

Minutes of the RAW Committee held via Zoom on Tuesday, June 7th 2022

Present; Peter Dreghorn, Andy Stott, Gareth Pedley, James Short, Nic Major

Apologies: Nick Chisholm, Norma Fearn, Jackie Galley, & Andy Tunnicliffe (due to technical issues)

1. Introductions

Peter introduced Nic to the meeting attendees, Nic works for Treesurv

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

Action: Andy

b) River Flies

Riverflies training is all set up. John Clayton is running two Zoom sessions and a face-to-face training day at Peter's on 19th June. Andy is collecting nets etc from Michael Fearn. But these are loaned we will need to buy our own nets etc. Andy suggested getting a small grant to buy these from MCC.

Action: Andy

c) RiverWoods film

All organised for 17th June. Andy reported that just over 30 people have indicated they will come.

d) **Planting status**

Peter has produced a maintenance schedule, and some has happened.

e) **Tree Nursery Proposal**

We have been awarded a grant for £2000 subject to 4 criteria

a) We have a site

b) We have appropriate insurance for the poly tunnel

c) We have a safeguarding policy. Peter to supply a copy of his Ukulele document.

Action: Peter

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

Peter suggested we push ahead with seed collection trays etc.

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

Action: Gareth

f) **Meeting with Lord Annandale**
Peter rang today, and the secretary is to chase up wrt location of a tree nursery and also planting

g) **Publicity**
All happening for planting film etc.

h) **Doodle Poll**
Andy explained that Doodle had changed their website and as a result it was not straightforward to use, instead he is proposing to use a free product called RALLY

4. Treasurers Report

Held over as Andy T couldn't connect in. Peter reported he had raised £100 from a music gig over the Jubilee.

5. Duck Race Feedback/Sponsored Trees

Peter reported that he and Andy S with Janice, Andy's wife has a small stand at the event in Station Park in Moffat. Over £60 was raised by visitors sponsoring a Sessile Oak for £5. Their details were taken, and they will be contacted when we plant in the autumn, so they can come along. We also had river flies in a tray to show visitors to the stand. We have 30+ visitors.

6. South of Scotland Tree Funders Visit

Visitors from Galloway Glens, Woodland Trust, Borders Forest Trust and the Tweed Forum will be in Moffat on the 16th June and will visit our recent planting sites provided via their grants.

7. 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

James to check his insurance cover for volunteers etc.

Action: James

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

8. 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

9. Milnzie Caul

Scottish Water have employed a consultant APBM, to look out for eels. None so far reported. But stone loaches have used the pass.

10. Co-op Forestry Grant Plan

Nic had produced a draft plan in Excel based on the information provided by FLS. There is a feasibility part, which Peter, Andy S and Norma could do. Then there is a consolidation then a planting part. The attraction of the scheme to both Treesurv and RAW is that we can get up to

£250 per day for admin/project work.

Nick to send out plan as either a Word doc or PDF.

Action: Nic

11. Water Testing Kits

Andy raised the topic of the Angling Trust initiative in England, which is not available in Scotland

12. Potential Sites for planting

Granton, Anannside Cottage, Meikleholmside, Gardenholm/Holehouse, Craigieburn, Darksky Distillery, Reddings Grey Mare's Tail. James suggested we look at bio-degradable tree guards. Peter mentioned he would like to start summer planting of Willow.

13. Fundraising/Letter to business/Crowdfunding?

Crank up the messages, a tree costs £5 to plant etc. Amey etc.

Fund raising dinner.

Agreed we should hold to the next meeting with a better attendance.

14. 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

15. AOB.

Andy to set up a poll early July, first two weeks for next meeting

Action: Andy

Andy to add Nic to the RAW WhatsApp group. Nic will provide mobile number.

Action: Andy

Andy Stott

09/06/2022