



Bute Community Forest 2022 AGM

24 October 2022



AGM Format – 7pm till 8-15pm

Welcome and Introduction (c. 5 minutes)

Bute Community Forest Presentation (c. 25-30 minutes)

- Chair's update
- Project updates
- Woodland Management Plan update
- Community Forest Activities
- Autumn Open Day

The Formal Business: Accounts; Trustee Election (c. 10-15 mins)

Opportunity for questions (c. 20 minutes)

A lush, mossy forest scene with ferns and trees. The image shows a dense forest with many trees and a ground covered in moss and ferns. The text is overlaid on the center of the image.

Bute Community Forest Welcome and Overview

Richard Whitcomb, Chair

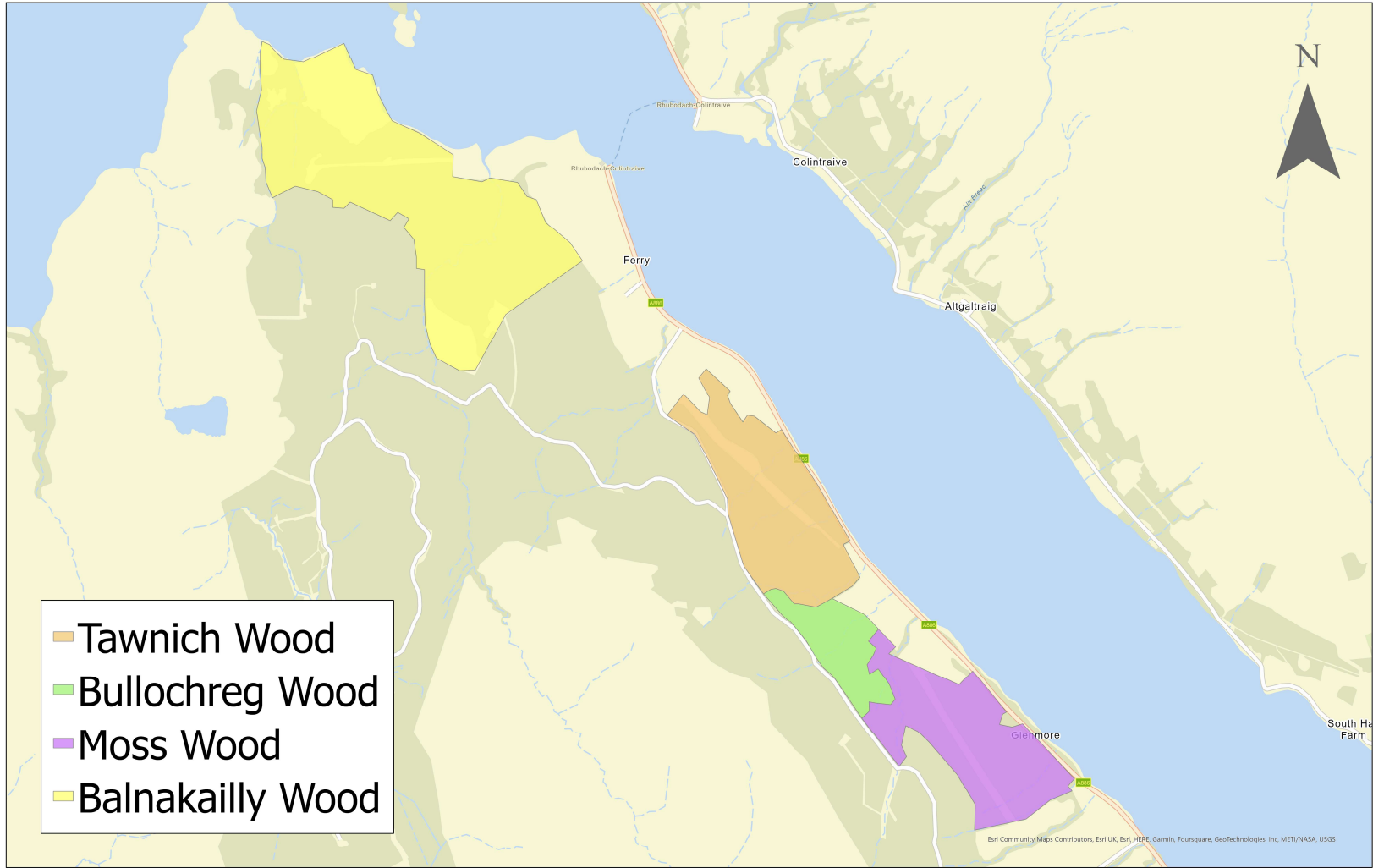
Highlights since Oct 21 (1)

