**West Coast OWL “Nest Meeting” 18/03/2021 Agenda 19:00 – 20:30**

1. Welcome
2. Kerry joining us 19:00 – 19:30
3. Key starter Points:
   1. Advertising the group – Engaging schools/nurseries – contacting Headteacher Associations and they can disseminate across to all Headteachers.
      1. Contacting local RSPB officers.
      2. Contact with Countryside Ranger (*Check Highland Council – not one in Lochalsh or Skye, but need to know Wester Ross coverage*). **Ian** Paterson is the former Countryside Ranger now running Go Wild Highlands (<https://www.gowildhighlands.co.uk/>)
      3. NTS lead mentioned by Judith – but only one staff member now.
      4. High Life Highland – afterschool activity coordinators in Kerry’s area.
      5. Youth Development Officer
      6. Forest School Leaders and anyone training in Forest School.
   2. General membership is about 40. Depending on time of year not everyone will join activities or be able to participate.
   3. Inherited Funding – meant they were able to offer CPD Training (some with qualifications)
      1. Outdoor Cooking and Hygiene Day (Certificated)
      2. Go Wild Highland (NAME Patterson) Campfires, bush craft activities.
      3. Withy Working – lantern making, 3D and 2D structures (willow bending, weaving etc)
      4. Creeping Toad is Gordon**MacLellan.** Literacy events, storytelling. Ran this as CPD and workshops for children to attend.
      5. Rocket Making
   4. Recommended to check South Highland OWL Facebook and OWL Website page – great ideas and inspiration for activities.
   5. Skill Sharing Sessions – membership meetings / in-person meetings / informal learning sessions.
      1. Fair Fire -  i '**fairy** fires' ( mini fires made in scallop shells or similar to try out different kindling materials and practice using a fire striker)
      2. Knots and Tarp
      3. Safe tool use
      4. Gel Painting - gel **printing** - a good demo here: <http://www.inatickle.com/homemade-gelli-plate/>
      5. Kit for rock climbing presentation
      6. Simple Withy making
      7. Safe use of Kelly Kettle
      8. Fire Cooking (Quick recipes)
   6. Kit Cupboard (storing good quality kit that can be used by members)
      1. All committee group have keys (steering group)
      2. Kit cupboard includes:
         1. Tools (saw, secateurs, peelers etc.)
         2. Tipi and tarps
         3. Fire bowl
         4. Kelly Kettle
         5. Hot flasks – useful for outdoor events – hot drinks
         6. Art equipment
      3. Very kind offer for us to borrow from them if needed
   7. Meetings are open doors for all members with little/no committee meetings in-between. Self-organising group. Everyone happy to chip in and organise. Most of the OWL group are teachers.
   8. Launch event – had planned a weekend event. Stalls, activity areas, inviting parents and local groups to come and join in. Practitioners and leaders can run the activities. Taster sessions. They are aiming to include ‘Lost Words’ book, Tarps for shelter, drinks, art/crating – painting pebbles.
   9. Suggestion of general promotion to ‘Go Outdoors’. Sharing tips and ideas.
   10. Promotion/Advertising – make sure Aims and objectives are in email with OWL Scotland Link. Keep invites and introductions brief for events/activities – especially for schools.
   11. Insurance Cover – they do check providers (as requested in OWL Guidance) but are going to get insurance for the whole OWL group.

