



## Stroud Woodland Co-op\* - Directors report 2014-15

### Overview

The last year has again concentrated on the ongoing delivery of the action plan agreed at the last AGM. This has led to a continuation of:

- Thinning larch, removing hung-up / dangerous trees and processing of previously felled trees. Work undertaken by volunteers, who also generated firewood
- Finishing the compost toilet
- Clearing brash and ivy

For the second year we did not employ a contractor for any forestry work, so our outgoings were low - £xxx (compared to £369 last year). These consisted of FSA fees, insurance and Small Woods membership. We raised a brilliant £xxx through member's voluntary annual contributions, compared with £565 last year. Thank you. This meant a surplus for the year of £xxx.

We have also welcomed new members this year: xxx and xxx.

### Actions from AGM 2014

At the last AGM, directors were asked to consider a number of topics that had been discussed. These included:

*Investigating the need for Director and Officer liability insurance:* Directors agreed that we would continue not to take out this insurance. We also set up a system of monthly monitoring of the state of the wood by members.

*Investigate how other co-operatives deal with the issue of declining value of shares over time:* Directors to produce a report within eight to ten years addressing how to deal with the inflation issue.

*Ongoing returning and selling shares:* Ben Spencer continued to manage this process on a rolling basis. The availability of shares was spread by word of mouth. We welcomed two new members this year. There are currently four members who have expressed an interest in returning their shares.

*Voluntary annual contributions:* these were very successfully encouraged by Helen Keating and Stella Parkes. Many thanks for their efforts and your donations.

*Firewood / woodland management sessions:* four very successful sessions were held. With the agreement of the participants chainsaw operators were rewarded with a double share of the firewood produced.

*Audit of Folly Wood contents:* This has not yet been completed.

*Further woodland acquisitions paper:* This has not yet been completed.

\* Stroud Woodland Co-op is legally registered as Stroud Woodland Community Benefit Society Limited