

## FRIENDS OF LENZIE MOSS

### Minutes of the AGM

Held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Present:	Paul Dudman	Anne Martin
Linda Baillie	Jackie Gillespie	Christine Morrison
Kate Brown	Anna Illingworth	Sheilah Shaw
Joan Christie	John Jackson	
Ian Christie	Katherine Kelsey	

#### 1. Apologies

Cllr Gillian Renwick, Cllr Sandra Thornton, Alma Griffin

#### 2. Minutes of the AGM held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018

The minutes of the previous AGM were approved as an accurate record. Proposed by Joan Christie and seconded by Ian Christie.

#### 3. Chairperson's report

The Chairperson, Paul Dudman, gave a summary of activities in the previous year, and a copy of the full report will be made available on the FOLM website, [www.friendsoflenziemoss.org.uk](http://www.friendsoflenziemoss.org.uk). The following highlights were noted:

- Events
  - Evening birdsong walk in May
  - Primary 4s to 7s Scavenger Hunt which was planned for August, had to be cancelled, but this is still a possible future event.
  - Lenzie Moss Wildlife and History in September, which was delayed by bad weather until better conditions in December.
  - Fungus Amungus fungi walk in September
  - Build a Harry Potter Birch Broom" in October
  - Various working events including wild flower planting in October at the Heather drive side, Lenzie Moss Conservation Volunteers doing path work in December and a clean-up day in March.
- Maintenance
  - Path improvements in the flooded areas of path.
  - The boardwalk is giving increasing cause for concern with side planks rotting and holes in the main surface. Repairs are carried out by the Ranger Service when required, but the boardwalk is near the end of its useful life. We have asked the council for details of their plans for the boardwalk, and we will offer support if required in terms of publicity and helping with fund raising.
  - Damage to one of the noticeboards involved racist graffiti, which was quickly cleaned up and the perpetrator convicted.
  - At least two fires set in the dry spell in May, with the fire service attending one of these.
  - A new notice board will be funded from the Lenzie station upgrade to replace the older board at the station car park. The noticeboard at Hawthorne Avenue will be removed and reused by Lenzie Community Development Trust.
- Consultations
  - A people counter has been installed at Hawthorn Avenue and data will be passed to us. Currently there are 6000 people passing in one month.
  - The proposed path from the circular path to the back of Lenzie Meadow school, and the proposed cycle path from Lenzie to Westerhill were mentioned last year and are both on hold. Our position continues to be that any path changes should avoid impact on current users, and not move towards wide, straightened out, tarmac paths.
  - The peat stacks artworks are generating questions and discussion and visitors are reminded about the impact humans have had on the landscape of the Moss, but in general our position

is that we should limit the impact on the Moss from further signs and installations in the open area.

- The next round of the local development plan is underway. Last time we faced proposals for development at Crosshill Road (south Lenzie Moss), Boghead Road (west of the boardwalk), the rugby club, and Blackthorn Avenue. We will update members as we find out what is proposed this time.
- **Getting our message across**
  - Friends of Lenzie Moss is often consulted on any issue that affects the Moss, including paths, signage, art works, changes to the station etc. It is a requirement of the management plan that the group exists and we are able to apply for many grants which cannot be awarded direct to the council. Whilst we have 500 followers on Facebook and a post will be shared to reach anything up to 5000 people, this digital support does not equate to members, or into support for work days, where numbers are consistently low. This is clearly a challenge for the future of our group.
  - Christine has produced a very informative leaflet, "*Who are we?*", which we intend to share with organisations and influencers who may not realise the work and usefulness of our group.
- **Committee members**
  - It is with sadness that we note the loss of David Lee, who passed away from cancer last December. David had been on the committee since 2014, and he kept the noticeboards up to date and walked the Moss most days. He was also a keen fan of the railways and there is a plan to place a new bench near the old peat workings with a view onto the railway.
  - The committee will also lose the services of Kate Brown, who has been a committee member for over twenty years, usually as secretary. We thank Kate for her work and look forward to her ongoing support as a member.
  - Joan Christie is giving up her post of membership secretary but will remain as a committee member. Joan has also been doing this role for twenty years, keeping control of the membership list, subscriptions due and updating contact details. We thank Joan for her work and look forward to her continued support on the committee.
  - We have Katherine Kelsey helping now with the noticeboards, and thanks to her for her ideas and ongoing support.
  - We were also sad to hear of the recent death of our member Molly Fisher, wife of the former Chairman of FOLM, Joe Fisher. After Joe's death in 2010, Molly continued to maintain a keen interest in all to do with the Moss.
- The Chairman gave particular thanks to Jackie Gillespie and to the Countryside Ranger Service for their continued support, and to the committee, volunteers and members for their work.

#### 4. Treasurer's report and approval of the accounts

The Treasurer, Christine Morrison, reported on the FOLM's accounts. Membership subs were £329, donations down to £16. Income was £845, including a CVS Action Earth grant for wildflowers. Expenditure was £866, leaving a deficit of £21. There is still over £1000 in the bank. The cost of printing has increased, due to a change in printer, and we have had new information leaflets printed. Subscriptions can now be paid directly into the FOLM bank account.

The accounts were approved, proposed by Kate Brown and seconded by Katherine Kelsey.

#### 5. Election of committee and office bearers

The following are now the current office-bearers. New committee members are always welcome and this should not be an onerous burden, with only around 4 meetings per year.

Office	Name
Chairperson	Christine Morrison
Treasurer and membership secretary	Paul Dudman
Secretary	To be rotated
Member	Ian Christie
Member	Joan Christie
Member	Katherine Kelsey

## **6. EDC and Ranger's Report Rangers' Report for period April 2018 to March 2019**

The Rangers record of work for Lenzie Moss has around thirty entries for this year, including 4 events, 3 conservation volunteer maintenance days, 8 scheduled maintenance days including 7 repairs to the boardwalk and 4 clean-up days.

For the conservation volunteers, work was mainly been related to path improvements, with some work also on the boardwalk. One day was dedicated to staff from Morgan Stanley. The March litter picking this year was well attended (over 40), and work was carried out mainly on the south side of the railway, not part of the LNR, but where a large amount of litter had accumulated from the youths that regularly visit there instead of their previous location near the old peat works. Over 40 bags of rubbish were removed.

The wildflower planting in October was the third time we have attempted to populate the area near Heather Drive with flowers, and we hope that these flowers do well, as the second batch did appear to produce a good number of flowers last year. We had over 40 volunteers helping that day, many from the local scouts and beavers.

Other events and participants were:

Evening birdsong (May): only 1 registered.

Marvellous Minibeasts of Lenzie (July): 45

Fungus Amungus (Sept): 11

Harry Potter: over 60, still our most popular event

The evening birdsong walk in May had to be cancelled due to the low number. This is a change to previous years when most events have been fully booked. Again this May (2019), the dawn birdsong event had to be cancelled. It seems events that involve children during the day bring in most participants.

## **7. Any other business**

There being no further business, the AGM was closed.

**Open meeting: Moths in a Bearsden Garden**

Guest speaker: Richard Sutcliffe