

# **Catterline Braes Action Group AGM**



**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2019  
The Creel Inn, Catterline**

# Agenda

- ◎ Welcome
- ◎ CBAG Objectives
- ◎ Work carried out over the last 12 months
- ◎ Work planned for the next 12 months
- ◎ Ideas and suggestions for future work
- ◎ Financial statement
- ◎ Fundraising
- ◎ Committee members
- ◎ AOB

# CBAG Objectives

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- Gain a better understanding into the mechanics of both coastal erosion & land slippage
- Explore mitigation measures to prevent or minimise the effects of both coastal erosion & land slippage:
  - Improved drainage
  - Stabilisation planting programme
  - Physical reinforcement/stabilisation
- Explore joint community project involvement with educational or industry expert resources
- Information & resource sharing with other local communities experiencing similar challenges
- Evaluate cost and/or local labour requirements to support work requirements
- Explore potential funding sources for community based environmental work
- Carry out & complete remedial community work
- Monitor future movement



# Work Caried Out Over The Last 12 Months

## ◎ General Maintenance

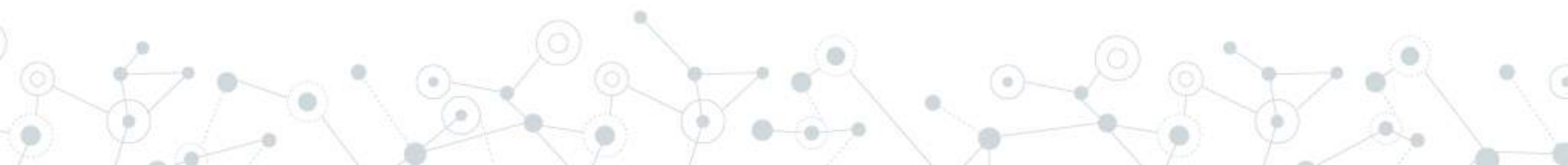
- Checked/cleared existing drainage ditches (spring 2018); most found flowing well, minor corrective work

## ◎ North End Braes Stabilisation – Phase 1

- Funding awarded for the installation of the Platipus anchors (with thanks to the St. John's Hill Wind Farm Community Fund)
- 89 Platipus S4 anchors procured and successfully installed by WG Meston Jnr in October 2018
- Funding application for the materials to complete this project (Phase 2) has been prepared and submitted (St. John's Hill Wind Farm Community Fund), decision expected around the middle of May

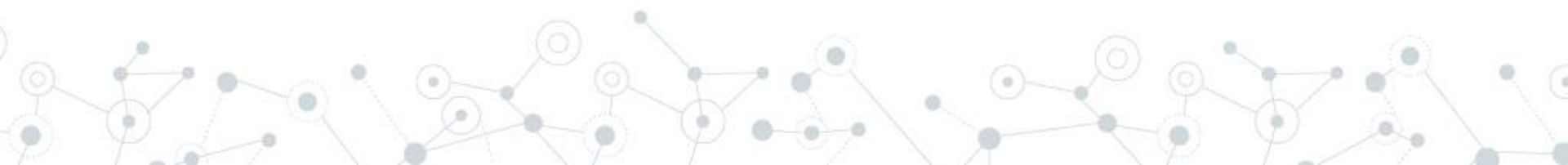
## ◎ Coastal Path Improvement

- Funding awarded to purchase materials to secure a section of the coastal path between North End and the Watchie (with thanks to the Upper Criggie Wind Farm Community Fund)
- Materials purchased, ready for work to commence



