**Circle: New Leaf**

**Date: 25th November - Minutes written by: Emma Gleave**

**Present:** Meeting Notes: James Williams & Simon FE, Emma Gleave, Scott Baine, Aaron Berg -TRP.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ACTION** | **ASSIGNED TO** | **DUE DATE** |
| To ask Green Team if they are interested in being involved for a day of work here & there. | JW |  |
| Speak to KW about nesting checks for work to continue past end Feb | JW |  |
| If NL gain funding for a forwarder – discuss with JW / FE for advice. | TRP |  |
| -Emergency plan -Risk assessment  -Method statement | TRP / AB |  |
| A4 laminate sign to be produced for the interpretation boards. | TRP |  |
| EG to text JW with email address | EG |  |

**Meeting Notes / Minutes**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Item No** | **Discussion** |
| **1.** | Discussion about TRP work - funding / qualification / keeping skills alive. Members of Land-workers alliance – forestry sector. Levelling up bid, including forwarder – concerns about type / H&S.  <https://www.therewildproject.com/qualification-course>  <https://www.therewildproject.com/open-access-sessions> |
| **2.** | **Giants chair site - risk assessment**   * RA given by JW as starting point – extraction areas highlighted. Machinery or not – probably using pruning saws with Rekindle Youth / social forestry teams. * AB – any scope to do public facing & craft making in the woods? Taking shave horses and cleaving brakes – people can see what is happening with the wood. JW – Yes - could set something up in the place of the sculpture. * Interpretation boards - A4 / A3 - to put laminate up – TRP can create one and run by FE. |
| **3.** | **Meeting continued onsite - Giants chair, sweet chestnut 6 year growth**   * JW has no real preference of order of work taking place - but would suggest taking out high risk areas by the path first. * Paperwork needed prior to start: Emergency plan; Risk assessment ; Method statement (include Re-cutting / tidying at the end of each session to keep stools low & tidy & Handballing out? Yes – into minibus – access routes confirmed) |
| **4.** | **Timing of work**   * JW preference is for it to be completed as quickly as possible due mainly to deer browsing – slow pace would allow deer to destroy new growth as quickly as it shoots up. * Discussion about deer deterrents – Double Tape has been successful in other areas – JW concern about deer getting tape caught in antlers / option of piling the brash onto the stools to protect. * Coppice products often need to be worked green, and so slower timescale preferred by TRP – finding a comfortable balance. * AB- could work continue past winter season if nesting checks are made? – JW to speak to Kate Woolen. |
| **5.** | Further meetings possible prior to work, Then issuing of Contract gateway form, 95% signed off before & then supervising visits. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Backlog**  **(Items for Future Discussion)** | **Date 1st Added** | **Due Date?** |
| Potential of referring trainees thru to FE contractors for work opportunities. | 25.11.22 |  |
| Timing of works & deer replant techniques. | 25.11.22 |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Additional Post Meeting Notes** | **Initial** |
| Coppice products that we will be focussing on such as the woven fence panels and cleaved products are ideally worked green.  The art of coppicing is very different from a commercial operation of taking trees down as quickly as possible to process mechanically. In a working coppice – the product is taken only as quickly as it can be worked.  The main issues we see with this are the public safety & public support issues and the deer browsing issues which we hope to address in the method statement and risk assessment, and by planning monthly public engagement sessions to showcase the coppice craft items being produced. | EG |