



The Diggers Charitable Trust
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Farm/woodland/nature reserve.

First Staff meeting 17/5/20

**Present: Kathleen Pearson Chairwoman of charity,
Dale Yates General Manager,
Bernie Whelan Volunteer, land army.**

The trustees wish to convey their delight at the work taken place at the above.

Update Woodland.

Lady Mary's Wood. About 85% of the trees have survived. Species unknown as yet. Bluebells have established in both woods. Bernie has been invited to plant a tree in this wood in memory of her mother.

Thornsbeck wood

– trees are now well established and the sheep are now grazing in the wood. There has been damage to some of the trees, the bark has been stripped due to the presence of roe deer, however, this is under control as plastic tubing has been placed on the trunk of the trees.

Appointment of Dale Yates as General Manager.

Over the last six months Dale has worked extremely hard in sheep management/ field management and the upkeep of the farm buildings. He is extremely conscientious and dedicated to the task in hand. He therefore, deserves the above title and to be a key holder and he is one of the best things that has happened to the charity.

Bees

It has been decided not to pursue the keeping of bees. It is not within the ethos of the charity to introduce a new species that may not be conducive to the environment but to obtain bee/butterfly boxes to encourage settlement of these species.

New Sheep,

End of summer to obtain 4 hebridean this year's lambs. 2 rams and 2 ewes. The ewes will belong to Dale.

To prepare for winter:

To begin to stock pile food. This will spread the cost.

AOB: None to report.

Meeting closed