

SC Minutes

Time and Date: Wednesday 14th August 2019 at 7.30pm

Venue: Cupar Community Fire Station

Present: Sarah Davidson (Chair), Norma Alari, Pat Mitchell, Jim McLeish, Lindy MacLean (minutes), Joan Brown, Joy Nicholson, Bryan Rollo

Apologies: Louise Harvie, Rob Brodie, Meg Sloan

<p>1. Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Sarah welcomed the group and announced apologies</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>Acceptance of the minutes from the last meeting was proposed by Norma and seconded by Lindy.</p>	
<p>3. Feedback from Recent Events</p> <p>There was a good turnout for the scything on 3rd August, however it was agreed that the meadow had been allowed to grow too high creating challenging conditions. Under Bob Bilson's guidance, Sarah had attended to the pruning of the festooned plums and apples. Several diseased trees in the orchard have been felled by the Council, with some of the wood saved for additional seats in the orchard. Further discussion of the orchard management is minuted under the Community Orchard item. The bicycle painted for the Arts Festival was well received, moving round various locations in Cupar with the last venue at Castlehill Primary School. The Jamboree in early August was a great success with lots of delicious fruit puddings. FAB members thanked Louise and Calum for hosting this event.</p>	
<p>4. FAB Wall Planner</p> <p>Joy used her laptop to show the meeting progress made on this for the months of May, June and July by the sub group (Sarah, Lindy and Joy). There was also useful discussion on the content for August and it was agreed that September's content should be discussed at the next meeting.</p>	

<p>5. Community Orchard</p> <p>Recent heavy rain has resulted in a recurrence of the sewage problem. Norma has agreed to contact SEPA and the council. She will also contact Dave McKean's son for advice on the rot that has appeared on some of the benches. It was noted at the scything event that the grass (and thuggish weeds such as hogweed) aided by a particularly warm and wet summer had been allowed to grow too high to the detriment of the fruit trees.</p> <p>It was suggested the Council be asked to do a first cut in May. In addition it was agreed that there be a work session (9 to 11) on first Saturday in every month for those who could attend beginning on Saturday 7th September.</p> <p>This session would deal with whatever matters were appropriate at the time of year: currently scything, removal of hogweed, thistles and Himalayan balsam which continues to be a problem especially below the railway embankment.</p>	<p>Norma</p> <p>FAB Group</p>
<p>6. Elmwood Soft Fruit Plot</p> <p>There has been a good crop of fruit this year, mostly finished now except for Autumn Raspberries and blueberries which are now ripening. There remains the problem of the lack of management of the rest of the plot after students leave in the summer, with the resultant waste of vegetables and spread of weed seeds. Sarah has spoken with Phil Watkins who is sympathetic in principle to volunteers working with students and then managing the plot at the end of the summer term and sharing the vegetables. The main obstacle appears to be severe constraints on the time he has available to organise such a scheme.</p>	<p>Sarah</p>
<p>7. Apple collection/juicing / Cuparmuir Orchard</p> <p>Norma and Sarah offered to host an Apple juicing event at a date to be arranged. Sarah is to ask Rob to contact Will to suggest a suitable date- probably late October. In principal Elmwood College have agreed there can be a 2 day fruit picking event at Cuparmuir Orchard provided it is supervised. Their Hospitality Department might use the apples.</p>	<p>Sarah</p> <p>Rob</p>
<p>8. Owlet Garden</p> <p>There will be an Open Day at Owlet Garden around 3rd October. It will be a family event with juicing.</p>	

9. AOCB

Norma visited Letham Primary School where she reported soft fruit bushes had been removed and apple trees were not looked after.

Joan reported that the new Interpretation Board for Moor Road was due to be ready in September. It was intended to have an unveiling event during the weekend 21st / 22nd September- date to be finalised. There were also 23 bird boxes to be installed which could take place on the same day.

Joan also informed the group about the setting up of the Lucky Ewe Community Project. The intention is to provide a training environment for people of all ages with additional support needs to work in agriculture.

Joan

Meeting closed at: 9.30 pm

Next meeting date: 11th September 2019

Signed: Date:

Group Coordinator