# Minutes FAB

# Time and Date: Wednesday 10th January, 2018 @ 19:30hrs

# Venue: Cupar Community Fire Station

# Present: Norma Alari (Chair); Giles Christian (Minutes); Sarah Davidson; Joan Brown; Jill Dawson; Louise Harvie; Jim McLeish; Joy Rice; Lindy McLean; Brian Rollo

# Apologies: Rob Brodie; Debbie Payjack

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|  | **Action** |
| **Minutes from previous meeting approved by Sarah and Louise subject to Louise’s surname being added to attendee list.**  **Giles reported he had approached the Lighthouse re apple delivery, but had received no reply. Jim offered to try again.** | **Jim** |
| 1. WASSAIL.  Jill has updated her original email to incorporate the replies she received.  Joy has produced posters. It was suggested they be put up in the YMCA, the Library and at Luvians, as well as at the orchard itself.  Joy will publicise the event on Facebook.  Items considered for the event were:  table and tablecloth;  food and drink including figgy pudding and apple juice, plastic cups;  toast and fat-balls for the birds;  torches, jars and string to hold tea-lights, lanterns and lighters;  cards for good wishes to the trees, pens.  There will be a tidy up session at 10:00 AM on the following Sunday, the 28th.  The subject of press releases and reportage arose; for the Wassailing itself, but also about pruning events, the Moor road resurfacing, and the successful apple-juice and calendar fund-raisers.  Sarah is to give her press contacts to Jill.  2. WILLOW CUTTING.  There is an invitation to the group to harvest green willow from the grounds of Mr McQuitty’s eco-house. This would have to be done before the end of February. The willow branches could be planted as young trees or used for basketwork.  Sarah offered to try and fix a date on which the group would work a set number of hours on the harvest. Transport will be needed.  Sarah also offered to look for a basket-weaving tutor to run a day’s workshop. Jan Henry, Jane Wilkinson and the Falkland Stewardship Centre were mentioned in this context. The cost could be £20 with reductions for the harvesters.  3. WESTFIELD NURSERY – UPDATE.  The path has been cleared and soft fruit bushes and a herb patch planted.  There will be Wassailing at 11:45AM at the site on Wednesday 7th February, postponed from 17th January.  The group will meet at 11:00 AM to work on the vegetable plot.  The council would dig a vegetable bed, if paid for the work.  4. ELMWOOD PLOT.  The path has been moved and the site weeded.  Rob will order new strawberries from James McIntyre & Sons of Blairgowrie. Fifteen each of the *Elsanta* and *Cambridge Favourite* varieties will be purchased at a cost of 85p per plant.  5. COMMUNITY ORCHARD.  The group will meet at 10:00 AM on January 13th. Rab from Buckhaven will be attending, and will bring a photographer.  Norma will rake the path and clear it of dog-poo before the session starts.  The festooned trees are to be left, and the point reached on Saturday communicated to the Sunday workers.  Three plum trees have been ordered by Rob.  A soil acidity test will be needed in the future, prior to possible liming.  Bryan said that the trees would need a feed of potash or equivalent in March. Sarah said that wood-ash could be used.  6. ROTATION OF CHAIR/MINUTE TAKING.  An allocation of tasks was agreed upon.  February: Giles to chair and Jill to take minutes.  March: Jill to chair and Sarah to take minutes.  April: Sarah to chair and Joy to take minutes.  May: Joy to chair and Louise to take minutes.  June: Louise to chair.  7. FINANCIAL UPDATE – including discussion on uses for FAB money.  Norma reported that there was about £650 in the unrestricted FAB fund and also £650 in the restricted one. The latter money can only be spent on fruit growing.  Sarah reported that hypothecation, or ring-fencing, was discussed at the Trustees’ training session. Authority over all funds ultimately lies with the Trustees.  Sarah suggested that FAB should contribute money to Sustainable Cupar for publicity, insurance and similar overheads. This proposal could be added as an SC agenda item.  Joan asked if FAB should fund local good causes such as ‘Caring for Cupar’ and ‘Cupar in Bloom’. It was suggested that FAB adopt and pay for a sustainable fruit bed for ‘Cupar in Bloom’. The patch opposite the victory angel was mentioned.  Joan offered to draft such a proposal to ‘Cupar in Bloom’.  New tree planting beside the Moor Road and at Stratheden was discussed. The latter seems to be a non-starter due to NHS management indifference.  Rob had requested that a scything kit be purchased.  8. AOCB  Bryan asked what was happening about Elmwood’s apple trees at Cupar Muir but the group didn’t know. It was suggested that an attempt be made to get a preservation order placed on these trees. Jim offered to investigate the legal procedure for this.  Louise reported that the St. Andrews Transition University project was holding a Permaculture conference. | **Jill**  **Joy**  **Sarah**  **Sarah**  **Sarah**  **Norma**  **Jim**  **Joan**  **Jim** |
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**Meeting closed at: 21:10hrs**

**Next meeting date: February 14th, 2018**

**Signed: S Davidson ................................................ Date: ....................**

**Group Coordinator**