

Minutes of Directors' Board Meeting**Date: Monday 25 September 2023, 7pm**

Present: Richard Williams (RW Chair), Iain Scott (IS), Sheila Green (SG), Iain Macleod (IM), Ben Walton (BW), Alison Sinclair (AS), Robin Irvine (RI); in attendance: CE Laura Hamlet (LH), LDOs Ann Marie Firth-Bernard (AMFB) and Julia Campbell (JC); HO Seoras Burnett, Lynda Sirel (LS)

Apologies: Dan Walton (DW), Julie Edwards (JE)

Declarations of interest: with the wind turbine operational, formal interests have been declared by Ben Walton and Julia Campbell who are share-holders of Achiltibuie Common Grazings. Julie Edwards works as administrator for the Coigach Community Hall. Julia Campbell is also on the Board of Communities Housing Trust, has an interest in the Acheninver path and is co-chair of the Coigach Community Hall Committee. Ann Marie Firth-Bernard is on the Board of Highland Community Broadband. Several directors are pier users. Robin Irvine is a director of Summer Isles Enterprises.

1. Welcome: RW welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising

Minutes proposed by BW; seconded by IS

3. Finance Report

Sent out in advance of the meeting and accepted by the board.

Board approval of March 2023 Statutory Accounts.

Suggestion we get a professional valuation of the Old Schoolhouse in 2024

4. Board Processes

- CCDC needs a Fair Work First policy because we will be applying to the Community Regeneration Fund. **ACTION:** board to read draft policy to ask for approval at next meeting. Comments in the meantime to LH.
- AGM planning – board approved agenda.
ACTION: AMFB to set up zoom meeting with Toni Magee of Home Energy Scotland and IS to talk through AGM day event.
ACTION: Annual Return to go to OSCR, and local advertising to be done.
ACTION: all to consider new directors

5. Management Report

- Draft Annual Report ready. **ACTION:** review progress of Annual Report at next board meeting

- External administration support structure proposal: does the board agree with the premise? Board agreed support to take that forward.
- Board agreed to adopt Health and Safety policy
- **ACTION:** LH to rearrange meeting with party interested in Smokehouse, which had been cancelled, and to ask for extension re. offer of another month.
- **ACTION:** JC to tell other interested party there is a delay

6. Housing Report

- Discussion re. moving building project forward. **ACTION:** SB to come to board with proposals re. grant applications/when cash would come in along with how much it would cost CCDC to pay to move project forward more quickly. Board approved spending up to £40K to progress project.
- Local Place Plans: **ACTION:** SB to put information together for board and to seek quote from a consultant
- LH discussed the idea of a Community Asset Transfer of Old Dornie Harbour. Noted that we would not need to become a new harbour authority, which was questioned. LH to investigate further.
- The board agreed to formally adopt the precised Housing Strategy

7. Charitable Giving

- **ACTION:** LH meeting to be schedule zoom meeting with grants working group

8. CELT

- RW (as JMT) asked if CCDC will support the Carbon Emissions Land Tax (CELT) proposal – 5 in favour, 1 abstention, 1 conflict of interest

9. AOCB

- Highlands and Islands Climate Festival 'Big Local Picnic' to take place at Acheninver on 30 September, as part of growing project. CCDC received £200 towards this.

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS – all at 7pm:

30 October 2023

AGM 13 November 2023

30 October 2023

December TBA