- Recruited our Ranger & Ecologist – Samuel Lindsay – initially as part of the Scottish Government's Graduate Placement scheme – and now extended for a further 12 months
- Recruited our 100% funded Delivery Resource – Shelley Gould – on a 3-year 3-day a week contract
- Delivered our off-grid huts project
- Delivered an extensive community engagement programme
- Secured c.£6,000 to progress new car parking facilities

Highlights since Oct 21 (2)

- Met our obligations to remove diseased larch
- Delivered a felling programme to allow replanting and the creation of new broadleaf forest
- Developed proposals for the whole of the non-SSSI area
- Expanded our Board to include Peter Atkins
- Built strategic links with a wide range of organisations – e.g. NatureScot, Scottish Forestry, Argyll and the Isles Coastal and Communities Trust etc.
- Added the Community Forest to Scotland's Atlantic Rainforest map

BUTE COMMUNITY FOREST



A lush, mossy forest scene with ferns and trees. The image shows a dense forest with many trees and ferns. The ground is covered in moss and ferns. The trees have thick, mossy trunks. The overall scene is very green and appears to be a temperate rainforest or a similar environment.

Project Updates

Shelley Gould



THE CHARCOAL HUTS

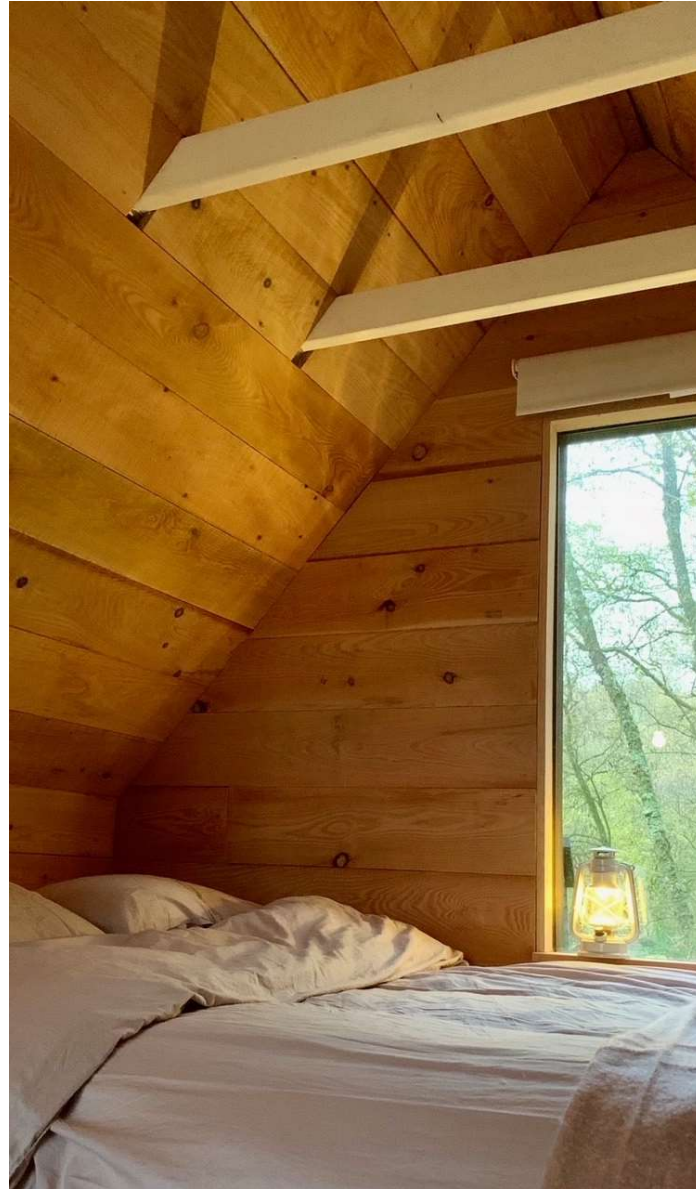
- Two 2-adult & 1-2 children, off-grid huts with composting toilets and wood burning stoves
- Eco-friendly minimal impact on the local woodland
- Locally designed and built by GetMade
- Testing phase November and available for hire late 22/early 23







