MINUTES FROM FAB MEETING 12TH November 2014

Present: Keith Harding; Erica Benson; Bryan Rollo; Laura Rigoni; Karen Nicholls; Sarah Davidson and Norma Alari.

Apologies: Nicki Allison; Debbie Payjack and Joy Rice.

FRUIT PRESSING

Unfortunately this event had to be cancelled due to extreme weather, however, three new members were welcomed on the day. Account settled for the hiring of the fruit press – FAB to consider making a fruit press which led on to discussing up-cycling/ re-cycling for garden projects.

BRYAN’S BLOG

As of January 2015 we hope that Bryan’s blog will include practical hints (‘how to’) in his monthly blog.

MAINTENANCE DAY SUNDAY 16TH NOVEMBER

Sarah gave feedback of the Orchard Walk visit with Ian Barbour (Fife Council); Bob Weston (Amphibian Group) and Nicky Allison at the beginning of November 2014.Ian Barbour was made aware of the groups commitment regarding this area along with forthcoming events involving community groups. To this end Fife Council will deliver bark for mulching and they have some seating they are happy to install for the group once we have decided where. Trees requiring cutting back will be further assessed at their next visit in December.

Plans for the day were discussed – clearing litter from the lades; cutting back growth surrounding fruit trees along the paths; creating hibernaculums; thinning out overgrowth of holly at the bridge end. Bob Weston plus others will attend as well as local scouts and their leaders. Himalayan balsam will be tackled next year, which will then be burned on site. Dog fouling – overall this still remains a problem (not as bad!)

YEARLY PLANNING 2015

January 3rd Wasselling at Orchard Walk.

January 14th Invite Crispin Hayes to talk about orchard tree survey. Invite Judy Dowling to talk about her tree work.

January 25th 10.30 – 13.00 Orchard walk maintenance day – mulching, pruning

Feb 15th / Feb 22nd Elmwood plot and finish other pruning at Orchard walk and care homes

March – Possibly arrange a session on grafting fruit trees/ or visit to Gerben de Vries at Auchtermuchty.

April – arrange a day out possibly to Megginch

June – cutting back Himalayan balsam. Bee demonstration with Iain Rollo.

?rrange a visit to Elmwood fruit orchard with Ian Hunter for the harvest time.

Plan a FAB recipe book.

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER Next meeting Jan 14th 7.30pm at the fire station