**Outdoor Woodland & learning North East Group Annual General Meeting**

**Via Zoom**

**15th March 2021 at 2pm-2.30pm.**

**Minutes**

**1. Welcome & Apologies**

**Present:** Joanne Evans, Ian Talboys (Aberdeen City Council Ranger

Service), Neil Taylor (Forestry & Land Scotland Ranger), Julia MacKay (acting

Chair), Jill Birch, Lindsey Duncan, Claire Livingstone (Treasurer), Doug Gooday

(Aberdeenshire Council Ranger), Stephen Reeves (Dorenell Ranger Service), John Malster, Kate Malster, Alex Stuart (NESBiP), Dawn Ewan, Caroline Hay-Crawford, Bryan Duncan, Joan Anderson.

**Apologies:** Juliet Robertson, Aileen Salway, Roddy Hamilton, James Nott, Claire MacDonald, Elaine Crawford.

**2. Guest Speaker – Bryan Duncan, ADA.**

Bryan Duncan from Alcohol and Drugs Action talked about his work with vulnerable and marginalised groups and the therapeutic benefits of nature connection for those clients in recovery.

In 2012 he joined Terri Harrison and Julia MacKay in the forest school training programme.

Since then he has been involved in the Branching Out South Aberdeenshire programme along with

Julia and Jill run for those clients in recovery. More recently Branching Out South Aberdeenshire Plus has been set up as a follow on programme to foster community and connection.

**3. Minutes of the previous AGM 11th March 2020, matters arising.**

No matters arising

Minutes approved by CH and seconded by LD

**3. Interim Chair’s Report.**

The Chair’s report is attached.

**4. Treasurer’s Report**

The final Treasurers report is attached.

CH reported that the group’s funds have to be below £3K to get funding for Woods for Learning Grants. The group is unlikely to get funding going forward from Scottish Forestry.

5. **Election of Office Bearers** – Chairperson stepping down.

All office bearers stood down.

**Interim Chairperson** – Doug Gooday and John Malster agreed to be joint interim acting chairs. Approved CL, seconded JM.

**Vice Chair** - IT agreed to remain as vice-chair. Approved JM, seconded CL.

**Treasurer** - CL agreed to be interim treasurer until someone else is found. After this she will be stepping down. Approved JM, seconded LD.

**Secretary** - JE agreed to become secretary and co-ordinator of the

Woods for Learning Grant for a further year. Approved JM, seconded DG.

6. **AOCB**: none

**7. Date of next AGM**

Monday March 14th March 2022. Time and venue TBC.