DG OWL Meeting

08/02/2023

Present - Simon MacRae, Elizabeth Tindal, Carys Mainprize, Kaye Borthwick, Eilidh Malcolm (OWL Scotland), Jim Rae, Jenny Stephenson, Tom Henry

Apologies - Lusi Alderslowe, Joanna Wright-Hall

**AGENDA**

* **Welcome, Apologies**
* **Check In (See member updates below)**
* **Minutes** - agreed - Kaye never received minutes, ACTION -Simon to check
* **Joanna resigning committee**

Members were informed that Joanna will be resigning from the committee for personal reasons

Anyone wishing to be on committee? - no one present

ACTION - Put correspondence out requesting for members to join the committee.

* **CIC - articles of association**

Elizabeth discussed articles of association with the members present. The articles of association were sent out previously to the meeting for comment/agreement. - **No comment was returned**

Some of the main points discussed - electronic meetings suitable as were group meetings

Directors (new name for committee) meetings needed regularly and no need for AGM but was decided that DGOWL will still have an AGM.

Lockerbie Wildlife Trust, NEST and Crichton Carbon Centre all agreed to receive DGOWL funds, under the asset lock paragraphs in the articles of association, if it were to fold.

The draft articles of Association had been sent to OWL Scotland for comment as their agreement was needed before we could go ahead. Elizabeth had talked to Eilidh and answered her questions a final agreement was needed from Bonnie Maggio.

**All members present agreed that the articles of association are suitable to proceed**

ACTION - go ahead with CIC application once we had OWL Scotland’s full agreement.

* **DGOWL - updates**

**Schools work**

* Meetings with probationary teacher staff and lecturer at the university to discuss the possibility of DGOWL assisting with the delivery of Outdoor Learning as part of the course - update to follow at next meeting.
* Meet DG education staff to catch up on work done and what DGOWL can do to assist schools deliver more outdoor learning
* DG College visit

Lusi and Simon attended a Mental Health and Wellbeing Week event at DG College, where they discussed with Staff and students about what DGOWL could support wellbeing. It was noted that future sessions may be held at the college - possibly Branching Out or Outdoor Learning etc.

ACTION - Simon to follow up

* OWL input was needed for workshop at Sustainability conference as well as from individual member organisations
* Request from SWEIC through DGC for DGOWL to give a mini keynote speech relating to their work in outdoor learning (May 8th).

**Branching Out**

Delivery in Spring 2022 - Stranraer ADP (Alcohol and Drugs Partnership) and other local services

Delivery in Autumn 2022 - HM Prison Dumfries,

Newton Stewart - BLP (Better Lives Partnership) and ADP

Dumfries - Spring social prescribing, Psychosis Early Intervention

Delivery in Spring - currently enrolling groups to start in March/April time, another possibility of 6 groups over 3 days.

**Environment Fair**

A couple of inquiries regarding this.

**Members did not wish to take this on for this yea**r

**Networking Event**

This outstanding grant needed teachers involved.

Climate Champion Group? ACTION - Carys to look into

* **Grants**

**Eilidh Malcolm from OWL Scotland attended part of the meeting and discussed the new Owl Scotland Special Grant.**

Update from OWL Scotland

Special Grant - deadline end of February - see below

Can apply for more than 1 grant per OWL group

National Networking event - preparation almost complete

Updates to website

Reprinted resources and new publication Wee Tree Guide to be given out at Networking Event

New OWL Scotland grant is available, due to a recent report from the Scottish Government outdoor learning group there are low numbers of school children getting outdoors and in particular outdoor learning.

This new grant will be aimed to support teachers in larger schools of 100+ or schools in SIMD areas

To be delivered in the Summer term 2023 and based in wooded area or woodland

A Full class delivery of minimum 6 sessions with teacher and class

Points to note:

Minimum of 2 member organisations for each application plus agreement from 2 committee members.

May include Junior Forester Award

Delivery must be agreed before application

same teacher and class to be involved in all sessions

£3000 up to 2 - 2.5 hours per session admin time and travel included

£300 extra can be applied for so that school to buy kit

Money spent within six months

Deadline 28th February

Need to let Eilidh and Bonnie dates of sessions prior to projects starting so they can attend if they wish

Suggested schools:

Stranraer - Belmont, Park

Dumfries - Lincluden, Locharbriggs Laurieknowe NWCC

Annan - Hecklegirth

DGOWL to send out email looking for members to be included in either steering group or delivery.

Members at meeting:

Steering Group - Simon, Elizabeth, Carys (needs to know timeframe)

Keen Deliverers - Kaye Jen and Carys, Tom if needed - relevant to Southern Upland Way

Keep Tom and Jim informed

**ACTION for committee to work on**

**Finalise - procurement policy**

**Admin Grant documentation**

**Member Updates**

Carys - Biosphere explorers 3 underway, DBT primary

Coastal Climate Change working in 8 primary schools throughout D&G

Development of eco-anxiety eco-grief existing project

Kaye - 2 primary school sessions and delivering at pre-school Loch Arthur

Nethermill School family session - 1 per month

Elizabeth - Doing a lot of dark sky things although quieter than usual.

Delivering Branching Out and covering admin, preparing for spring programmes

Caerlaverock castle - time travel forest school with re-enactment

Shetland dark sky trip

OWL Scotland networking weekend

Jim Rae

Just keeping in touch, been out of the loop.

Eskrigg getting back to business

Jen Stephenson

Delivering Branching Out

Forest School restarting soon - took a term off due to medical reasons

Tom Henry

Back to Outdoor Learning after taking time out doing other things

Simon MacRae

Delivering Branching out at HM Prison Dumfries

Regular Forest School sessions in Dumfries

Meeting Closed

Elizabeth delivered Skills Share session - Cattail dolls from DGOWL book club book ‘Primative Technology - a book of Earth Skills’ from the Society of Primitive Technology.