THE CHARCOAL HUTS



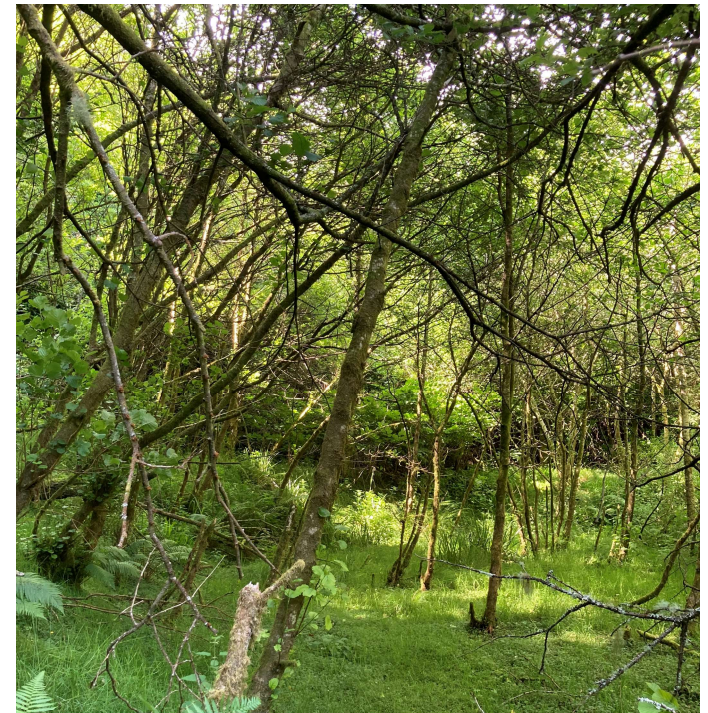
Mountain bike hire & e-bike transfer station

- 5 adult and 1 junior mountain bikes available for hire
- Located at Port Bannatyne BikeBute Locker
- E-Bike/Mountain bike transfer station to be delivered in Rhubodach plantation area in March 2023 to allow increased cycling visits to the Community Forest
- New non-extreme cycling tracks planned for development in 2023

