

Minutes of NHOWL Committee Meeting (online - Zoom) 26.08.22 7:00-8:30 pm.

Present: Kerry, Julie G, Gregor, Larissa, Ian, Julie B

Apologies: Petria withdrawn from committee, remains a member. Shirley-Anne Stevenson may come back in – Julie B will let her know date of next meeting.

Agenda:

1. Upcoming Events:

- Patterns in Woodland (Early Maths) – Evanton Woods 10th September, 10:00am-12:30pm, Julie B leading, supported by Gregor & Kat Thomas (STEM development officer). Julie B put on CPD website. Gregor put on Facebook. Teas, coffees etc to be organised.
- Willow Lanterns – Evanton Woods – Nov 12th 2:30-4:30pm Kerry, Julie G & Ian hosting. Expecting 20 people. Julie B posted on CPD website. Gregor put on Facebook. Secateurs & willow in stock. Teas, coffees etc to be organised.

2. Grants – to apply or not?

- We're too rich as have over £3000 in our bank account – can only apply for admin grant. Gregor will do the admin grant application. (Can't log on tonight – he'll phone Eilidh Monday).
- **Larissa** to contact Eilidh re 'Special Grant' for Junior Forester in secondary schools– is it available to us? If so **Larissa to check with Petria & then to apply ASAP**. Potential schools where we have contacts & know people are keen = Invergordon Academy (Larissa & Petria), Alness (Petria worked at previously), Golspie High (Larissa worked at previously). (What's our logon to the OWL website to do the grant applications?)

3. Kit for 'north' of NHOWL

- **Larissa & Ian to meet to choose what needed** & jolly well spend some money!
- **Kerry & Larissa to meet to look at current kit** on a Tuesday after school - Julie G says we have good whittling knives that could we shared between the two areas.
- Suggested kit for 'north' NHOWL = Teepee, loo, rope, dutch oven, firebowl, clay, willow. Maximum £2000 available. Kerry recommended Green Bushmen.

4. Roles/workload/Administration & admin grant

- Need to spread the load – too onerous on individuals at times.
- Gregor doing 'core' admin but needs to reduce his workload – managing NHOWL emails (new members, Eiligh etc), website, uploading minutes to OWL and Mailchimp to members (with link to minutes on OWL website), Facebook posts. (Larissa offered to support him.)

- Julie B doing CPD online for schools.
- Kerry doing accounts & dealing with bank (Julie B offered to sub for Kerry if needed when she's busy training).
- Various people doing prep for events.
- Chair – chairing meetings, annual report for OWL's online bulletin
- Secretary – minutes
- Checked grant rules re admin fee - & agreed to spread amongst the people who are doing the work- admin/accounts/booking/organising events etc.

5. Possible Agenda Items for next meeting:

- Spending money usefully – we are super rich, what shall we spend it on? (Check if any of our existing cash is still tied to/earmarked for anything in particular first – Kerry?)
- Agree kit purchases for 'north' NHOWL
- Set plans for CPD for the year (month/focus/geographical area/who delivering)
- Delineating tasks/jobs/roles to spread it out so not too onerous. What needs to be done & who does it? Spread it out to share the load!
- State which meeting of the year we'll decide on grant applications to give us a longer lead time next year (grant info was out by June this year, deadline was Sept).
- Aim for 4 meetings a year, including AGM (plus emergency meetings if really needed!). Which skill share & which online?
- Nov (CPD plans for the year). Feb (AGM). May (focus?). August (grant applications)

6. Next meeting date: Tuesday 15th November 7pm (Zoom or face-to-face?)