**Meeting Agenda Items 19:30 – 20:40**

1. Check ins
   1. Isabel & Judith – Feedback on the OWL Weekend. Really inspirational. Great ideas. Wonderful expriences with other practitioners.
   2. Roz - ‘Big Spring Clean’ event with Shore Care (Roz) and Skye Community Litter Project – Highland Council supplying equipment and skips.
   3. Roz - Skye Climate Action – Anyone interested in attending upcoming Hustings on 22nd April – EARTH DAY. Questions on Climate Change and environment will be focus.
2. Agree previous minutes - 4th Feb – Isabel agreed & Judith 2nd
3. Agree previous minutes – 18th Feb –Lynne agreed & Isabel 2nd
4. Open Actions not included in agenda
   1. Isabel – Privacy Policy draft emailed – please feedback comments/edits via email
   2. Judith – Re-arranging Kerry joining us on 18th at 7pm.
   3. Judith with support from Lynne – compiling contacts and groups to add to members excel list
   4. Roz – emailed Dropbox links to minutes and spreadsheet to Judith.
   5. Roz – promotional article for KLCT CommUnity news – Friday 5th deadline – not sure if it made it into the newsletter?
   6. All – check out The Ideas Fund and decide if we want to pursue something?
   7. Roz /All - clarifying our ‘offer’. Roz writing the statement for SLCVO and with Heather’s suggestions.
5. Ongoing actions/updates
   1. Reflections and feedback from conversation with Kerry
      1. Lynne - Lots of information and very inspirational!
      2. Roz – interesting to know how they self-organise. The membership being pro-active and collaborative. Lots of energy and action.
      3. Judith – liked the distinction of CPD (Qualification/Certification) and Skills Sharing (informal/shared learning)
      4. Roz – Launch event. Balmacara woods – camping weekend? If our area is inclusive of Wester Ross and Skye could we invite members to camp together after running activities. Judith – mentioned toilet access an issue. Susan – contacting Laura Turtle to check on woods.
      5. Susan – noted that with teachers and PSAs leading there is stronger connection with schools. WCOWL is obviously positioned slightly differently and that may offer us different opportunities with membership.
      6. Judith – mentioned they are in a much more populated area. Different demographics and geography for WCOWL to consider.
   2. **Feedback from exploring other OWL Group pages**
      1. Judith – Weekend Event feedback. Inspired by the OWL Weekend event. WORD: ‘Amplification’ – wanting to rephrase how we explain ourselves. Approachable language. Wanting to simplify what we do and keep it down to earth. Want it to be more friendly.
      2. Lynne – Language. Aims and ethos overly complex.
      3. Susan – how do we articulate in more simplified terms. We are clarifying what we are doing and how we describe ourselves.
      4. Roz – Academic approach – drafting content will be framed that way as that’s how I function. All drafts were for edit and improvements by all, and everyone can contribute to evolving those. We’ve been going through a collaborative and co-creative process. We need to be outdoors and be present with each other. Trying to collaborate and get a sense of our energy together is difficult over digital platforms.
      5. Susan - coherence is necessary to really define ourselves.
      6. Isabel – being time conscious when it comes to written content. Everyone has always been invited to edit and re-draft what has been written – Roz offered to create those and no one else did. Being aware of time constraints and our capacity – who will write these?
      7. Roz – gather with others. Get together and have other practitioners join us. End of April initial suggestion – needs to be Early May (Clarified by Isabel for larger groups). Forming WCOWL with others and do what we are aiming to do.
      8. Isabel – need to check dates of gathering outdoors and group size.
      9. Susan – Question about how we invite – still need to define ourselves for joining this outdoor event.
      10. Roz – when we contact potential members – Use Judith’s Quote and state our Audience.
   3. Bank Account
      1. Roz – ID sorted & In progress.
      2. Heather – in progress.
      3. Susan – in progress.
   4. SLCVO – information document & Defining ourselves – clarifying audience and activities (RE: SLCVO and Judith’s email)
      1. Roz - Can park this document. Return to this after May meeting outdoors? SLCVO don’t need it immediately – we have time.
      2. Susan – give SLCVO a small description and explaining we are a work in progress. Lynne agreed. Maybe just give them Judith’s description and audience as suggested by Roz for contact with members and invited members for May meet-up.
      3. Roz – include examples of activities we might offer. Agreed by all.
   5. Privacy Policy – Feedback to Isabel – consent for policy to be confirmed (via email)
      1. Judith – Good. Ticked all the boxes. Could upload onto our OWL Website page. GDPR – Judith’s response - Quick response to explain how their data is used.
      2. Susan – Extending on GDPR and privacy statement for replying to member enquiries - adding “what can you share?” To reply email.
      3. Roz – concerned about capacity to check emails if we are asking for additional responses from members signing up.
      4. Judith – concerned it might put pressure on people if we’re asking them for something. Email response “Thanks for signing. We’re looking forward to meeting you at the next meeting and we’ll be in touch soon.” (+GDPR statement)
      5. Susan – wants to have a generative statement to show how everyone’s contribution can make WCOWL! Will think about how to phrase this
   6. GDPR – Agree process
      1. Use Judith’s description in responding to email requests to join as a member.
6. AOB – NONE
7. *Parked Items for next week as agreed:*
   1. *Launch event & activities from April*
      1. *Ideas?*
      2. *Dates?*
      3. *Insurance – Isabel feeding back*
      4. *Promotion (CommUnity News, West Highland Free Press, Social Media, Skye Climate Action Mailing List & others)*
   2. *Isabel – Insurance research*
8. Next Meeting – Thursday 1st April 19:00 – 20:30 (Matt from ACE on Skye invited to join us)
   1. Proposal to possibly meet Easter Bank Holiday in person outdoors too! TBC on 1st April.

**ACTIONS:**

Susan, Heather & Roz – RBS to complete

Susan – Laura turtle – Using Balmacara woods for Launch event later in the year

Roz – SLCVO statement re-draft again.

Roz – email Privacy Policy. Can consent via email replies.

Isabel – nudge Bonnie to make sure we’re on the OWL Map.

All - read Privacy Policy and email consent for use.