**Edinburgh**

**O**utdoor & **W**oodland **L**earning Group

**September 12th, 2022, Minutes of Teams Meeting**

Every Second Monday of the Month

**Present:** Anna, Barbara, Jo, Kat, Sara

**Apologies:** Jane

**Agenda:** **EAGM Actions:**

1. OWL Scotland Grants Update
2. EOWL Admin Grant & Admin time guidelines
3. EOWL & GROWL WhatsApp
4. EOWL Book group - combined with our Monthly meetings
5. CPD Calendar & participant costs
6. CPD Kit & Resource Library
7. Nature Play EOWL Networking Event with CEC
8. OWL Scotland Informal Networking Weekend update
9. A.O.B. Insurance:
10. Date of Next Meeting
11. **OWL Scotland Grants Update**

Barbara submitted the grant forms for the following:

OWL Admin Grant, OWL Networking Event Grant; OWL CPD Grant; OWL Kit Grant. Jill would like to run a Junior Foresters Award with Kaimes, so we submitted a Special Grant application too. OWL Scotland will reply to us with an update for our application in the next 2 weeks.

1. **EOWL Admin Grant & Admin Time for EOWL business**

Admin time is used for Meeting agenda, minutes /CPD’s/ Grant Applications/ EOWL Bulletin/ Treasury business etc. over and above general voluntary help. Group decision to increase rate of pay from £13/hr to £14/hr. Admin time is allocated throughout the year and is roughly 6/7 hrs per month on average.

**Note F.I. Example Admin Time Guidelines**

* Meeting arrangements and minute -taker, typing / distribution etc: Barbara -2/ 2.5+ hrs
* EAGM organisation & OWL Grant Funding applications: Barbara 3 days +++ plus follow up time

All of these hours can’t all be claimed for, however illustrate time behind the scenes to organise EOWL business and to enable our group to thrive.

**ACTION: Barbara/Rosy/Roy** to share time-sheet for each task and perhaps identify approximate Admin allocation for the year ahead

1. **EOWL & GROWL WhatsApp – open to OWL Members**

Our **EOWL** WhatsApp group is already in action and useful exchanges being made: It’s all about Walnuts this week! **Thanks to Maarya** for setting up the WhatsApp Group

**ACTION: Jo and Sara** can maybe send us a photo to add too!

Greater Glasgow OWL Group **(GROWL)** have invited anyone to join OWL Members them too – very useful for freelance jobs, events, info and skill exchanges and more. Check both out and add your suggestions / top-tips too

1. **EOWL Book Group and Monthly meetings -Project lead -Jo**

Jo’s will be Project Lead for this lovely and useful new initiative. Idea to alternate an article with a book to discuss each month at our meeting once swift business is over. Book Group & Meetings to take place in a Pub / Café. First meeting: Monday October 10th, 2022. (7.00pm-9.00pm) Place and Book t.b.c.

**ACTION:** **Jo** to send advert to Barbara. **Barbara** to post on Facebook

1. **EOWL CPD Calendar 2022-2023**

CPD’s 2022-2023 will be themed around the OWL Scotland Publications and Resources. Initial (draft) dates as follows:

* **OWL Tool Use Guide & Activities:** (Tool sharpening?) November 2022 Bridgend Farmhouse
* **Wolf Brother Storytelling and Arts:** Imbolc February 2023 Youth Vision?
* **The Soil Beneath Our Feet:** Nature Play April 29th, 2023, Cramond Kirk Hall & Woodlands
* **Tree Measuring & The Scots Pine:** Date & Location tbc Gracemount Mansion House?
* **Pond Dipping and Fresh Water Invertebrates -** June 2023 Harlaw Reservoir? May / June 2023
* **OWL Fire Use Guide:** Date & Location tbc. Bridgend?

EOWL CPD’s will additionally be advertised to CEC Forest Kindergarten practitioners

Decision made to raise the charge to cover more of the costs: £10.00 for EOWL Members & £15.00 for non-OWL members for unfunded CPD’s

**ACTION:** **Barbara** and **Lou** to progress TOOL Use

**ACTION:** **Maarya** and **Barbara** to progress and update at the next meeting October 10th, 2022

1. **CPD Kit and Resources Library**
* We will make up 2 kits to accompany each CPD Theme.
* Andrew Bagnall indicated that we can discuss further the storage of the EOWL Kit Library at Bangholm. January 2022 date to be confirmed to finalise. (Thanks Andrew and the Outdoor LT)

Themed Kits to be compiled for use in age-related packs:

* Pond Dipping
* Tree Measuring
* Soil Beneath Our Feet
* Wolf Brother and Neolithic Themed Resources
* Tool Guidelines: Use and Care with Simple and Satisfying projects
* Fire Guidelines: Use and Care with Simple and Satisfying projects

**Note from Anna:** The wonderful OPAL survey resources from Imperial College London, which are still available although the research project (which ran from 2007!) ended in 2019 - check out this link for a list of all the surveys and downloadable resources: [https://www.imperial.ac.uk/opal/surveys/](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.imperial.ac.uk%2Fopal%2Fsurveys%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C2cc11e9198f44bebb5f908da94f463ca%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637986074608509028%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=JAwi3j7TdiIDAoWoZ0HzvUhFjeb0%2FV3oZxElm6%2BeFgc%3D&reserved=0)

1. **Nature Play 2023**
* Date identified: Saturday April 29th, 2023
* Draft Theme idea: SOIL?

**ACTION:** More info to share through next few months. **Save the Date!**

1. **OWL Scotland Informal Networking Weekend Sept 9th-11th**

A great weekend in Falkland meeting Scotland -wide, OWL friends old and new, with a variety of inspiring skill-shares. Highlights included:

* Carved ‘Try Sticks’ with Willow Lohr – useful wood cutting techniques
* Felted Slippers and Walk with Bonnie
* Wooden Toys and Games with Kim
* 305h Anniversary of F.E.I. and OWL Scotland

There were small presentations on the Outdoor Learning Awards such as:

* Junior Forester Award
* Junior Ranger Award
* These can be combined with John Muir Award.
* Silvan / OWL Art Competition. Closing date: September 16th, 2022. Look up OWL Scotland **Facebook** pages to enter!

**INVITATION:** Look up OWL Scotland Webpages for more information: <https://owlscotland.org/>

1. **A.O.B. Insurance**
* EOWL are in the middle of researching our next group insurance. Roy is leading on this.
* Discussion as to what insurance cover individual OWL members have.

**ACTION:** **Anna** to create a WhatsApp Insurance survey.  **ALL** to respond

**ACTION:** Barbara to phone Birnbeck again for individual, group and enhanced group insurance discussion

1. **Date of Next Meeting:** Monday October 10th (7.00-9.00) Venue -based -**Joseph Pearce**, Elm Row

Thanks Everyone

Over and Out & Keep Safe –

Barbara (EOWL Chair)