

Cupar's Fruit and blossom group (FAB)

Meeting Date: 15/03/2015 19:30

Location: Cupar Fire Station Meeting Room, Cupar

Present: Karen Marjoram, Joy Rice, Erica Benson, Keith Benson, Norma Alari, Sarah Davidson, Debbie Payjack, Bryan Rollo

1. Orchard Walk

There is the opportunity to apply for funding for Orchard walk from the NEF community budget. The bid would need to come under three categories and up to £5000 could be applied for. We would need to identify a breakdown of the costs for the project. The application needs to be completed by the end of March.

Areas for consideration:

Interpretation boards (historic and environmental signage) and seating.

Bulb planting

Pond and lade improvements.

After discussion with those present it was decided to focus on Interpretation boards, seating and possibly bulb planting. The improvement to the pond and lades could be made as a separate application next year.

There may be health and safety considerations for the pond at the community orchard re the water quality, which will need to be considered prior to any work taking place by volunteers. SEPA has investigated previously but because there is no direct link to the river it is considered a low priority.

It was discussed that if it was feasible signage should be similar to that at Tarvit Ponds in Cupar as the council might find it preferable if there was consistency between the two sites for visitors. For seating, it would be nice to have both benches and tables in the orchard area and if they could be locally sourced this would be in keeping with the ideals of sustainable Cupar.

Action: Sarah to contact Bob Weston re advice about signage and seating, and mention possibility of the pond for a future bid.

Action: Sarah to complete the application form as much as possible and then circulate for comments.

2. National Orchard Inventory for Scotland

Only four people have volunteered so far, Sarah will ask at Elmwood College and the Voluntary council to see if there are others interested.

3. Judy's talk

This has been arranged for the June meeting.

4. Tomato Plants

Bryan asked if the group would like some tomato plants this year, last year the donations to the group reached £200 . It was agreed that this would be good, Fab will pay for the compost and seeds required.

5. Letham Nursery

Bryan and Norma helped plant trees and now have trees named after them in the nursery.

6. FAB Recipie Calendar

Recipes are being collected with the aim of creating a Christmas Calendar.

7. Upcoming Events

Monimail - last Saturday of every month - a work party takes place if anyone is interested in going.

Elmwood Cupar Muir Orchard - There is the possibility of a tour round the orchard to be arranged April/May TBC

Orchard Walk - June - Removing Himalayan Balsam - TBC. (The council have asked if any plants removed could be disposed of on site)

Bee Demo - June - learn about Bee Hives and bee keeping from Bryan and his son.

FAB Jamboree - July

Next meeting date: 08/04/2015 19:30 Cupar Fire Station Meeting Room