

BAILIES OF BENNACHIE BOARD MEETING

Date 27th January 2020

Attendees: Jackie Cumberbirch (JC) (chair, Fiona Cormack (FC), Brian Cornock (BC), Margaret Garden (MG), Angela Groat (AG), Harry Leil (HL), William Linklater (WL) Dave Peter (DP), Rosemary Sievewright (RS), Donna Taylor (DT) and Andrew Wainwright (AW)

Apologises: AB and ST

Item	Comment	Action	Responsible/ target date
1 Welcome	JC welcomed all present to the meeting at the GHC.		
2 Previous minutes	BC suggested two amendments, which have been made.		R\$
	Letters have been written to Redmayne Bentley and McInroy & Wood, to inform them, that meantime the Bailies are not planning investments.		
	All present were reminded that JC wants updated job descriptions.		All
3 Treasurers Report BC	A full report was circulated to Board prior to the meeting. ST suggested a slight amendment to a pie chart.	Amendment made.	BC
	The XL file is ready for OSCR, if approved by the Board and the independent examiner.		
	The fund allocation for last year was included for interest. Does the board want a similar system going forward? Amounts outstanding are £1,500 for IR, for the write up of the Bede house dig and £500 for Alex Thomson, for the film of Bennachie.		
4 Membership Report DT	Short report due to computer issues.		
	21 Gift memberships were bought as Christmas presents, plus another 2 gift memberships and 4 ordinary memberships.		
	A donation has been received to fund the planting of a tree.		
5 Outreach Officer Report FC	Events for 2020.		
	Jan/ Feb, Volunteer hill wardens, to be trained.		
	19 th March AGM at the Acorn Centre, with Gordon Noble as guest speaker. Refreshments at the end of the meeting.		
	25 th April "Bennachie at the Garioch Centre" (people, pictures and the past). 4 speakers, 30 mins each. Proceeds to go to the Garioch Centre.		
	24 th /25 th April. Photo competition, for pictures which may be included in a calendar (2022), possibly run at BVC as well.		

	May TBA, A Friday evening at Monymusk Hall, for a social evening including the premier of the film by Alex Thomson.	Book the hall and book the film maker.	FC and JC
	Tree Walks with JC, 14th May, 4 th June and 11 th June (limit 15 people)		
	Bennachie 6 tops and tales with JC.		
	July 19 th Kailyard talk with Chris Foster.		
	August. Wildlife treasure hunt with JM. August. Pittodrie dig with public open days.		
	September. BLG Exhibition including a walk to the Colony houses or the Bede house dig site.		
	October. Cultural event, as part of "Across the Grain" with Grace Banks		
	Gordon Noble hopes to get a grant from the Glens of Foudland wind farm, for a second dig on Mither Tap, in conjunction with the Bailies. The work funded, will include carbon dating of the findings and community projects.		
6 Work Party Report WL	FLS reps and Work party reps, met to decide suitable projects for the coming year. Other than 3 known projects, no other ideas were forthcoming from FLS.		
	JC suggested tree planting on Scare hill and working with Mike Tate on the colony area, in the spring.		
	Hill Wardens. 22 people have volunteered to be hill wardens. Planning and training for them should be a priority.	A combined FE and Bailie training day is planned.	
	JC will supply a large map, so areas of responsibility can be marked.		JC
	MG brought the state of a small path between the Colonies and the Turnpike, to the meetings attention, but she thought it might be too much for work parties.	JC will investigate.	JC
7 Publications Update AB ST	Calendars have sold out. Book 4 in Landscape series is going well. Annual Report. The board agreed to print 120 copies this time. Address labels needed for sending out copies.	DT will compile a list. AG will produce sticky labels.	
8 Chair Report JC	JC met Colin Shepherd, to discuss his apprehensions about continuing his archaeological work with the Bailies. He made it clear that Archaeologists MUST be able to publish their work, because an excavation, in essence disturbs the site. An E-Book may also be possible.	The Board are committed to publish the archaeological findings from BLG digs.	
	He also informed JC, that Jo Vergunst referenced his work with the Bailies widely, in his professional circle.		
	ST plans to step down from the trustees at the AGM, she will still help but cannot commit to attend board meetings.	Urgent need for new trustees	
	Communication still needs to be improved between groups.		

9 Archive Update AW	The new scanner has arrived and is set up. Functions are being explored. When skills have been acquired, training others can begin, then volunteers will be required to help scanning relevant material.		
10 Wild life group MG	A public meeting was held on 11 th January, which attracted 43 people. There was a talk on geese and swans by Ian Frances from RSPB then leaders of the Mammals, Plants and Birds groups gave updates.		
	The people were then given the opportunity to sign up to a group, if they were Bailie members. No numbers yet given.		
	Since then 3 events have been emailed. A) Small mammal training day. B) Water vole training day. C) Tracking training day.		
	Volunteers are needed to survey areas for water vole activity and also to look out for mink.		
	As there is an obvious public interest in the group, JC wants to meet JM, to discuss the overall plan for the future and to get locations of the wild life cameras, used by the group.		
	Ongoing updates for the website would also be appreciated.		
11 BLG AG	The group are waiting for C14 dating info from Drumminor and the Bede house sites. Next meeting is 24 th January. AG will try to get some info that can go onto the website.		
12 Website Update WL	Up till about 2 weeks ago, progress was being made, then an unannounced system upgrade, has again caused frustration for users. WL wants to contact GW about these difficulties.	JC has authorised WL to contact GW.	
	DT also wants the online shop to be upgraded. This would be a days work for GW, so would need to be paid for.	JC agreed.	
	Next meeting 9 th March.		
