# Sustainable Cupar Fruit and Blossom Group

# Time and Date: 13/06/2018

# Venue: Cupar Community Fire Station Chair Joy Nicolson

# Present: Joy Nicolson, Sarah Davidson, Norma Alari, Lindy MacLean, Debbie Payjack, Pat Mitchell, Rob Brodie, Bryan Rollo

# Apologies: Jill Darroch, Joan Brown

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|  | **Action** |
| 1. **Introductions** made.   **Minutes** approved by Lindy and Sarah.  **Action points from previous meeting:** scythes are ordered; it will be clarified at a future SC Trustees meeting whether courses not run by SC may be advertised by SC; Joanna Willi from Fife Amphibian group has accepted our invitation to the August meeting; the Woodland Trust are not in a position to donate trees for the Moor Road project, as we do not know who owns the land. |  |
| 1. **Community Orchard** 2. Scything will take place in the orchard on Saturday 23rd June at 9am. A risk assessment will be undertaken by Joy. Only those previously trained will be able to scythe on this occasion. Everyone else welcome to come along – volunteers will be needed to collect scythed material. Please bring along rakes, if possible. 3. Summer pruning will take place in July – date to be confirmed with Bob Bilson and Rab Thomson. 4. Concerns raised over recent reports of sewage leaking into the river Eden at the Pitscottie Road Bridge. This has been reported to SEPA, as have other incidents of leaking sewage, but the group is not aware of any action having been taken. 5. Himalayan Balsam has been growing along the orchard walk again, Lindy keeping an eye on it. | **JN**      **SD**    **LM** |
| 1. **Elmwood**   Fruit in fruit cage is looking well (other than raspberry plants with cane blight, which should be removed, and strawberry plants suffering from drought, which have had any flowers removed).  Raspberries need to be fed.  All plants need to be watered.  Cuttings of fruit plants are thriving. These will be used for the Moor Road. Discussion of using paper mole guards for these plants. These need to be sourced and costed. | **RB**  **NA**  **LM**  **LH** |
| 1. **Jamboree**   This will take place on Saturday 28th July, in the Community Orchard, from 2 - 5pm. All are welcome. Please bring along a pudding!  Gazebos (LH/DP) and tables (LH/NA/SD) needed. Sarah has sent an email to the group. | **LH**  **DP**  **NA**  **SD** |
| 1. **Apple collection and juicing**   Apple collection went extremely well last year, but was mostly carried out by only a few members of the group.  The juice which was made was very much appreciated, and raised some money for the group, but was time intensive, and, again, only a few members of the group were involved .  There was discussion of repeating these activities, but there has been no luck in finding a secure storage facility for the apples, and members were unsure if they wanted to take on such a big job again this year. Discussion of alternative locations for juicing day – perhaps with members of the public bringing along their apples on the day. Both Westfield and the OPC are possibilities.  Rob will let the group know his thoughts at the August meeting. | **RB** |
| 1. **Plastic Tree**   Discussion of installing the tree in the Haugh Park this week, but concerns raised about potential vandalism. Decision made to ask Cupar Arts to decorate the tree in the Corn Exchange and to install the tree with the Henge on Sat 23rd June. Louise to contact Margaret (Cupar Arts) and Joan, and to arrange delivery of tree, fruit and children’s pledges. Debbie will provide a Christmas tree stand for use in the Corn Exchange. Louise and Joy (with help from Anna) to make explanatory material for display. | **DP**  **LH**  **JN** |
| 1. **Forward Planning** 2. Summer pruning – July 3. Liming – November 4. Pond clearing and bulb planting – ask Joanna’s advice in August 5. First Scything – 23rd / 24th June 6. Second scything – to be discussed at August meeting 7. Tree Planting at Bell Baxter – BBHS keen; LH to contact Apple Tree Man for names of possible plants 8. Calendar – for 2020. Please take photographs of hedgerow plants at appropriate times of year. | **LH** |
| 1. **AOCB** 2. Willow weaving workshops successful and enjoyable. 3. Discussion of potential future grafting workshops. 4. Westfield fruit and veg garden has been named Owlet Garden. Group meets every Wednesday at 10:30. Children involved for first time last week. Would be great if this were to happen more often. |  |
| 1. Next meeting 8h August 7.30pm, firstly at Community Orchard then in Cupar Community Fire Station. |  |