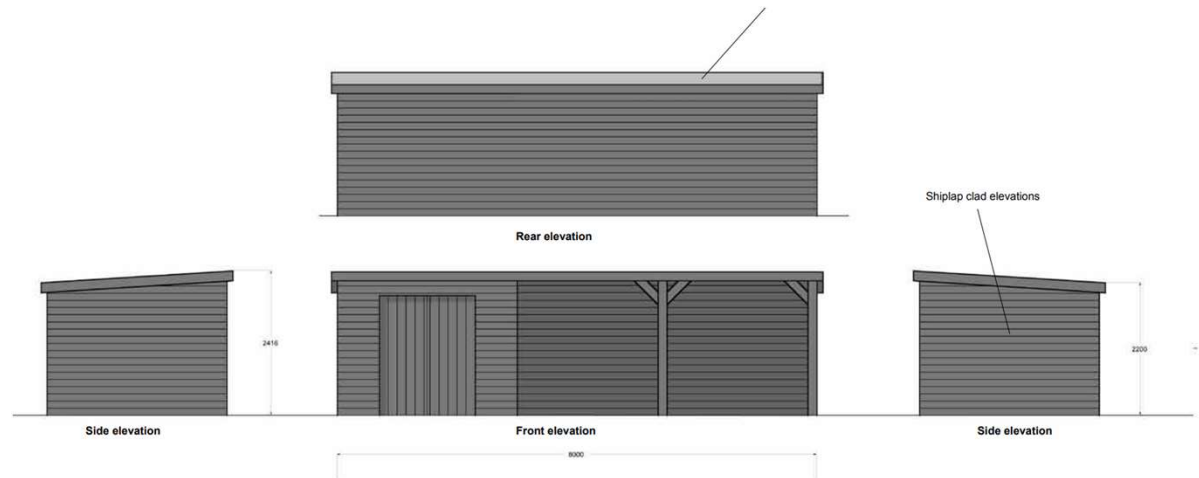


The Quarry Site/Welcome Hub

- Proposal to purchase the former Shalunt Quarry site to develop a 'Welcome Hub' to include:
 - Dedicated off-road car parking for 10-15 cars
 - Welcome hut with information boards
 - Toilets and shower block (to support the huts)
- Secured approval from Scottish Land Fund to progress this project in September 2022 and £6,000 development funding
- Next steps to complete purchase of the site and develop project. Estimated completion late 2023



The Moss Wood Community Shelter



- Planning permission due October 2022
- Community construction project – local skills development and volunteering
- Crowdfund funding or local sponsorship and in-kind support