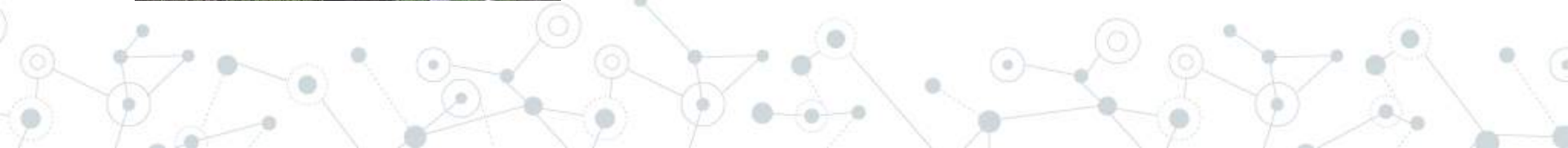
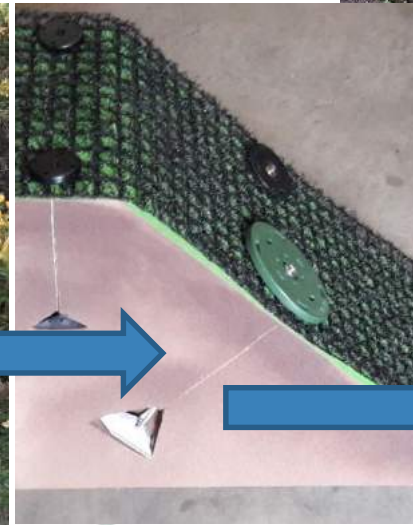
## ◎ OPERANDUM Project

- In May 2018, Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) were awarded £540k from the EU's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme, to be utilised over the next four years to devise eco-friendly ways to protect Catterline from coastal erosion and rainfall-induced landslides
- Catterline is one of seven European locations which have been selected as open-air laboratories for the OPERANDUM project, which stands for **OPE**n-air labo**RA**tories for **N**ature base**D** sol**U**tions to **M**anage environmental risks, led by the University of Bologna.
- Initial engagement session with the local community in October 2018
- Project meeting and presentation with GCU-partner organisation Naturalea in January 2019
- See <https://www.operandum-project.eu/> for more general information on the OPERANDUM project





# North End Platypus Installation





# Work Planned For The Next 12 Months

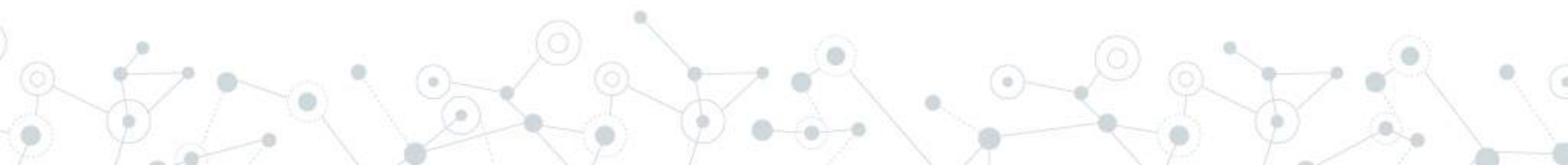
- ◎ General Maintenance (spring and autumn 2019)
  - Check/clear existing drainage ditches
  - Recently noticed a water-logged area below the pump house
  - General inspection of the braes
  
- ◎ North End Braes Stabilisation – Phase 2
  - Subject to funding award from the St. John’s Hill Wind Farm Community Fund, decision expected around the middle of May
  - The work comprises levelling of the slope, re-seeding with grass, deployment of an erosion control blanket which will be pinned down, and finally deployment of a geogrid mesh which will be secured with the already installed Platipus anchors
  - Volunteers required – late May / early June
  
- ◎ Coastal Path Improvement
  - Materials purchased, ready for work to commence
  - The work comprises the replacement of corroded posts and boards, and levelling of the path with soil and additional gravel
  - Volunteers required - proposed date Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April

## ◎ OPERANDUM Project

- Dedicated sessions/workshops to be organised with GCU and partners
- Community engagement and participation essential!

