

## Annual General Meeting of Culag Community Woodland Trust Ltd

Location: Assynt Visitor Centre

Date 25<sup>th</sup> May 2015 7.30pm

### Present:

Directors & Treasurer: Anna Mackay (Chairperson), Jimmy Crooks, Jorine van Delft, Chris Goodman, Mel Chapman, Andy Summers, Gwen Richards (Company Secretary), Ian Mackenzie (Treasurer).

Officer: Fiona Saywell.

Members and Others: Julian Jacobson, Rosemary & Richard Baines, Jane Young, Ken MacLennan, , Morag Mackenzie, Stuart Hill, Greg Allen, Susan & Richard Pease, Chris & Carol Puddephatt.

1. **Apologies:** Charlie Russell, Martin & Fiona Giddey, Gordon & Lesley Sleight, Ken & Lilian Morbin, Helen Steven, Ellen Moxley, Claire Belshaw, Richard Williams.

2. **Minutes of AGM 2014:** Proposed by Ian Mackenzie, seconded by Gwen Richards.

### 3. Matters arising:

**Sponsorship of benches:** Both benches at Little Assynt have been sponsored. Shelters and compost toilets available to sponsor. Also some benches at Culag Wood still available.

4. **Chairperson's report:** Anna presented the Chairperson's report. Taken as read. A copy of the Chairperson's report will be posted on the CCWT website.

Additional points: decline in members due to members not renewing subscriptions. Membership is vital to the Trust. It contributes in a small but significant amount financially and is also important to demonstrate support to potential funders. CCWT is also in the process of registering for the Gift Aid scheme which will increase the amount raised by memberships and donations. Membership income has increased over the last year due to increase in subscription rates, from approx £400 to £800. Donations are approx £1000 per annum. Increase circulation of Little Assynt booklets either by giving out to local B & B's for guests or investigate sales through Ullapool Bookshop and the Ceilidh Place.

5. **Finance report:** Ian handed out copies of the Treasurer's Notes to CCWT Financial Statements for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015. Full copies of the financial statements were available at the meeting and will be posted on the CCWT website.

CCWT funds have decreased from £16,686 in 2014 to £11,382 this year. This was despite modest increases in Rental Income, Subscriptions and Game Sales and significant savings in Insurances and Project Officer's Salaries. There is still a fairly healthy balance but the challenge is still to maintain cash funds.

Accounts proposed by Stuart Hill, seconded by Anna Mackay.

Thanks to Rosemary Baines for keeping the petty cash records.

6. **Appointment of Accountants:** CCWT have used Frame Kennedy for the past 15 years. IM would like to use someone locally. All present agreed that this matter to be decided at a future Directors meeting.

7. **Project Officers' Reports:** Taken as read and handed out at the meeting.

8. **Election of Directors:** Charlie Russell is the director retiring by rotation, but eligible for re-election, Charlie was proposed by Jimmy Crooks, seconded by Ian Mackenzie. Charlie was duly re-elected. There is also one other vacancy on the Board. No one has come forward for election. An invitation was made to anyone who maybe interested in becoming a Director to come along to any subsequent Directors meetings or contact the CCWT office.

### 9. Any Other Business:

**Culag Woods Warden:** Thank you to Ken Fairchild for his continuing work at Culag Wood.

**Little Assynt:** Thank you to Rosemary Baines & Anna Mackay for looking after the compost toilets.

**Woodmiser:** Ken MacLennan has a friend who is an expert on sawmills and would be willing to look at the woodmiser to see if it can be fixed. All agreed to this. Richard Pease has knowledge of woodmisers and will come to the CCWT office to discuss where information and parts can be found.

**Tree Safety risk assessments:** Richard Pease can carry these out and other risk assessments. To contact the CCWT office when convenient to arrange to do these.

**Storytelling:** Greg Allen (award winning storyteller) is available for events as a volunteer.

**Gruffalo events:** The HC Ranger Service are unable to run these events this year as no answer was received from the author regarding permission to retell the story. Suggested that CCWT could run the Gruffalo event with the Ranger service. Funding for this and other events maybe available from Creative Scotland.

**Meeting closed at 8.15pm**