

Minutes from Board Meeting of Coigach Community Development Company,

Thursday 15th March 2012 7pm

Present: Iain Muir (IM -Chair), Nick Clooney (NIC - Vice Chair), Steve Husband (SH), Ben Walton (BW), Phil Shaughnessy (PS); Peter Muir (PM) & Julia Campbell (JC) (LDOs).

1. Apologies: Linda Macleod, Ann Macleod, Richard Williams.

2. Minutes of meeting on 21/2/12 were approved. Proposed by PS, seconded BW .

3. Matters Arising: Domain names ongoing. Land & Housing: JC to seek planning officer's view regarding SW road site for workshops. JC to contact Lindsay Simpson regarding media training. Community Energy Working party to draw up CWP Articles of Association still ongoing (PM).

4. Achiltibuie Smokehouse: IM & NC met with Keith Dunbar and Phil Morgan (SIF) to discuss options for use and confirmed that CCDC would be interested in buying the building but not leasing it. SIF have invited CCDC to make an offer. CCDC would offer SIF reassurance that it would not do anything to damage the brand should CCDC take ownership of the building. IM will contact SIF to request shop remains open this summer. Several directors expressed the view that there may be grounds for a formal complaint to HIE and this will be considered pending further discussions with HIE to see how they respond to the situation.

5. LDO Reports: PM reported on his visit to SCVO s 'The Gathering' & his enquires about the new Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations (SCIOs). A CARES loan claim is underway. JC organised Skills Development Scotland meeting in the hall for Smokehouse employees, attended the OFT fuel-pricing event in Kinlochewe, and has been looking at Coastal Communities Funding.

6. Community Energy: Wind : After telling us we had a sub 900kW capacity on the existing 11kV line, on further review SSE dropped this to sub 600kW. After consideration the £498 grid connection offer was signed and accepted, giving us time to investigate

issues further. Our CARES loan appears to have been constructed wrongly, yet it passed the CES selection panel and was accepted by Energy Saving Trust. We don't have the required 10% cash as we focussed on in-kind and other contributions to the project in our application. SH to make a £5k cash donation, PM offered to make a £10k loan. Board **RESOLVED** to ask Community Trust for a loan to CCDC. Six percent interest suggested. Turbine delivery trial run booked. Hydro: Our lawyer has made a number of amendments to the JV agreement and the draft is now with SWTs lawyers. Ben Mor Hydro Limited is still awaiting SEPAs determination on water extraction from the burn.

7. Land & Housing JC to invite Morven Taylor of HSCHT to look at Achavraie site and discuss with Achilitbuie Grazings Committee (HSCHT are working with Scottish Crofting Federation to provide information for crofters regarding land for affordable housing). Lachie Stewart, Anta has expressed interest in "slow housing" project possibility for Coigach

8. Piers & Harbours. Wallace Stone survey underway. Diving expected this week. Match funding almost all in place (HIE will pay direct, cheques requested from CCC and SIE). First payment of £5000 due now. First Leader claim due in 7 April.

9. Finance PM/JC will action HIE claim. BW will prepare cash flow.

10. Correspondence none.

11. AOCB – Several radio/press features on Gigha's 10 year anniversary of community-ownership. CCDC website to be updated with summary of Gigha's achievements (JC). Statutory info has to be added to CWP website.

DONM: Tuesday 17th April 2012. Meeting ended 22.10