## ◎ Sea Defences

- Re-establish contact with Aberdeenshire Council to discuss the possibility of a funded feasibility study, as agreed previously
- A Scope of Work document would have to be prepared, with the request to award the study to one of their preferred engineering houses
- It should provide an indication of potential feasible options, taking into account the physical access and funding constraints



# Ideas & Suggestions for Future Work

## Ideas & Suggestions for Future Work

- ◎ General maintenance will remain important!
  - Look for wet areas and dig new ditches where required
  - Install more flexible pipe where possible (considerable length still available)
  - Check/help saplings and add other vegetation (GCU)
  - Pruning
- ◎ Continued concern regarding the damage caused by rabbits!
- ◎ Sea Defences – Can we do anything useful with Kev's concrete sleepers (33cm high x 43cm wide x 3.8 metres in length)?



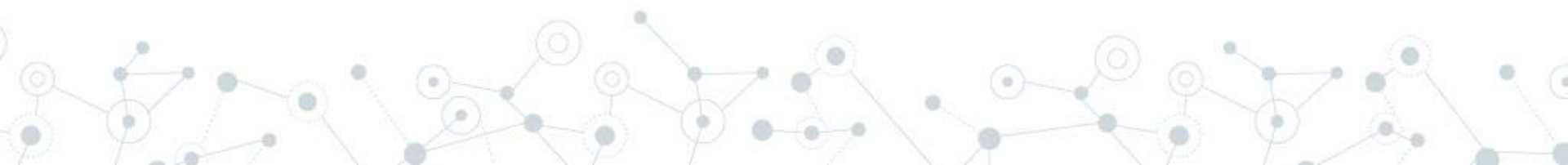
- ◎ Any other ideas / suggestions?



# Financial Statement

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		Income	Expenditure	Balance
14.3.2018	Balance carried forward			£ 4,712.74
29.5.2018	St John's Hill Wind Farm Funding	£ 4,990.00		
5.9.2018	W.G.Meston Jnr		£ 2,726.46	
7.9.2018	Zurich Insurance		£ 168.00	
8.9.2018	Platipus Earth Anchoring Systems		£ 1,002.00	
12.11.2018	Platipus Earth Anchoring Systems		£ 217.20	
19.11.2018	Upper Criggie Wind Farm Funding	£ 301.12		
13.1.2019	W.G.Meston Jnr		£ 4,995.54	
20.1.2019	Domain Name Renewal		£ 13.80	
	TOTALS	£ 5,291.12	-£ 9,123.00	-£ 3,831.88
14.03.2019	Bank Statement Balance			£ 880.86



# Fundraising

## Fundraising

- ⊙ Wind farm community funding
- ⊙ How to fund bigger projects, i.e. improve sea defences?
- ⊙ Any other thoughts / suggestions?



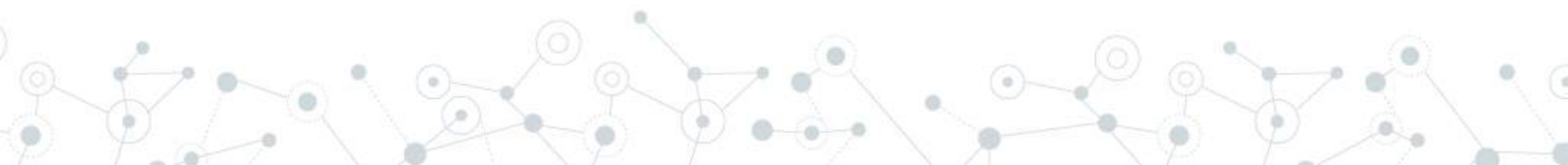
# Committee Members



## Committee Members

- ⦿ Chairman: Pieter voor de Poorte
- ⦿ Treasurer: Frances Crabb
- ⦿ Secretary: Debbie Murray

Anybody willing to take over any of these roles or perhaps assist in the running of the CBAG trust? This could include organising (fundraising) events, scoping up and managing discrete bits of work, etc.



# Any Other Business?

# With Thanks To:

- ⊙ All volunteers!
- ⊙ Glasgow Caledonian University
- ⊙ Naturalea
- ⊙ University of Aberdeen
- ⊙ Hillhead of Auquhirie Wind Farm Community Fund
- ⊙ St John's Hill Wind Farm Community Fund
- ⊙ Upper Criggie Wind Farm Community Fund
- ⊙ The Creel Inn!