

Lochalsh Woodland Park

STEERING GROUP

Minutes of meeting held at Rag, Tag & Textile, Balmacara Square on
Weds. 28th January 2009.

Present at the meeting: Fiona MacEwan, Iain Turnbull, Tim Sowood,
Elaine Hunter, Frank Burstow, Bruce Taylor, June Sanderson (Active
Schools Co-ordinator)

No apologies

We welcomed June to the meeting.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and amendments made. (Updated
version emailed to Fiona - Tim to upload to web.)

Matters arising

Tim has been busy on the website - please take a moment to check this
out.

Orienteering

Tim has been liaising with June and has compiled a list of those
interested in attending the next training event scheduled for the 28th
February. Elaine to confirm numbers and send out info as before.

June and Tim are keen for us to become involved in a major 'O' event in
2010. An area of land (NTS) in Plockton to be mapped by Oleg Chepelin.
This would tie in with the mapped area surrounding Plockton High School.
The train into Plockton would provide public transport route.

Awards for All funding to be utilised by April 17th - to this end Tim has
prepared a spreadsheet detailing our expenses so far: equipment/
materials/manpower and what we have left to spend.

Fiona to check if the printer (hardware) is an allowable expense - we
stated on AfA form that we would be purchasing software.

Tim has produced a reduced map of the area that Jon M will map for
orienteering n/west of Balmacara towards Plockton on the Erbusaig side.

We will need consent from SNH for controls as this is a triple SI area.

Tim to investigate prices of tents (similar to one we've borrowed from
Farquhar MacRae several times) It would be useful for us to have our own

for future events.

Chainsaw course

Fiona proposed that we run a chainsaw course (costing approx. £300 per person) in LWP. This would be beneficial in more ways than one, as it would enable us to clear and stockpile some of the logs lying on the site. Fiona and Elaine to try to source some funding.

Larch trees

Stuart Findlay FCS planted around 100 larch trees on site, around the middle of January. C/tee agreed we would have welcome consultation regarding where the trees were to be planted beforehand.

AOCB

Land agent FCS - C/tee feel that lack of compensation for any improvements we might make in LWP, under the terms of the Concordat, might affect our chances when applying for funding in future. Fiona is still in correspondence with Bruce Law

Bruce brought up the issue of individuals removing wood and other resources from LWP. There was speculation as to whether or not some of the wild mushroom crop had been harvested for commercial sale. Vehicles have been driven round the upper gate and this has meant that fencing has had to be erected which extends out from the gate; to ensure that vehicles cannot drive round. Path in that section is now very boggy as a result of being churned up by heavy wheels.

Barbara Soutar NTS is going to be conducting a moth count overnight on 29th/30th May.

**Next meeting is to be held on 24th February 2009 at 7:30pm
RAG, TAG & TEXTILE, BALMACARA.**