

WELRA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
ECAN LINCOLN
28th October 2014: 10.30 a.m.

Present:

James Kilgour (DOC). Nick Ledgard (Consultant), Chris Stewart (DOC), Jenny Ladley (University of Canterbury) , Ray Goldring (Chair), Maree Goldring (Secretary), David Hewson (OPUS).

Apologies: Jocelyn Muller (ECan), Marion Boyd, (Bealey Spur)
David/Nick

Minutes of Previous AGM: Confirmation of the previous Annual General Meeting Minutes being a true and correct record. Nick/Jenny

Matters Arising:

- Beech – will be ready next year for planting (Nick)
- Future Funding – Jean Tompkins to take over from Donna while she is on Maternity leave.
- Monitoring Programme – 2 days, ap working very well and user friendly. (Nick). Some information sent to members would be useful as to what output looks like. Nick to follow up with Thomas. Nick to present travel costs.
- Mapping – sorted this year – easier.
- Grasshopper Broad Stream – David started on the report.

Finance:

WERC

Account balance is \$13,894.69

\$8,275.20 WERC income from wasp control from ECan Biodiversity Fund

WELRA

Account balance is \$ \$36,210.06

Bank account leftovers

- \$3,279.04 earmarked in WELRA bank account for future cave stream work
- \$5,000.00 2013 payment by flock hill
- \$5,691.03 remains from Broad Stream project back in 2010

Account transactions since last meeting:

- IRD – GST return we owe \$3,073.09 1 April 2014 – 30 September 2014 period
- 20 October Kiwi Bank Audit confirmation fee \$30.00 annually
- 8 October 2014 Crowhen White and Associates (Accountants fee) \$862.50

- 11 September 2014 (Broad Stream work 2014/15 and 2015/16 control seasons) Direct Credit by ECan \$14,375.00

\$22,521.61 spent from total fund \$25,800.65 for operative work spent as follows:

- 25 August 2014 Land Care Services \$5,596.35
- 12 August 2014 Land Care Services \$2,625.36
- 31 July 2014 Land Care Services \$4123.36
- 22 July 2014 Land Care Service \$4045.84
- 14 July 2014 Land Care Services \$6130.70

\$3,279.04 earmarked in WELRA bank account for future cave stream work

Donna is now on maternity leave; however she has left a clear outline for Jean-Marie Tompkins to take over from ECan's Biodiversity team as follows:

- ♣ Awaiting outcome of the lotteries application (outcome due Nov/December 2014)
- ♣ Re-try for the Air NZ funding Feb of a value of \$50k as 2014 application was declined due to Air NZ fund reviewing existing applications received in 2013 applications. (Note this application will actually be dependent on the successful outcome of the LGB application to match funding).
- ♣ As per David's suggestion I have asked Jean to make an application on behalf of WELRA to the Southern Trust, applications are open all the time. This will be for \$20,000.00 for Broad Stream. Ray/Maree

A vote of thanks was recorded to Jocelyn for her excellent efforts in working with the finances for WELRA. Nick/David

Ray to follow up with Jocelyn to get further breakdown and confirm auditor.

- ♣ Community Trust and Lotteries Grant applications in.
- ♣ DOC Community Partnership fund of \$309,000 for next 3 years.
- ♣ ECan - \$10,000 to University to clear Cass River hillside, \$3,000 still to be spent (managed by DOC, Landcare Services).
- ♣ Slush fund: Needs replenishing. May be able to divert some of the CPF (DOC) for use for accountants etc. To investigate. Chris

Reports

Chair: (Appendix I)

Thanks was passed to Ray for efforts over year. David/Jenny

WERC: Wasp work planned for this summer. Bird survey going ahead for baseline data. Andrew Crossman who is doing the survey is an expert and is not charging a large fee. Lake Lyndon – John Bougen has prepared a landscape plan and is prepared to fund some development there to protect lake shore. Discussions have already been held with SDC. A field trip is on Saturday 8th November.

Election of Officers:

- Chair Ray (Nick/David)
- Deputy Chair Jenny (Nick/Maree)
- Secretary Maree (Nick/Chris)
- Treasurer Jocelyn (Ray/James)
- Committee – Chris, James, David, Nick, Darrin, Steve, Marion and Chris Cochrane of Flock Hill to be approached for membership.
- Mailing list: Richard Hill (Flock Hill), Richard Wyatt, (Bealey Spur), Margaret Clarke.

Nick suggested that David take over more of a technical role from Darrin as he is pressured for time. David could create contract with ECan.

Maree to contact Jocelyn to find out who funds Darrin and what would be involved employing David instead. Ray to contact Darrin.

General Business:

Wilding Control Programme – Plan for this year yet to be confirmed. James, David, Ray and Nick to communicate to finalise this urgently to enable James to hire contractors. ECan money – is that still available? James then needs to be informed. Check what our priorities are for the CPF application. Darrin unable to give time to WELRA work. David may be able to take over.

Grasshopper Programme: Encouraging results in this wilding control area. Not a huge amount of re-growth. Quite doable to clear again. Michael McSweeney to clear flats with clients. DOC to clear tracks into arboretum site for volunteers to clear a 50 metre buffer around it. Outliers to use aerial basal bark. Contractors for denser sites. DOC has done a great job on arboretum. Report should be finished next week.

An application to Southern Trust for \$20,000 for this continuing work is to be made. David/James

David to email Simon Morris re data about grasshopper.

WERC Future: At the outset there was potential for WERC to leave WELRA and be independent. Both are applying to the same organisations for funding, so can be seen to be double dipping. Setting up their own constitution is easy, cost of setting up an incorporated society \$102, or a Charitable Trust. The offer of the opportunity for WERC to launch out on own, with WELRA support as needed and able in process, is to be made. (Nick/David) Passed.

Generic Safety Management System: Ray working on this.

Flock Hill – Jenny feels they are sorted out better and now will put more money into place. Negotiating to buy out lease. Grazing lease returned to company, Hills are farm managers. Chris Cochrane (Farm consultant acting on owners behalf) to be invited to come to next meeting and join

committee. (Ray). Asking Chris Cochrane to become involved in WELRA is seen as a positive and logical move.

National Strategy: This will mean a national recognition of the wilding problem and needs to have central government assistance, but only if a collaborative approach by stakeholders as active partners is evident. This will need a plan from Flock Hill as one of the stakeholders, for those trees spreading from their homestead area.

Craigieburn Station – Jenny expressed concern that Craigieburn may be waiting in the wings as having a wilding problem, so we need to bear that issue in mind.

James said that the Ribbonwood Fan also becoming a problem, as well as Purple Hill fan (already begun on by volunteers).

Meeting planned before end of year, may be early December.

Meeting finished 12.50.

M. Goldring
Secretary