



Registered Scottish Charity No. SC033394

## Minutes of Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018 in Cammo Lodge at 19.30

**Present:** Simon Gillam (Secretary), Lynn Whitehead (Treasurer), Shay Dean (Membership Secretary), David Adamson, Sarah Adamson, Karen Edwards, Lyn Campbell, Sheena McRobie, Grahame Whitehead, Euan Drysdale, Elizabeth Drysdale, Carol Turnbull, Stuart Leckie, Douglas Seale, Cath Gillies, David Wright, Bron Wright.

**Apologies:** Nick Bengé (Chair), David Kyles (Forestry & Natural Heritage Service), Annie Bengé, Michael Roe, Esther Davidson, Callum Towns. In the absence of Nick, Simon chaired the meeting.

Lynn offered refreshments to all.

Minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and the non-AGM part of the meeting held on 7 March 2018 were approved. Since the AGM Marcel Crolla had resigned from the committee and Annie Bengé had been coopted.

1. **Membership Secretary's Update:** Shay reported that membership is 157 households, of whom 32 have not yet paid annual subscriptions. We have 29 new members of whom 5 rejoined after a lapse. 128 have provided Data Protection consents and 93 Gift Aid.

2. **Treasurer's Update:** Lynn reported that the balance is £3700 in general funds; all grant money has now been spent. Subscriptions have been coming in at a good rate and we have received £600 in donations. About 70% of subscriptions and donations are gift aided and we will claim this later in the year. We will have £480 to pay for insurance and we need funds to cover the BBQ. Overall finances are satisfactory and we are able to fund some small projects without having to seek grants first.

3. **Environmental Project Manager's Update:** Nick had provided a written report:

- a. The young trees we have planted continue to thrive, as do the areas of wildflower.
- b. There have been several instances of young people having fires in the park, during one of which they set fire to one of the big limes in front of the old house. Various people including Lynn and Nick have cleared away the litter. Nick has cleared the canal of litter and logs several times recently.
- c. On 18<sup>th</sup> February green mesh was put onto the trees planted last year, to try to prevent deer damage.
- d. On 22<sup>nd</sup> April we extended the planting in front of the fence of the new house on Cammo Home Farm site. This also helped deter people from passing near the old oak tree.
- e. Nick proposes that our next major project should be planting of wildflower plugs in the fields this winter. He had earlier estimated that covering an entire field would require 2000 plugs, costing £1 per plug, so he will look into possible grant aid.

Sheena commented that grass cutting had been carried out last week and that this was a huge improvement.

Lynn reported that the police encourage the reporting of any fires to the non-emergency 101 number.

4. **Forestry & Natural Heritage Service Report:** David Kyles had intended to provide us with a copy of his draft report to the Cammo Estate Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for 11 June, but this had not been received. Simon reported that the Council had issued an update on the Heritage Lottery Fund project for Cammo, which indicated that this is now likely to be taken forward as a number of smaller projects; it was hoped that more detail would be available at the CEAC meeting.

**5. Any Other Business:**

- a. Simon reported that Friends of Cammo will be submitting comments on the Cammo Fields housing development, limited to the impact on Cammo Estate. The comments will be similar to those submitted before, covering traffic and potential rat-running, increased visits putting pressure on infrastructure, impacts on views to/from Cammo Estate and impacts on wildlife habitats. We will support the proposed park in the Bughtlin Burn flood plain. No other potential comments were suggested by the meeting.
- b. Simon reported that there had been a planning application to build townhouses at 34 Cammo Road, over the road from the NE corner of the Estate. The committee had decided that this was outside our remit as it would have little impact on the Estate.
- c. Lyn noted the continuing problem of some dogs with professional dog walkers being out of control.
- d. Stuart asked whether Friends of Cammo are involved in issues of aircraft noise and changes to flight paths. Simon replied that these are best taken up with Cramond Association.

**6. Illustrated talk:** David and Bron Wright, who had led attempts to introduce bees to Cammo, had been invited to give an illustrated talk on bees and beekeeping. David spoke to 20 informative slides and showed a demonstration hive, Bron provided more information and both answered questions. They were thanked for the talk.

**Simon Gillam  
Secretary  
Friends of Cammo**