

Minutes of the RAW Committee held via Zoom on Tuesday January 19th, 2022

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

Apologies: Norma Fears

1. 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

2. Actions arising from the minutes.

a) River Litter Pick – Postpones until better weather

Action: Andy

b) Online form - Peter had contacted SNFU, who did send out the link to the form. No forms have been submitted.

c) SOSE Progress

See later

d) Funding

See later

e) Nick to talk to Pip Tabor of the Southern Upland Partnership about working with us. Nick briefed us on a proposed biodiversity restoration programme involving Pip Taybor, Southern Upland Partnership, RSPB, Borders Council, Dumfries & Galloway Council and the Biosphere targeting the Southern Uplands. Using Black Grouse and Curlew as key species. Riparian work will be a key part of the programme.

It will be called 'Undoing the Silence of the Southern Uplands' and will aim to bring lots of different projects together. Probably 2023-2024 programme start

Peter mentioned that a neighbour, Suzanne Storm a local photographer has compiled a booklet on Publisher with Peter and this is now available to see on the RAW website. An exhibition is planned post Covid.

f) River Flies

Andy to contact the lady at the River Flies office in Windemere re training.

Action: Andy

Peter to provide Andy with his data.

Action: Peter

g) Milnby Caul
Progressing now have licence, confident it will happen in 2022.

h)
Jackie to investigate availability of the 3 Waters Meet film from Pile On films.
Action: Jackie

i) Peter to start Crowdfunding for fencing.
See later

j) Glasgow University
Steven still keen to be involved and has recently sent the two research papers that were produced by his students. Peter to send to Andy for the website
Action: Peter

k) Report to the River Annan Trust
Peter to write a report of what RAW has done by the partnership etc. Mention the 3 waters film (funding came from SEPA). Peter to send to Jackie and Nick beforehand for checking.
After some consideration, this item was parked for now.

l) Seed Collection
Peter to ask for help on NextDoor and Facebook
Action: Peter (Outstanding)

m) Tweed Forum Footpath
Peter has spoken to Marina from the Tweed Forum. She has been speaking to various landowners along the proposed footpath, Jane Gray has refused permission for it to go across her land. But he and the Reddings have said OK. They may provide us with restoration materials.

n) Online Form – Paper version
Andy has investigated and concluded it is too complicated.

o) Moffat Nature Reserve Saplings
See later

p) River Visit by Gareth
It was postponed, see later

q) Nature Friendly Farming Network Visit to William Wood
Peter and Andy attended

r) Leaflets
500 copies in Andy's possession. Some given to Peter and Norma. Please tell Andy if you need some.

3. **Treasurers Report**

£590.72 this includes the donation via the new crowd funding page of £10.

4. Current Restoration sites in the pipeline

We have applied for 3 £1000 grants from Galloway Glens /Border Forest trust scheme. One for raised bank opposite the Reddings, either side of the Gardenholm bridge on the western bank, at Oakrigside a corner of one of Norma's fields adjacent to the river and we're about to send in a proposal for some of the west bank on the Burchell's land at Mickleholmside.

Nick mentioned that he has a contact for true native Crab apples.

5. Others in the pipeline

Annanside cottage is planting a lot of wildflowers, and trees and is keen to be part of RAW programme. Also, we have the new Moffat Distillery interested in planting trees. Along their stretch of riverbank.

6. Crowd funding is launched

Only contribution to date and been Andy during testing. Peter asked everyone to punt it within their organisations.

Action: All

7. SWT is hosting the Riverwoods Program, Jackie will give Andy contact and then he will share our projects with them.

Action: Jackie

Andy also mentioned the new £12.5 funding for Nature Restoration and will investigate further.

Action: Andy

Foundation Scotland request is held until February. The meeting decided not to progress this in its current state, but change to request fencing and trees, perhaps for a lower amount.

Action: Peter

8. SOSE

Andy updated the meeting with progress to date with Rowan Lloyd of SOSE. We have project proposal for someone to look at longer term sustainable funding opportunities and has suggested we work with other organisations, rather than competing with them. Galloways Fisheries Trust was mentioned, and Andy will pursue this with Jamie Ribbons.

Action: Andy

9. Leaflets

Paper copies are now available. We should all carry copies and place them in the local library, Green Frog etc.

10. Press Release

Wait until we are successful with grants.

11. River Flies

No update, Andy to progress

Action: Andy

12. Wild Trout Trust Visit

Gareth keen to visit, agreed 7th February.

13. Alder collection from Moffat Community nature reserve and Willow stick harvesting

A lot of alder is still available to be dug up, need a working party to do this. Andy to set up a Doodle poll for suitable date.

Action: Andy

14. Grey Mares Tail

Peter has been speaking to Richard Clarkson who was in the old RAW group and is the warden of Grey Mares Tail. Peter wrote to the Nation Trust for Scotland to ask permissions to plant trees along the waterfall and around Lock Skeen. They wrote back saying great idea, but not now as they are doing some sensitive negotiations around sheep and goat exclusion.

15. AOB

<http://www.eadha.co.uk/> this link will take you to a guy called Peter Livingston, he has gathered samples of all Scotland's remaining Aspen stock and he is replicating them, we have just taken 1,500 for one of Nick's Galloway projects

On Gareth's visit we will make another video for the crowd funding site. Possible Nick will edit and produce the film.

Andy Stott
25/01/2022