

**Mull and Iona Community Trust**  
**Minutes for the 143<sup>rd</sup> Directors Meeting**  
**At the Craignure Village Hall on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2009**

**Meeting Started 8.00pm**

**1. Present:** Sandy Brunton (SB), Crawford Morison (CM), Susie Calderan (SC), Babs Whyte (BW) & Maureen Dehaney (MD).

**In Attendance:** James Hilder (JH), Vanessa Moore (VM)

**Apologies:** Donald MacLean (DM), Christine Gash (CG), Derek Crook (DC), Chris Baker (CB)

**Any Other Business**

- Circulation of Documents outlining Issues for Community Energy Scotland in response to their request for priorities and effective insulation of storey and a half buildings.
- Job Plans
- The board were advised of Sue Royle's official resignation from the Mull Community Council & the Community Trust.

**2. Minutes of September 21<sup>st</sup>** - Proposed by SC & Seconded by SB

**Minutes of the AGM Planning Teleconference 28<sup>th</sup> September** - Proposed by SC & Seconded by BW

**3. Financial update**

**3.1 Management Accounts & Year End**

Vanessa handed out the first draft copy the Year End Accounts identifying some areas which she and James felt needed clarification. Vanessa is to go back to Wylie & Bisset to clarify and have a final set of accounts for signing before the Annual General Meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> November. **Action Vanessa Moore**

The Board were advised of the transfer details of the existing loan to the Unity Trust Bank & the set up of the overdraft on the main Unity Account. The Board were happy with the savings and agreed to go ahead and complete the transfer. The Board wished to Thank Vanessa for all her hard work since starting with the Community Trust nearly a year ago.

**3.2 Ratification of Expenditure Requests**

No expenditure to ratify but the Board was advised of the up and coming arrangement fees associated with the above loan transfer and overdraft set up.

**4. Matters Outstanding**

**4.1 Review Updated Strategy Day Framework – Economic Opportunity Section**

- It was agreed that this section would go through unamended, the board were happy with the Framework.

**4.2 Ratify MICT Board's position on Renewable Energy Strategy**

- The majority of the board present confirmed they agreed with the above strategy. Susie made note of her concern again & suggestion was made for Susie to take part in the AGM and voice her concerns & knowledge on the subject.
- SC accepted the majority were in favour and understood that this was how the company would proceed.

**4.3 Mull & Iona 2030**

- There was no update on Mull 2030.

**5. AGM Preparation**

**5.1 Consider 'Renewables Questions' for attendees to comment on**

- James read out a series of open questions which would be put to the general public on the 9<sup>th</sup> November at the AGM.
- The Board agreed on the questions and gave varied input on the final format of the AGM.
- It was agreed that the aim of the AGM was to gather people's view and collate the responses.
- The Board agreed the importance of making the general public aware that this was not a vote, and that they would be notified once all the information had been gathered and then be able to make a decision.
- The Board agreed to keep the address simple with less emphasis on figures so people could gain a clearer understanding.
- It was also agreed that if the community are reluctant to accept the above strategy then it would not be pursued.
- It was agreed that we need to publicise the AGM further. Vanessa to contact the Oban Times and send out posters to all Directors to put up ahead of the AGM. **Action VM**

**5.2 Note implications of Community Council's objection to Ross of Mull Renewable Energy Company's application**

- The Board were briefed by James regarding the above application for a series of 15kw wind turbines on the Ross of Mull.
- The Community Council voted against the application to avoid the money going off Island.

**5.3 Director Nominations Sought**

- There were a few suggestions put forward for new Directors for the Trust.
- Vanessa to send out Director packs to Sandy Brunton for distribution down on the Ross. **Action VM**

**5.4 Dates for 2010 Meetings**

- The Board reviewed the dates on the bottom of the Agenda and the October Board meeting was amended to Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October at the Craignure Village Hall.

## 6. Special Items

### 6.1 Progress on the Self Store Project & MESS Depot to Craignure

- The Board were advised that Graham Kent is drawing up plans for the Gantry Site which will be used to submit a planning application in due course.
- The Forestry has agreed to fix the rental rate as long as we take up the site by the end of December 2009.
- There was a suggestion by the Board to include the above project in the MICT Review at the AGM which in turn could attract some interest in the rental of the storage containers. **Action JH**
- The Board agreed that our advertising for rental should reflect the longer term price rather than the short term price to attract more people.

### 6.2 Energy Information Point Job Vacancy

- The Board were advised Viktoria Szvilas has now finished and that the above post has been re advertised but still no interest.
- The Board suggested that the advert needed to detail more about the job & its benefits. **Action JH & VM**

## 7. Working Group Updates

### 7.1 Income Generation – No update given

### 7.2 & 7.3 Membership & PR / PI

- Vanessa gave a brief update to the Board of new members who have joined and lapsed members who have renewed their membership. The membership now stands at 178.
- Updates from SB for Fionnphort & CM for Iona were given to Vanessa to update the membership Database. Many Thanks.
- The membership Mailing and autumn newsletter has gone out and already several membership forms have been returned to renew existing and / lapsed memberships.
- The Board suggested that there was a need for Voluntary Group Membership for a £10 annual fee. **Action VM**
- There was also suggestion that there is a need for a leaflet / discussion paper that explains what the Community Trust is all about and encourages people to join. To be put on all seats at the AGM. **Action VM & MS/SC to check**
- MD has volunteered to do the door at the AGM and encourage all those who are attending to join up as members.

### 7.4 Personnel

- The Board were advised that Mairi has now finalised her Maternity Leave and will be off for the full 39 weeks, returning part time in November through until Christmas.

## 8. Community Council Update

James gave a brief update on the status of the Mull Community Council and its need for new Councillors. JH is considering joining and advised the Board of an email he has drafted to send out to as many Mull contacts as possible to advise everyone of the importance of the Community Council.

## 9. Correspondence

There was no correspondence

## 10. Members Forum

There were no members present

## 11. AOB

### 11.1 Job Plans

- James advised the Board that he was going to attempt to get the staff to cut down the detail in their job plans

### 11.2 Distributed Documents

- The Board were advised that as we are members of Community Energy Scotland they have come to us to ask for ideas of what they think they should be addressing.
- James presented the documents to the Board and the Board were in agreeance with the suggestions made.
- The Board agreed that the issues were good and fair.
- The Action Research Project was also agreed.

*The meeting closed at 10.30pm. Chairman thanked everyone for attending.*

**The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting on Monday November 9<sup>th</sup> at the Craignure Village Hall at 7.30pm. All welcome earlier to assist with the setting up for the AGM**