# Minutes FAB

# Time and Date: Wednesday 10th August 2016 19.30

# Venue: Cupar Community Fire Station

# Present: Bryan Rollo; Lindy Mclean; Sarah Davidson; Erica Benson; Joy Rice; Rob Brydon; Norma Alari and Damon Wilkinson.

# Apologies: Keith Harding and Jim McLeish

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|  | **Action** |
| 1. **Minutes from previous meeting approved by Sarah and Norma** |  |
| **Orchard Walk**   1. Sarah opened the meeting by giving Damon a brief overview of FABs main aims. 2. *Boards* Sarah reported on the sub-groups progress so far: initial designs being worked on as provided by Nina McAndrew ie text/pictures/style. The notice board will be titled ‘Orchard Walk’. Sarah will distribute to FAB, sub-groups notes for feedback before 22nd August. 3. *Bulbs* Time to order bulbs. Suggestions put forward were:- Fritillaria, primrose, dog tooth violet, bluebell, turks head lillies and iris. There is £300 available for bulbs. 4. *Mangement plan* It was agreed that FAB team up with Fife Council and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) for the long term management of the whole area. Meantime, Sarah will arrange for grass cutting of the orchard site. Some discussion took place regarding optimal timing of grass cutting ie after die back of spring flowering bulbs etc. Clearing of Himalayan Balsam - Erica pointed out that some balsam was re-growing, this prompted a discussion on best methods of pulling versus cutting versus leaving or removing stalks. To be continued… 5. *Liming of Orchard* Currently the ph is 5.5 which is too acidicfor fruit trees – aim to reach 6.5. Bryan to cost and report at next meeting. 6. *Dog poo and grafitti* one brown bench has been vandalised (spray paint) and some trees have had branches broken and one tree has been cut in half (Police Scotland were notified re that one). We all agreed that dog fouling remains a problem. Joy to work on a poster to highlight this problem. 7. **Elmwood Plot**   Strawberry plants to be removed – suggestions for this space made were, courgettes, rhubarb and blueberry bushes.  Sarah recently spoke with the Head Gardener of Elmwood. They discussed if and how FAB could be involved with the plot especially during college holidays. Sarah to pursue this.  **9 Fruit Trees at Playfield House at Stratheden**  Rob explained that three recently planted fruit trees required staking and that two have evidence of die back. Fencing is required around this site, hopefully a recent funding application made by Eugene Adams may go towards this. Rob will maintain contact.  **10 National Orchard Survey**  Rob (local facilitator) will contact volunteers details of orchards still to be surveyed (from last season). Surveying can recommence, now.  **Farewell To Laura Rigon**  Members of Sustainable Cupar said goodbye to Laura with a walk over Moor Road to Ceres where all enjoyed tea, coffee and cakes. Laura is off to Sunderland to commence teacher training in mathematics. Good luck to you Laura from us all.  Thanks tonight go to Lindy for jam and Bryan for peaches and tomatoes. | **Sarah**  **Bryan**  **Joy**  **Sarah**  **Rob**  **Rob** |
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**Meeting closed at:**

**Next meeting date:** September 14th at 19.30 Cupar Fire Station.

**Signed: ....................................................................................... Date: ............................................**

**Group Coordinator**