

Minutes from Board Meeting of Coigach Community Development Company,

Tuesday 21st February 2012 7pm

Present: Iain Muir (IM -Chair), Nick Clooney (NIC - Vice Chair), Linda Macleod (LM - Company Secretary), Ann Macleod (AAB), Steve Husband (SH), Ben Walton (BW), Phil Shaughnessy (PS), Ian Macleod (IMpo), Richard Williams (RW); Peter Muir (PM) & Julia Campbell (JC) (LDOs).

Prior to main agenda the recent announcement of the Smokehouse closure was discussed. It was agreed that the proposed meeting on Thursday 23rd February should involve CCDC, CCC, Smokehouse employees or representatives and HIE. AAB will ask CCC to convene a public meeting on Thursday 1st March, IM will invite Summer Isles Foods and HIE to attend.

Press Release: IM has sent PR to Ullapool News. It was agreed not to issue further PR until we know SIF and HIE's response. Agreed to prepare PR for when the Smokehouse closes, to await clarification from HIE before investigating what happened to CRTB process. Pursue Skills Development Scotland to see what response from SIF.

1. Apologies: none received.

2. Minutes of meeting on 17th January were approved. Proposed by AAB, seconded BW.

3. Matters Arising: PM's work for CWP has been clarified in contract. Moulton Directors may visit Hydroponicum in March. As new lease is too onerous, the current occupants are moving out.

4. LDO Reports: Required changes to Development Plan have been made. Opening CWP Bank Account ongoing. Domain names: Coigach.org.uk is not available. Others to be investigated: Action IM. JV agreement is still with CCDC's lawyers. Land on Scot. Water track: Mark Foxwell seemed to feel it might be inappropriate as a site for workshop units as it falls outwith the local plan. If development is for greater community benefit Planning Dept may look favourably at it. Action: Contact Planning Officer for their view and communicate this to SWT. PM & BW have sorted out HIE claims.

Junior Rep – position to be offered to other 12-17yr olds in the area, possibly via guidance teacher at UHS. Action: JC. Piers – suggestion for Piers conference call is to start process now. To be discussed with Wallace Stone. Action JC. Survey to commence mid March.

5. Talking to the Press /Directors Code of Conduct A request was received from a member of the press for correspondence concerning the Hydroponicum CRtB. It was agreed by the majority of directors (with one abstention) that this request be declined. It was agreed that any requests from the press be referred to Iain Muir. Media training may be available: Action JC to ask Lindsay Simpson or DTAS. PM has a directors' code of conduct information pack. Action: PM to circulate.

6. Relationship CCDC/CWP PM to draft Articles of Association for CWP Ltd. and to convene a working party to discuss and develop the proposal.

7. Community Energy. CWP open day attracted 94 visitors. CWP has been offered a grid connection for a 900kW turbine for £498k. Alternative grid options to be explored. As BMH and CWP are both seeking grid capacity Jonathan Hartley, Atmos consultant, to negotiate on behalf of both. Quote received from Collett (Halifax) for road Drive-Thru survey with a long trailer.

BMH – SEPA have requested flow data which has been supplied. Also fish and otter survey required. Project manager/operations contract needs to be considered.

8. Land & Housing Achavraie plot probably too expensive/not appropriate for Highland Small Communities Housing Trust to consider. Action: JC to contact HSCHT to ask if a smaller plot could be sold to cover costs.. In view of smokehouse closure further discussion required over its use: Action SH will start email discussion.

9. Piers & Harbours – covered above.

10. AOCB – CALL event took place in Coigach on 8 Feb: Viv Halcrow distributed details of the advertised job at the Little Loch Assynt Tree Nursery. Next CALL event 5th March, Glen Canisp Lodge: Action RW and possibly JC to attend.

Atmos – when questionnaire analysis complete, put on website. Action JC.

It was agreed to renew DTAS membership (£30).

11. DONM: Thursday 15 March. 7pm