

## **APPENDIX RP3- WSWG Team Biographies – Trustees and Wildwood Group Members**

### **Shonagh Moore, Trustee, WSWG Chair**

Shonagh graduated with a BA Hons degree in Visual Communications (Graphics). She has taken on various positions that have utilised her design abilities from working for a studio in Birmingham on prestigious accounts to various design and marketing projects to date.

She has taken several management positions which included retail and buying for over 10 years before moving to Scotland and is currently the Centre Operations Administrator for PGL Travel Ltd at Dalguise. In addition, for the past twenty-eight years she has been on the Board of Trustees for another registered Charity and has been one of their course organisers as well as being their newsletter and website editor.

Shonagh has always had a close connection and respect for the environment and joined WSWG because she recognised the importance and value of what was being strived for and felt that her skills could help to present the narrative.

### **Alan Ross, CIEEM (rtd), Trustee, WSWG Ecologist and Treasurer**

Alan has been an ecological consultant for more than 20 years, with extensive expertise in woodland ecology, as well as experience as ecological clerk of works (ECoW) on forestry operations and developments including windfarms and hydro schemes, with clients including SNH and FLS.

Prior to entering the field of ecology, he spent 20 years working in the forestry industry in the UK, New Zealand and Australia, during which time he had his own horse-logging business in Scotland. He has also sat on government-level advisory panels for red squirrel and wildcat conservation and the Tayside Beaver Study Group. Alan also has experience working with environmental NGOs and volunteers.

### **Bob Talbot, Trustee, WSWG Secretary**

Bob moved to Perthshire in 2000 after a career in university, and then in industry in senior management roles in big pharma and cosmetics multinationals, (Hoffman La Roche Revlon and L'Oreal) followed by business training and strategic consultancy in both Wales and in Scotland. With a first class honours degree in Chemistry, he also has a PhD in Physical Organic Chemistry and has maintained a continued interest in scientific research in a number of fields. As one of the first chemists in the UK to make use of computers to model complex chemical reactions he has maintained an active interest in their application in modelling complex systems in business and financial applications.

A published author in both English and Japanese Bob is committed to improving local democracy, to understanding and increasing biodiversity in our rural environment, to regenerative forestry, to a better understanding of how forests and communities can work together for mutual benefit, and to land reform. He is currently a trustee of three local charities, is an active campaigner against misuse of local farmland for solar and battery farms and is the MD of a successful tree surgery company.

### **Elsbeth Coutts, Trustee, Membership Secretary**

Elsbeth graduated from the University of Edinburgh with a BSc in Agriculture and has worked in the Scottish land and environmental sector for almost 40 years, including agriculture, countryside development, golf environment and home energy. She also has City & Guilds qualifications in Home Energy and Micro-renewables.

She has held posts in SAC (now SRUC), Edinburgh Green Belt Trust, IIED, Scottish Golf Environment Group, worked for a climate challenge home energy project and been self-employed since 2007. She has volunteered in diverse community and environmental initiatives in Lothian, Scottish Borders and Perthshire since 1990 but believes a sustainable future has to depend on green livelihoods.

She is passionate about local action at landscape scale as an urgent response to the climate and ecological emergencies we are in. She always looks for wider references and initiatives into which local efforts can connect. She is a wholehearted proponent of Doughnut Economics, Good Ancestor philosophy and transition to a Wellbeing Economy.

### **Betty Abbott, Trustee**

Betty has been heavily involved in volunteering all her adult life, her main interest in the past having been working with young people, using drama, outdoor education, environmental projects, local history, healthy eating, art etc.

She has enjoyed living near and walking in Taymount Wood since the 1990s and, along with her husband Mike, is a founder member of WSWG.

### **Hannah Esdaile**

Hannah is a trainee solicitor who is also currently studying for a Masters Degree in Sustainable Rural Development. She has a keen interest in the environment and the outdoors and wrote her undergrad law dissertation on the Community Right to Buy. She has a keen interest in community projects that serve to combat the twin challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss and believes that the West Stormont Woodland Group's vision for both Taymount and Five Mile Wood is vital to the local community and would encourage engagement in the larger vision around biodiversity management and climate change.

### **Ann Medlock**

A chartered surveyor, lived on the south side of Five Mile Wood for 21 years, during which time regularly communicating with SLF and predecessor Forestry Commission Scotland to inform them of changes, good and bad in the wood. Also regularly reports on anti-social behaviour including fire raising. Established Friends of Five Mile wood and is a Woodland Trust Ambassador.

### **Jess Pepper**

Founder/ Director Climate Café CIC, #lovemybus Programme Director, Paths for All Board (previously SCCS, NTS), FRSGS, FRSA. Experienced in strategic communications, community climate engagement, sustainable transport, public affairs and campaigning.

### **Martin Mathers**

Environmental scientist with over 35 years experience in the voluntary and private sectors, and in government. Twelve years working on UK forestry policy, first with RSPB and then WWF including membership of the environment sub committee of the Home Grown Timber Advisory Committee from 1995 to 2000. More recently specialising in climate change with Scottish Government and then ScottishPower Renewables. Member of the Perth and Kinross Climate Commission. Main interest in supporting WSWG is the protection, restoration and expansion of native and semi native woodland as a response to the climate crisis and the catastrophic decline in invertebrates.