MEETING OF FRUIT AND BLOSSOM GROUP 8TH APRIL 2015

Present: Bryan Rollo, Andy Collins; Sarah Davidson, Crispen Hayes, Rob, Keith, Jim, Norma Alari, Dawn Ward, Alana Ward.

Apologies: Laura Rigon, Joy

Prior to the meeting the group met at Orchard Walk for some discussion re types of interpretation boards, seating and further tree work.

FAB welcomed two new members, Dawn Ward and her daughter Alana.

ORCHARD WALK - Sarah outlined monies granted ie £1500 for signs; £2000 for seating and £300 for bulbs.

More remedial work is required by Fife Council which will be carried out again this winter. It was suggested to have another site visit with Ian Barbour (Fife Council) and Bob Weston (Amphibian group). Bryan suggested that the lades be cleared as water there is stagnant. Suggestion - a survey be carried out to determine the areas flora and fauna prior to any work.

Boards – much discussion re size/content/cost/ quantity and structure. Sarah to contact Neil Burnett of FACET (Fife Arts and Crafts Employment Trust) re their help in making the boards. Various local woodmills could be the source of wood. It was suggested to form a sub group to look at best examples and have this ready for our next meeting.

Crispen outlined news on the National Inventory of Scotland field verification work on orchards in Scotland. And a ‘memo of understanding’ outlining Sustainable Cupar’s contract will be forwarded when ready. The survey will take place this year. Training will take place in June. Rob has volunteered as the local facilitator.

Monimail – volunteers can assist in their gardens on the last Sunday of every month. Lunch will be provided.

Tomato plants – Bryan will have c200 plants ready soon for again this year for sale. Venues to be decided. Varieties will be Alicante, Gardeners Delight and Money Maker.

Elmwood – Thanks went to Debbie and John who mended the gate, re-fashioned the entrance path, laid out new wooden edging, gathered and laid fresh chippings on the path. The netting will require mending. Straw for the strawberry plants will be obtained by Sarah (June time). We all thoyght there would be some merit in having a community garden – Dawn will contact Fife Council re any land availability in Cupar.

Himalayan Balsam – clearing date for this will be decided soon.

New House around Cupar – we will suggest to the planners fruit trees for all gardens.

Fire Station – as a way of thanking them for the use of their meeting room Sarah to offer the planting of fruit trees within their grounds.

Next meeting AGM 30th April.

Minutes written by Norma.