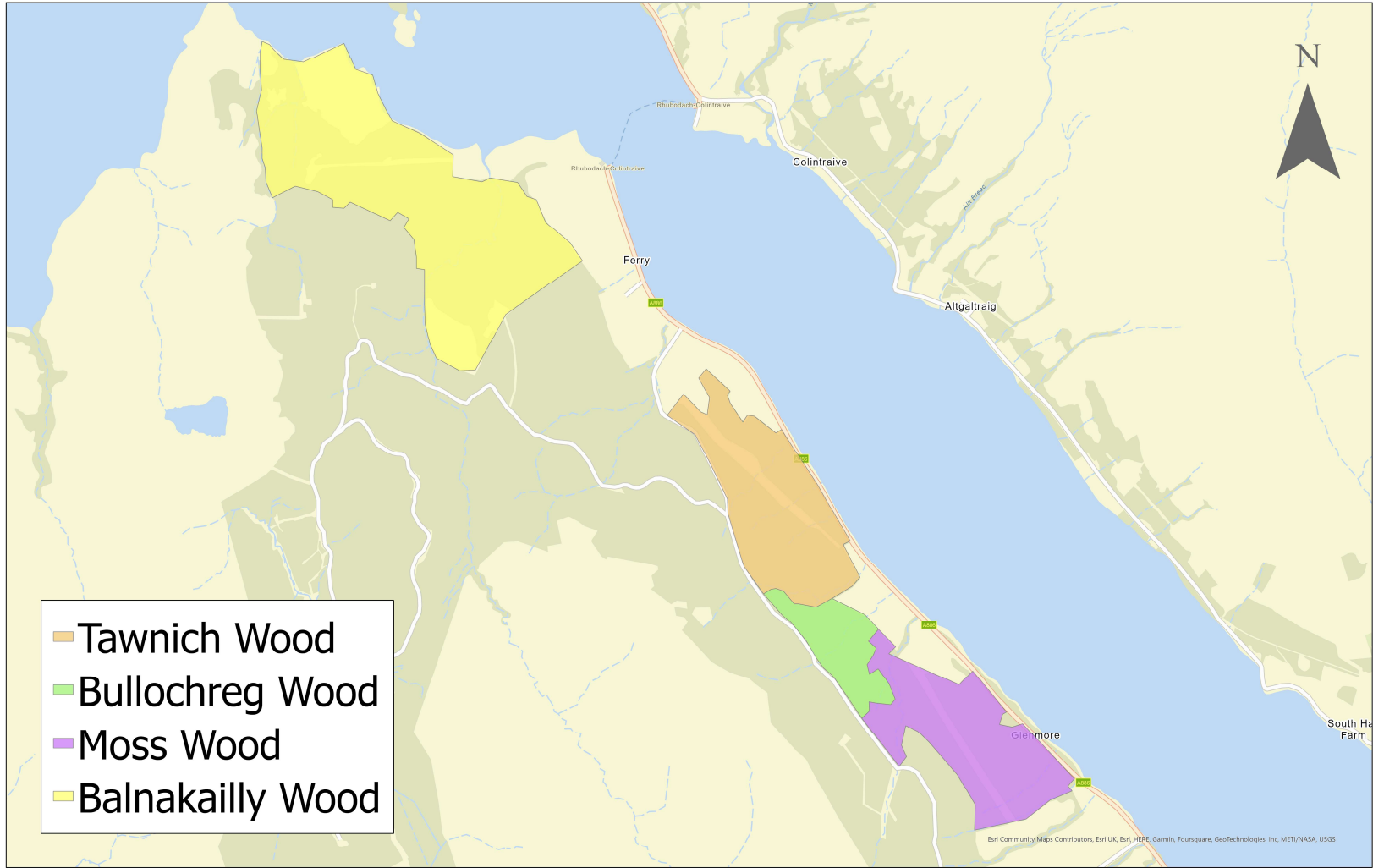




Woodland Management Plan

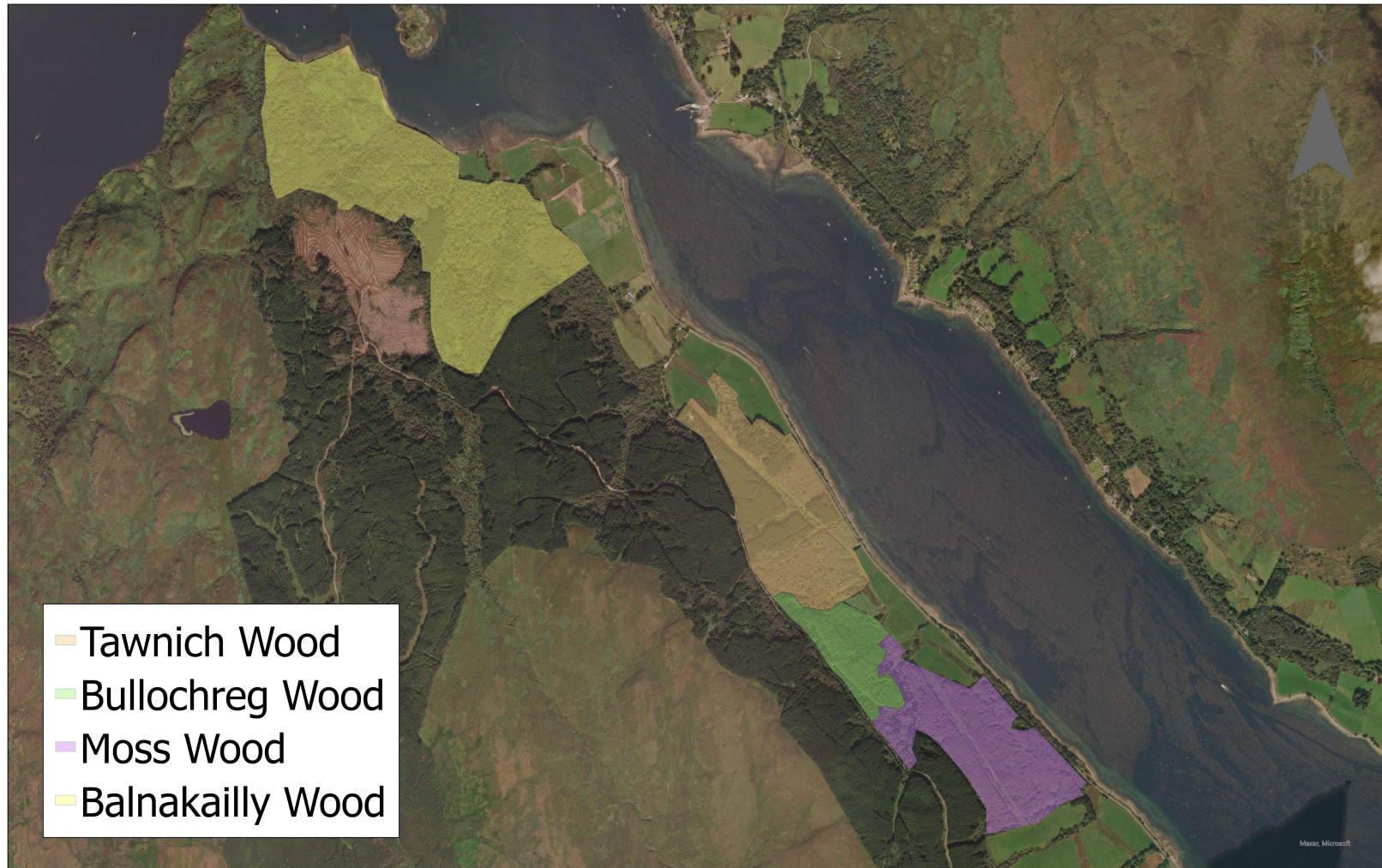
Samuel Lindsay

BUTE COMMUNITY FOREST



0 0.2 0.4 0.8 1.2 1.6 2 Km

BUTE COMMUNITY FOREST



- Tawnich Wood
- Bullochreg Wood
- Moss Wood
- Balnakailly Wood

0 0.2 0.4 0.8 1.2 1.6 2 Km



Balnakailly Wood

- Area Update
- Future Woodland Management Plan
- Improved Signage
- Improved Paths
- Improved Circular Walks







Moss Wood

(Shalunt Wood)

- Area Update
- Footpaths (primary and secondary)
- Interpretation boards and signage
- Charcoal Huts, Community Shelter and quarry site



Tawnich Wood

- Area Update
