



Cambusbarron Community Development Trust  
8.00pm 31.08.21 AGM  
Community Centre  
Minutes

Present	Richard Norman, Jennifer Fraser, Ann Finlayson, Jane Bain, Emma King, Russell Gill, Dougie Todd, Alan, Lesley Campbell, Crawford Logan, Eddy Bryan, ??? , Stewart Lennon, Angus MacGregor, Mike Graham, Amos Higgins, Graham Brown, Michael Buhagair, Max Hislop Beth Campbell, William Davidson, Sandra Eady, Penny Goddard, Pam Gregory, Samantha Grieve, Eileen Gunn, Diana Hand, Victoria Hendry, Max Hislop, Joanne Jones, Deborah Martel, Steven McKenzie, Amy Micallef, Andrew Morris, Anne Murray, Susan Ross, Nichola Walker, Marie-Anne Yare 37	
Apologies:	Melissa Nelson, Roddy Ross, Janet Graham, Laurie McGowan,	
<b>Discussion Point</b>		<b>Action by</b>
Welcome	Richard welcomed everyone to the AGM	Richard
Chairs report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See attached</li> </ul>	Richard
Treasurers report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See attached</li> </ul>	Richard
Membership report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 342 total as of this morning 278 Full,46 associate,18 junior members a lot more members this evening.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	Emma
Welcome Packs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on welcome pack</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	Lesley
Education Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various different subgroups held back by pandemic</li> <li>• Group consists of a mixture of talents teachers parents' educators</li> <li>• Summer family nature sessions very successful three generation attending.</li> <li>• Anyone interested in helping with planning would be welcome</li> <li>• Update from Jane on the Village Nursery, Community Centre no longer fit for purpose now spend a lot of time up in the woods. Plan is to build a nursery in the woodland. They have employed an architect and taking advice from him</li> </ul>	Jennifer and Jane
Polmaise Castle Grounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A lot of work restoring and improving the gardens.</li> </ul>	Dougie



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank you to Matthew and Aldo for there help.</li> <li>• Event next Saturday volunteers to clear another path.</li> <li>• More historic walks will happen</li> </ul>	
Gillies Hill Community Woodland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group supports Amos,</li> <li>• Develops the woodland for everyone</li> <li>• Environmental enhancements</li> <li>• Amos Natural History Group anyone interested contact Amos or the CCDT.</li> <li>• Thank you to Amos for the massive contribution you have made to the woodland</li> <li>• Spring Survey wood fuel supply by removing windfall or dangerous trees anyone interested in leading this project please let us know</li> </ul>	Jennifer  Amos
Memorial Benches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anyone looking for a memorial bench get in touch with Aldo or <a href="mailto:woodland@ccdt.org.uk">woodland@ccdt.org.uk</a> Aldo has constructed 4 so far.</li> </ul>	Alan Hunter
Paths and signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main thing is creating a map with help from Douglas Campbell.</li> <li>• Survey asked about the all ability path</li> <li>• People would like to see a mix of paths</li> <li>• Next stage look at the routes</li> <li>• Funding successful to put in drain at the bottom of the hill</li> <li>• Anyone interested in joining a group to regularly clear the paths and drainage contact Russell or the <a href="mailto:woodland@ccdt.org.uk">woodland@ccdt.org.uk</a> mailbox</li> </ul>	Russell
Walled Garden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursery has been using the garden as a growing space must be good soil the courgettes are huge as are the pumpkins.</li> <li>• Composting toilet has been installed.</li> <li>• We have put out a survey to get opinions on what villagers would like to see in the garden unfortunately we only got around 200 people responding</li> <li>• Nursery have started planting the orchard and we have fruit trees of the same type as were grown in 1850's these have not yet been planted as we were waiting on the felling licence to remove the trees around the wall and within the garden.</li> <li>• We have had an architect out to survey the wall hopefully once we get his report, we will be able to apply for funding to restore the wall.</li> <li>• We have now got water in the garden.</li> <li>• We have applied for planning permission and hopefully will get the result of that soon to install a further container and parking for three cars.</li> </ul>	Ann



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Board membership seeking re appointment	Richard Norman Emma King Happy to withdraw to avoid an election Ann Finlayson Lesley Campbell happy to step down to avoid an election Alan Hunter Jennifer Fraser Russell Gill Douglas Todd Jane Bain	
Nominations or notes of interest from the floor and election if required	Jim O'Connor nominated by Jennifer Fraser Ross Johnston Graham Brown Steven McKenzie Gillian Ross  Election not required	
AGM Closed 21.13		
Trustee's please stay behind for a short meeting regarding next Board meeting date		

- **Questions, comments and suggestions after AGM closed**
  - When will trees be removed along residential boundary
    - Letter went out due to project going ahead this week
    - Residential Boundary felling need planned felling licence is needed which takes time no felling done between March and September.  
Some will be done by Amos some will be done by contractors
    - Concerns over security from some residents
    - Now at a point we could fell but too many mixed voices some people desperate for them coming down
    - Don't spray weedkiller
    - How are we going to communicate with everyone the residential boundary some people don't use e-mail.
    - Felling is not just to make money
    - Restocking proposal mixed broadleaf, hazel, rowan, wild cherry and willow these don't grow big 1300 per Ha
  - Access path in deeds that we had to allow the path to be built to enable Patersons to open the quarry
  - Proposed First Aid training
  - Where will the Nursery building be sited?
  - Memorial for Peter Paterson
  - Can we have a fairy tree? Find a tree and discuss with Amos.



