action: Gareth
- h) Tree Nursery
Peter asked for all to look for a site, we have enough money for a year's rent. Target to get it up and running by October
Action: All Site found see later
- i) **Co-op Forestry Grant Plan**
Nick to send out plan as either a Word doc or PDF.
Action: Nic Done
- j) **Contact List/RAW Members?**
We agreed we should have a contact list, subject to GDPR regs, we could ask at the Riverwood event.
Andy to sort something out
Action: Andy
- k) **AOB**
Andy to add Nic to the RAW WhatsApp group. Nic will provide mobile number.
- l) *Action: Andy Done*

4. **Treasurers Report**

Held over as Andy T had been struck down by a bug.

5. **Scottish Forestry Co-Op Grant**

Briefing note attached to the agenda. Norma has a couple of potential sites. We need to get a letter of agreement from each of the landowners. These are given to Nic who will act as the RAW Rural Payments Contacts using the RAW Business Number as an advisory firm.

Andy to draft up letter and send to Nic for checking.

Action: Andy

We need to start now for January 2023 planting.

We may have to stage smaller sites to fit within the South of Scotland planting scheme. The lower limit of the FGS scheme is 400 trees and 15m width.

Norma to arrange a visit to Mickleholmside.

Action: Norma

6. **River Flies**

Andy has sent a link out for trainees to register. He will also contact John for details of any forthcoming courses nearby.

Action: Andy

Norma will have a site at Oakriggside, Andy & Janice will do Woodfoot, Peter will do Adamsholm and Nick will Corehead.

7. **RiverWoods**

See earlier for update. Norma to investigate costs of future showings.

Action: Norma

When future showing happen we should have a RAW person there.

8. **Tree Nursery**

Peter reported that orally we have secured a site in the grounds of Beattock House. Andy and Peter visited, site in the corner backing onto the Evan Water. Need to run water pipe to the site. Need to get pipe through on under fallen tree though. Now going to get smaller poly tunnel 12x20 feet , shed and 3 raised beds. Owner sees it as an asset for visitors to see. Needs to be in place by September. Half polythene roof half netting.

9. **Insurance**

Zurich half provide a quote, covering normal group activities, litter picking and fly monitoring. The quote is £161 pa. Andy will need to check the uplift when we include a polytunnel.

10. **Safeguarding**

Norma to provide documents from the Old Theatre.

Action: Norma

11. **Funding from businesses to cover running costs.**

Peter will apply for SEPA Scottish Land Fund grant, but write to Amey, Arla etc. Peter to draft a letter.

Action: Peter

12. **Moffat Show**

On the 27th August at Raehills, the more people we can get there the better. Please put in your diary as RAW will be having a stand, it will cost £40.

Action: All

13. **AOB**

Next Meeting, - Andy will send out a Rally poll again for the beginning of Sep.

Action: Andy

Andy Stott

12/07/2022