- Future Felling
- Replanting
- Roundhouse
- Woodland Playpark







Bullochreg Wood

- Area Update
- Footpaths and tracks
- Replanting

A photograph of a Scots pine woodland. In the foreground, there is a dirt path winding through dense, low-lying green vegetation. Several large, mature pine trees with thick, textured trunks stand prominently. The background is filled with a dense forest of similar trees under a bright sky. A white arrow-shaped text box is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Scots Pine Woodland

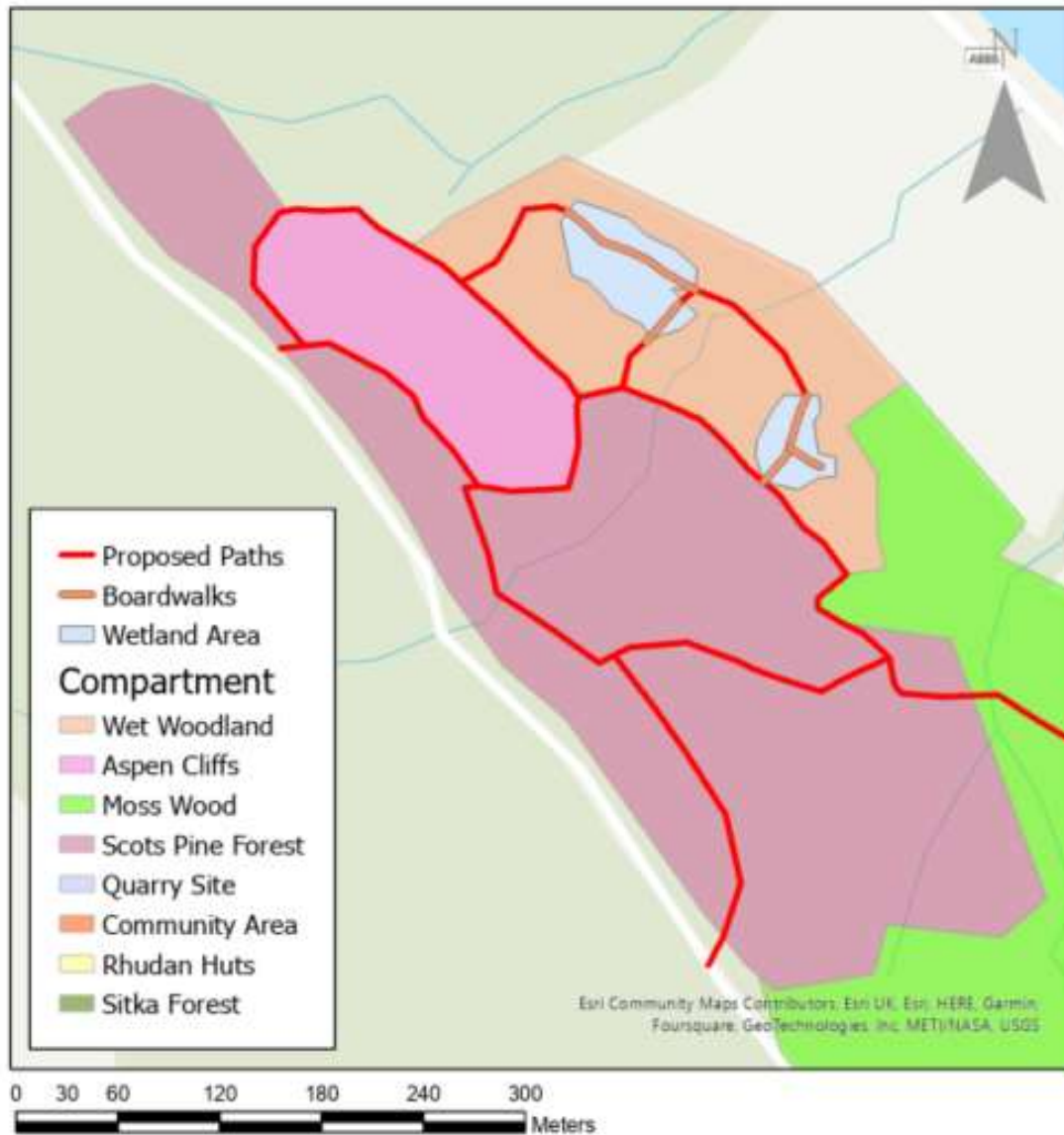
Scots pine forest at Loch Morlich, Aviemore



