

Minutes FAB

Time and Date: Wednesday 8 August 2018 @ 19.30hrs

Venue: Cupar Community Fire Station

Present: Sarah Davidson; Rob Brydon; Jim McLeish; Joan Brown; Joy Rice; Debbie Payjack; Giles Christian; Pat Mitchel and Lindy Mclean

Chair-Louise Harvie

Minutes-Norma Alari

Apologies: Jill Darrow and Bryan Rollo

	Action
1. Minutes from previous meeting approved by Sarah and Lindy.	
The Chair opening remarks gave 'thanks' to Sarah and Norma for hosting the jamboree. General discussion re the event. Donation of £30 on the day.	
<p><u>2 Community Orchard:</u></p> <p>Feedback given by Norma re a field visit FAB members and friends met with Johanna Willi , Biodiversity Co-Ordinator, Fife Council, on 17 July to discuss the management of the pond and meadow. The following action points emerged:-</p> <p>meadow – in autumn, cut grass (rough), remove hay, and seed. In winter sow yellow rattle (frost germinates). The following spring, the grass given a high cut (minimises damage to wildflowers). A tidy up day has been agreed.</p> <p>pond – autumn/winter dredge a section of the pond, set aside detritus for a few days enabling insects etc to return to pond, then remove.</p>	<p>Action Day 26th August 11.00- 13.00 meet at 10.00 to collect</p>

The following points emerged since that meeting – a digger will be forthcoming from Fife Golf Trust – thanks to Johanna. Norma will liaise re insurance etc. It seems the orchard and pond may not belong to Fife Council. Jim has been asked to investigate this.

seed

Norma

Jim

The meeting continued

Scything will continue, May time the orchard grass to be severley cut whilst August/September cuts are less severe. Clippings will then be put around fruit trees. Scythe training day at Monimail 1st September – contact Rob for details.

Festooning has been successful and ties removed. Summer pruning was carried out with Bob Bilson (thanks).

Himalayan Balsam less virulent and monitored as is giant hogweed.

Liming of the orchard will take place in November.

3 Elmwood Fruit Cage

Thanks go to Debbie and John for watering strawberry plants during the dry spell. Runners can be cut and potted-on.

Cuttings are healthy and will be planted on Moor Road.

Raspberry canes to be cut away.

The group approved removal of remaining fruit for an event at the Secret Garden.

Joan

Debbie &

Rob

Sunshine Kitchen – this new venture approached FAB requesting soft fruit. On this occasion it was not possible to help. Apples can be supplied this year. Sunshine Kitchen is providing catering at the FCCAN (Fife Climate Change Action Network) event being held on 16th August hosted by Sustainable Cupar.

All members, yet again, observed the overgrowth of weeds and unused veg in the adjacents plots.

4 Apple Juicing at Westfield Family Nurture Centre 29th August 11.00

Rob will source equipment for this event.

5 Bell Baxter High School- Fruit Tree Planting

Louise has list of fruit trees from Andrew Lear for consideration by the school. Clarify if vole guard/stake come with order.

Community order – if this is re-instated (timing to be decided) FAB include bone meal, stake, guard and planting/care guidelines with every tree purchased. Joy to retrieve order form

AOB

Westfield Nursery -Sarah gave update on progress. The 'Owlet Garden' will be opened on 12th September 11.30. The aim on the day is to make with produce leak and potato soup. Salad and a fruit pudding. The gardening days are every Wednesday at 10.00, usually two hours.

Chair/Minutes -rotation agreed

12th September chair – Norma, minutes Rob

10th October chair Rob, minutes Jim

14th November chair Jim minutes Sarah

December – no meeting

January 2019 chair Sarah.

Wassailing January 2019 -date to be set /19th or 201th. Approach Jill to organise?

Playfield House- Rob gave update, trees growing and areas fenced.

Plums – Jim happy to 'donate' plums from his garden.

Elmwood- Sarah to contact Phil Watkin (Elmwood) if compost would be available for Westfiled etc.

Next meeting 12th September, 2018 7.30pm at Cupar Community Fire Station.

Rob

Louise

Joy

Sarah

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Signed: I S Davidson..... Date: 12/11/2017.....

Group Coordinator