

OPERATIONS AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES
MINUTE OF MEETING

Location: Kincorth Academy

Meeting Date: 21st May 2018

Subject: Kincorth Hill LNR Management Committee

Present: Michele McPartlin

Also Present: Ian Talboys (ACC Countryside Officer),

Apologies: Isabel Watson, Moira Hay Cllr Sellar,

No	Item	Action by
2	Minutes of last meeting: agreed	
3	Matters arising: IT had checked to see which webpage the QR codes on the circular path waymarkers were linked to. At present it goes to a page that is no longer available. IT has raised this with Gordon McLean (Environmental Planner) who organised the codes and he is looking to get it re-directed to the Ranger Service page.	
4	<p>Works Carried Out/ Rangers Report</p> <p>There has been a reliable red squirrel sighting on Kincorth Hill. More gorse cutting has been undertaken with volunteers over the winter months though some of the public sessions were cancelled due to weather conditions.</p> <p>The mid-week volunteer group and some other groups have cut back path side vegetation where it was starting to encroach. Tree tubes have been removed from some of the young trees where the trees are big enough not to need deer or rabbit protection.</p> <p>There have been more problems with padlocks being damaged or removed. These are replaced as soon as possible after they are found.</p> <p>The fire talks and walks programme is being delivered to the P6 & P7 classes in Cove, Kincorth and Torry as before with the Fire Service.</p> <p>There have been some public events on Kincorth Hill:- Campfire Crafts, Hilltop Treasure Trail, Signs of Spring Treasure Trail.</p>	
5	<p>Wilful Fire Raising Issues</p> <p>The programme of talks and walks for P6 & P7 classes around the area was being undertaken by the Rangers and Firefighters with most of the schools still keen to be involved.</p>	
6	<p>Future Work Programme</p> <p>Events Leaflet: IT handed out the summer events leaflet to the Committee and reminded the group that it was also available on the Council website. If anyone had any suggestions for events to let IT know.</p> <p>Path Works: Following meetings with Mr & Mrs Hay of</p>	

	<p>Parkhead Farm, it had been agreed to move the section of core path 79 that was now found to be on their land so that they could but their boundary fence in the correct place and be able to graze that area of their farm. Funding had been applied for from the Bus Lane Enforcement funds and money had been awarded but with no timescale yet as to when it would be released to spend. This money was being matched with some developer contributions that were allocated to for core path improvements</p> <p>Gorse Management: The ongoing gorse cutting will be continuing with volunteers doing most of the work next autumn and winter. Path side vegetation will be trimmed back as necessary over the summer.</p> <p>Non-Native Invasive Species: IT outlined the work still being undertaken to control Japanese knotweed and giant hogweed across the City and on Kincorth Hill in particular. These species will be sprayed by the Rangers on Kincorth Hill along with the Himalayan balsam near the path between Nigg Way and the pond.</p> <p>Deer Plan: Work on implementing this plan is underway. All land managers with wild deer on their land have a duty to manage deer at a sustainable level. IT had been surveying areas to assess the roe deer impact on Kincorth Hill and other areas of the City.</p>	
8	<p>AOCB MP suggested contacting Lochside Academy once it was open to see if any staff or students would be interested in joining the committee.</p>	
9	<p>Next meeting Monday 13 August 7pm meeting at Abbotswells Ave and Monday 12 November 2018, 7:30pm at Loirston School Loirston Ave, Cove Bay, Aberdeen AB12 3HE</p>	