

## **MINUTES OF FAB MEETING 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2015 at Cupar Fire Station 19.30.**

Present: Jim McLeish, Erica Bishop, Laura Rigon, Bryan Rollo, Norma Alari, Rob, Bob Weston (Fife Countryside and Coastal Path Ranger), Sarah Davidson.

Apologies: Joan, Debbie Payjack, Keith, Joy Rice and Nicki Allison

Guests: Liam Black, pupil of Castlehill Primary, Cupar along with his father, Graham.

The meeting was preceded by a visit to Elmwood's orchard at Cupar Muir (last entry).

In the chair – Sarah Davidson.

Liam Black – Liam, a pupil of Castlehill Primary attended our meeting as part of his project to look at community groups. We were put on the spot with his many and varied questions e.g. leadership, membership numbers, duration of our group, our ethos and aims, working with others and, what is the average age of members. While it was easy to respond to most of the questions the matter of age proved to be a bit sticky!

The meeting proper began at approximately 19.50.

Minutes from previous meeting agreed.

### **Boards and Seating for Orchard Walk**

Sarah showed examples of signs/boards e.g. from sites such as Pillars/Newburgh/Tarvit Ponds etc. Much discussion re what our preferred options will be in terms of costings, numbers, structure and material (wood not metal) and placement (one interpretation board at Millgate entrance and a name board at the town entrance). Erica, Sarah and Norma volunteered to visit Dave McKean, woodworker at Falkland to discuss the project. £1500 for boards, £2000 seats and tables and £300 for spring bulbs. This grant needs to be used by end 2016.

It was agreed to use the name 'Orchard Walk' which will be incorporated into any signs along with acknowledgment of the funders.

### **Orchard Survey**

Sustainable Cupar has agreed to the 'notes of memorandum' which will now be forwarded to Crispin Hayes. Rob to apply for match funding. Rob will be the facilitator and volunteers will be Norma, Laura, Sarah, Nicki, Judy Dowling. Joy Rice will assist with computer work. For fuller discussion at next month's meeting,

### **Bulbs**

£300 is available to purchase more bulbs for Orchard Walk e.g. fritularias and pheasant eye daffodils.

### **Elmwood Fruit Cage**

Rob and Anna have volunteered to repair the fruit cage edging with chick wire (donated by Krisitne Fraser, thank you). Sarah replaced a red gooseberry and did some weeding – thank you.

### **Himalayan Balsam**

Date for clearing away this weed will be Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May, 11am-1pm. Although this day coincides with Bryan's bee event (12 noon) it was thought that both events should go ahead. Unfortunately the scouts cannot attend. Erica will provide a plan of action for the day. The balsam must be dealt with on-site, so it was agreed to leave it in situ to rot. Alternatively it can be burnt on-site.

### **Pond Clearing/Tree Work**

Samples of the water need to be analysed (previous contamination) before work can commence. Bob Weston's Amphibian Group will liaise when dates are confirmed. Further clearing of shrubbery surrounding the fruit trees is likely to take place again this winter (to liaise with Fife Council).

### **Jamboree**

It was mooted to hold this event again this year – possible venue could be Haugh Park but we are open to suggestions.

Meeting closed 21.00