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### **Annual Report for the AGM 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021**

Our last AGM was in October last year and also by zoom. We are hoping that at least the audio of this meeting is going out by zoom but we are happy to also give people the chance to meet in person even though there are still restrictions in place.

The 18 months of COVID restrictions have hit us hard with great difficulty keeping up volunteer activity on the hill and in the community going over this time. We have started back now and hope that we can maintain physical activity without putting people at risk; but I fear we will be facing restrictions for some time to come.

We have had a strong board of 10 trustees this past year and as we come to the AGM we look for trustees to review their commitments. Melissa Nelson has decided to step down as a trustee. Melissa has recently taken on the role of chair of Save Gillies Hill and this is a big commitment to the community. I am certain that we can continue to rely on Melissa as a volunteer and particularly to help out with our welcome pack project (more from Lesley later). As you may be aware I have been carrying out a dual role of chair and treasurer for the past number of years (I can't even count how many!). I announced at the last trustee meeting that I will be standing down as chair this year and it will be up to the new board of trustees to select a new chair from our number. I do plan on standing again as a trustee and if selected I am happy to carry on as treasurer at this stage.

We are hopeful that there are a number of individuals nominated tonight who will join us as trustees. We are only permitted 12 trustees by our constitution. Our trust relies on non-trustees as much as the appointed board members so I hope that even if not appointed as a trustee you will all be considering joining us in some aspect of our work.

I would draw your attention to our Strategic Woodland Plan which was agreed last year and hope that you have all had your say in the consultation on the woodland management plan which we are currently developing. The woodland is only one aspect of the work of the trust, but it is the biggest and most significant at the moment. Please get involved because we need to ensure that this is developed to take into account as many views as possible. It must be remembered that when we decide how we are going to manage the woodland our decisions may not be what you individually agree with. The decisions of the board in this matter will be agreed and in line with the objectives of the CCDT and in line with the will of the community as expressed during our consultation. I would ask you to respect, if not always agree with, the trusts management decisions in this matter.

We continue to operate the community access defibrillator at the front of the centre and if anyone is interested in getting involved in helping to organise publicity or training for this then please let us know because this is something I would like to improve. We are participating in doors open day this year and Emma is coordinating this. This is another piece of activity to help publicise the woodland and the other projects we have.

I am going to leave the rest of the review to the individual trustees to talk about as these are areas which they have all led on, and this will give you a break from my voice. Thank you for attending tonight.

Richard Norman –Chair of CCDT August 2021



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**Financial Report for the AGM 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021**

Our funds available today stands at £20,810.74

On the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 the bank balance was £26,519.76

This is made up of the following funds (as of the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021):

CCDT (unrestricted funds)	£1207.66
Business Support Grant from cambusbarron Community Fund (CCF01)	£9019.07
Scottish Land Fund grant (SLF03)	£15290.36
Community Pride fund for Welcome packs (CPF06)	£231.00
Popular Institute grant towards community defibrillator (PI01)	£492.86
Clackmannanshire and Stirling Environment Trust fund (CSET01)	-£229.13
Community Pride Fund for garden restoration (CPF10)	£507.94
<b>Total</b>	<b>£26,519.76</b>

Our annual accounts for 2019/20 are audited and available on the web site.

Our annual accounts for 2020/21 have not yet been prepared and will be ready by the end of the year as per our statutory commitments. They will be made available on our web site and presented to the charity regulator (OSCR) before the due date of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021. We currently use the Community Accountancy Scotland (CAS) and our auditor is Anne Knox. CAS is a community Interest Company set up by Scottish Voluntary Enterprise (SVE) in Stirling.

Our unrestricted funds give us enough money to support the overheads from woodland management and our continued membership of two national organisations (Development Trusts Association Scotland (DTAS) and the Community Woodlands Association (CWA)). Funds generated from the memorial benches project assists with keeping our unrestricted fund buoyant as well as individual generous donations from time to time.

The business support grant from the **Cambusbarron Community Fund (CCF01)** is in place and promises us £10,000 per year for 3 years. This is to be spent in line with our business plan. We will be able to draw down an additional £10,000 once this is spent. This funding must not be spent on wages.

The grant from the **Scottish Land Fund (SLF03)** which we use to employ Amos, our community forester, is slowly running down and will be spent out in the summer of 2022. We need to look for alternative funding if we wish to continue to employ a Forest manager. We have spent this money on wages as well as training, equipment and consumables for his work to date.

**Community Pride Fund (CPF06) and (CPF10).** We have residual money left in CPF06 to support the Welcome Packs project and we are looking to use this to further support the project. CPF10 is a fund to support other work in Gillies Hill woodland with some money for overheads and tools.

**Popular Institute (PI01).** We remain with a residual amount of £493 to be spent on the community access defibrillator project.



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**Clackmannanshire and Stirling Environment Trust fund (CSET01).** This fund shows in deficit because it is only claimed back once we have spent it. The total on the grant stands at £7,200 and is restricted to funding specific woodland work mainly around the walled garden.

We have been very successful in obtaining grants over this past year. We now need to finalise our plans for activity and match them with the money available so that the money can be effectively spent.

Richard Norman – Treasurer of the CCDT August 2021