Aspen Woodland

Wet Woodland







Community Engagement

Samuel Lindsay

OUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT 2021/2022



**50+
VISITS**



**170+
PEOPLE**



**8
EVENTS**



**7 LOCAL
PARTNERS**



**100%
BUTE
SCHOOLS**



**3 HE
COURSES**



**100+
LEARNERS**

Our Partners

- Rothesay Primary (9 visits)
- North Bute Primary (6 visits)
- St Andrew's Primary (6 visits)
- Rothesay Academy (3 visits)
- Apple Tree Nursery (13 visits)
- Branching Out (12 visits)
- Live Argyll Group (1 visit)

50 + Visits to the forest that we have helped lead



Our Events

- Wildflower Wander (19)
- Port Gala (60+)
- Achievement Bute Gunpowder Trail (20)
- Rhodey Round Up (6)
- Butefest (40)
- Meet the Moths (21)
- Fungi Foray (24)
- 2023 Events Calendar coming soon...



BCF Autumn Open Day Saturday 29th October

- 11am to 3pm @ Moss Wood
- Come and see the Charcoal Huts
- Woodland crafts and activities
- Pumpkin trail



A lush, mossy forest scene with ferns and trees. The image shows a dense forest with many trees and ferns. The ground is covered in moss and ferns. The trees have thick, mossy trunks. The overall scene is very green and vibrant.

Bute Community Forest Summary

Richard Whitcomb, Chair

Summary & Way Forward

- Continue to coalesce activity around our twin aims of community engagement and environmental amenity, habitat restoration & creation
- Develop our 5-year Strategy, including:
 - Implement replanting proposals under the Moss Wood area Woodland Management Plan (2023)
 - Design & install footpaths through the above area (2023-24)
 - Develop & finalise Tawnich Wood area plans (2023)
 - Develop quarry site into welcome hub with car parking (2023-24)
 - Hut hire and bike hire full season (2023)
- Develop accompanying 5-year Business Plan
- Continue to build relationships with partner organisations

Accounts

- Full year accounts to end of September 2021 available (also see website)
- Circa £23.5k unrestricted funds balance at 09/21
- Year-end Sept 2022 accounts under preparation
- 2022 accounts will include sale of timber from larch stand and neighbouring compartments and cost of felling (final return expected to be in the region of £40k net)
- Forward Business Plan to look consider mix of trading and grant income

Election of Trustees

Each of the following are standing for re-election:

- Peter Atkins
- Martin Catlin
- Alexander Davey
- Tony Edwards
- Peter Vincent
- Richard Whitcomb, Chair

Further nominations welcome