

Mull and Iona Community Trust
Minutes for the 142nd Directors Meeting
At the Craignure Village Hall on 21st September 2009

Meeting Started 8.00pm

1. Present: Derek Crook (DC), Sandy Brunton (SB), Crawford Morison (CM), Chris Baker (CB), Mike Story (MS), Susie Calderan (SC), Babs Whyte (BW) & Donald MacLean (DM)

In Attendance: James Hilder (JH), Vanessa Moore (VM), Tim Capper (TC)

Apologies: Maureen Dehany (MD), Christine Gash (CG) & Sue Royle (SR)

Members: Stuart Maidment, David Woodhouse & Richard Thorne

4. "Meet the Team"- Tim Capper, Community Energy Scotland Powerdown Officer

Tim provided an update on the specific objectives covering the Energy Information Point, Community Powerdown and Community Generation. With members of Mull Renewables present Tim discussed various proposals, including Community Power generation being the way forward with plans for Micro Hydro & Wind Energy generation as well as current recommended levels of insulation & the challenges Mull faces with having it installed by approved suppliers. It was agreed that the Community trust AGM on the 9th November will host a public presentation on renewable Energy on Mull. **Action DC, CB & SB to work alongside Tim in preparation for the AGM**

It was agreed that there would be a teleconference the following week to discuss how the Renewables Discussion should be carried forward at the AGM in November.

2. Minutes of July 13th – Approved by Crawford Morison & Seconded by Susie Calderan.

3. Financial update

3.1 Management Accounts & Year End

Vanessa handed out a detailed Cash flow and set of management Accounts to the Board, proposed by Chris Baker and seconded by Mike Story.

Particular reference was made to the significant net deficit from 'MICT core costs' each month and it was agreed that all projects should be reviewed to ensure they were making appropriate contributions to core costs. It was also agreed that there was a need to discuss how MICT core could be self sustaining.

The Board agreed that the current loan for Craignure is to be reviewed when Unity is contacted regarding the overdraft facilities for the Craignure project. **Action Sian Scott**

3.2 Ratification of Expenditure Requests

No expenditure to ratify.

5. Matters Outstanding

5.1 Review Updated Strategy Day Framework – Economic Opportunity Section

- It was agreed that this section would be postponed until the next Board Meeting.

5.2 Review linked External activities of Staff and Board

- It was agreed that the document would be circulated again to the Directors and carried forward to the next Board meeting. The results to be put onto the website **Action VM**
- Sandy gave a brief update of his recent attendance at the Development Trust Association (DTA) Conference in London and encouraged other Directors to also take part in other conferences etc if given the opportunity.
- The Board were advised of the up and coming Social Enterprise Network Conference in Oban and a half day course on the 'basics of being an employer' run by the DTA.

5.3 Mull & Iona 2030

- There was no update on Mull 2030.

6. Special Items

6.1 Progress on the Self Store Project

- James read out Mairi's review and updated the Board on the progress with 'the Gantry' site.
- The Board were advised that we have received quotes from Architects for the drawings for the planning application which has been requested from the Planning Department.
- The Forestry Commission have agreed on License Fee of £750.00 for the site as long as we take up the offer before the end of 2009.
- Scottish Water have advised that we will have to complete a new connection application for Business Stream before they will let us know if there is capacity for a new water and waste water connection at the site.
- The Haulier Michael Chisholm has been contact to remind him that we still want our containers moved.

6.2 CBRC – discussion on possible impact of MICT Cash flow on project

- Vanessa discussed the above impact in the Financial Update.
- It was agreed that there are concerns and cash flow is a risk factor for the building project, hence bringing forward the Unity Bank overdraft facility.
- Crawford advised the Board that he spent the day in Oban along with Sian at the BIG Lottery workshop.

6.3 Sea Eagle Funds to be distributed

- The Board were previously circulated a copy of the latest groups to receive money through the White Tailed Sea Eagle Fund.
Action VM re-circulate to MS
- The Board were advised that there will be approximately another £5,000 to be distributed.
- Directors from the Ross of Mull and Iona were encouraged to spread the word to ensure the money will be distributed fairly across the Islands. **Action DC, CM & SB**
- It was agreed that Membership forms will be sent out with their cheque to encourage more beneficiaries to join MICT.
Action VM

7. Working Group Updates

7.1 Fundraising

- The Board were advised that the subgroup have yet to meet.
- Babs Whyte advised that she is struggling to find the time to put into the working group and requested clarification of what is expected of the group.
- It was agreed that the groups main aim would be directed more at ‘Generating Income’ rather than ‘Fundraising’.
- The Board agreed that we should be looking at something more sustainable.

7.2 Membership Group

- The Board were advised that the Membership Group have met and action points are being addressed.

7.3 PR/PI

- The Website has been updated.

7.4 Personnel – Proposals for Company Sick Pay

- The Board agreed on the new Company Sick Pay Policy.

Action: The Working Groups will continue but reviewed after the AGM.

8. Community Council Update

The Board were advised that a brief had been sent and discussed at the last Community Council Meeting.

9. Correspondence

10. Members Forum

There were no members present for the Board Meeting.

11. Any Other Business (AOB)

11.1 Charity Car Club Raffle Tickets

- The Board declined the offer to sell Car Club raffle tickets in the MESS Shops.

11.2 Resignation of Michelle Cowe

- The Board were advised that Michelle Cowe has stepped down as a Director on 16th September.
- The Board expressed a note of Thanks for all of Michelle’s hard work during her Directorship.
- Sue Dewar also leaves the Trust’s employment this month and the Board wished to thank her for her work and wish her well for the future.

The meeting closed at 10.50pm. Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

There will be a teleconference to discuss the up and coming AGM on Monday 28th September at 8.15pm and the next Board meeting will now be on Monday 26th October at the Craignure Village Hall. The Iona Board meeting has been cancelled.