

Mull and Iona Community Trust
Minutes for the 222nd Board Meeting
An Roth Community Enterprise Centre
Monday 12th September 2016

Meeting Started at 19:30

- **Present:** Sandy Brunton (SB), Steve Willis (SW), Jodi MacLeod (JML), Carolyne Charrington (CC), Caroline Wood (CW), Andrew Robertson (AR), Derek Crook (DC), Rob MacManaway (RM) (via telephone), Chris Baker (CB) & Alexa Kershaw (AK)
 - **In Attendance:** Moray Finch (MF), Laura Percy (LP)
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1. Welcome, Apologies and AOB

- Chair, SB welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.
- Apologies were received from: Maureen Dehany, Babs Whyte
- Any other business:
 - **9.1** – Craignure Pier
 - **9.2** – Island Connections

2. Correction, Approval & Actions of minutes from Monday 8th August 2016

2.1 Correction of minutes Monday 8th August 2016

- CC was at the meeting but is marked as an apology. LP to correct.

2.2 Approval of previous minutes:

- DC proposed and AR seconded.

2.3 Actions from minutes:

- 1. MF to approach staff about ERDF Funding bid. **Sian Scott and Nancy Winfield completed the application but a letter of rejection was received on Monday 12th September.**
- 2. MF to find out current Strategy day numbers. **The strategy day was postponed.**
- 3. Publicise FCS Disposals on our Facebook Page MF/LP. **MF submitted an expression of interest, Facebook post to follow.**
- 4. Reschedule Sustainability meeting MF. **Rescheduled for Mon 19th September.**
- 5. Submit Expression of Interest to FCS for Ardura and Glen Forsa Forests MF. **MF submitted expression of interest to FCS on Monday 12th September.**

3. Declarations of Interest

- The scheduled maintenance and emergency repair contract for Garmony Hydro was awarded to AR and CB in August.

4. Finance

4.1 Finance Report

- The MESS finance report was circulated to the Board prior to the meeting. All 3 shops are doing well. Craignure is down against its budget but overall ahead. SW asked how the budget was calculated and MF and SB explained that it was a % increase each year. The Board congratulated the staff and volunteers on their hard work. CB commented that it might be useful if there was another clothing bank in Tobermory. RMcM reported that it was discussed at the Iona Community Council meeting that a clothing bank on Iona was no longer felt to be necessary.

4.2 Membership numbers

- LP updated the Board on the current membership number which is 305 with renewals from Ruth Fleming, Mr Morton, Mrs Hart & Flora Cameron.

5. Personnel

5.1. Staff reviews

- Vanessa's appraisal was completed on 7th September with MD and MF.

5.2 HR & Staff Salaries Review

- Vanessa and CW made a good start on the HR review last week.

5.3 Sustainability Manager Post

- Organised for Monday 19th September. The meeting will be about getting someone to help MF and about exploring more possibilities for MESS expansion. SB talked about LEADER funding as a possible option.

**Actions from
Board Meeting**

1. MF to send message out to staff about the strategy day.
2. LP to edit minutes re Chris Baker
3. LP to edit minutes re finance report from last board meeting
4. MF to Prepare amendment of the MICT Articles of Association
5. CW & JML to present plans for Christmas celebrations

6. Special Items

6.1 General Manager's Report

- CW told the Board about the DTAS Conference, a really good networking opportunity.
- MF discussed his trip to Blair Athol to learn about Bracken harvesting and his thoughts on the future of Anaerobic Digestion.
- Island Connection Conference organised by the council, CC would like to go along with JML.
- The Board discussed the various possibilities of community ownership of council assets.
- Craignure Pier – MF discussed his paper on Craignure Pier and the possible community acquisition. The Board supported this proposal.
- Housing summit – SB and MF congratulated JML – need to follow through on actions.
- CW declared an interest in the Dervaig Community Orchard project which has applied for funding to The Waterfall Fund.
- AR congratulated the staff on their hard work in getting An Roth to the strong position it is now in financially.
- AGM – Approach Members about joining the MICT board as Directors.

6.2 DTAS oil buy scheme for heating oil and Ulva Ferry Pontoon

- MF gave details to the Board of an opportunity that has arisen to take advantage of the DTAS oil buying scheme at Ulva Ferry pontoon.

6.3 Strategy Review

- The Board agreed a new date for the strategy day: Friday 11th November 09:30-16:30

6.4 Approve submission of Low Carbon Community Transport (LCCT) bid

- Previously discussed

6.5 Approve application to Cycle Scotland

- Proposed by CB and seconded by AR

6.6 Rural Resettlement Fund

- JML talked to the Board about Argyll and Bute Council's Rural Resettlement Fund, the Board had mixed reactions to the idea.

6.7 Review Articles of Association

- MF previously circulated email with articles of association for review and specifically to check that we are operating within our powers and objectives. MF asked the Board for their comments. The Board reviewed the document and conformed that the Articles of Association are suitable for current operations but agreed that amendments be prepared in order to allow the Company to take advantage of the Community Empowerment Act and the latest amendments to the Land Reform Act. DC proposed CB seconded. MF will sort out changes to adopt new articles at AGM.

6.8 Volunteer of the year award

- Nominations this year included MESS volunteers as a whole and another member of the community. MF and SB attending the award ceremony in Oban. The Board once again commended the volunteers and staff of MESS for their work.

6.9 Rural Innovators award

- Ulva Ferry Housing Partnership has been nominated for an award at the Scottish Rural Parliament event.

6.10 Plans for AGM

- Board discussed plans for this year's AGM – the Board agreed it would be a standard AGM format; there would be no celebration of Achievements as done in previous years.

6.6 Plans for Christmas events

- More to report at the next Board meeting. The Board then had a discussion about office operations and MF said he would speak to the office staff. CW, DC, JML and SB to be involved.

6.7 Community Land Scotland

- Inner Islands Gathering at Isle of Mull Hotel – 4th and 5th October, MF going.

6.8 Issues List

- No update

7. Steering Group Reports

7.1 Sea Eagle Partnership

- No update

7.2 Intergenerational Project, Together Young and Old

- Not started

7.3 Light Industrial Park Tobermory

- Progressing well. Successful work party to install strainer posts – thanks to staff and directors who attended and Forestry Commission Scotland for their help. Meeting with Big Lottery on Wednesday 14 September

7.4 Mull Community Development Plan

- Remove from next agenda – project now finished.

7.5 MESS

- Previously discussed

7.6 Ulva Ferry LDO

- Hopeful for further funding from HIE to fund post – pending a business case being submitted.

7.7 Ulva Ferry Housing Partnership

- We have now started paying invoices for the houses.

7.8 Ulva Ferry pontoon

- Now fully open for business following successful launch. Phase 2 plans being made.

7.9 Ranger Service

- News expected in the next couple of weeks from SNH regarding future funding

7.10 Long distance path and viewpoint project

- No update

7.11 SMI

- No update

7.12 Mull Musical Minds

- No update

7.13 ACCESS Project

- Slowly progressing.

8. Discussion Items

8.1 None

9. Any Other Business

10. Members Forum - No members present

Meeting closed at 22:00

The next Board Meeting will be held at An Roth on Monday 24th October 2016

Signed

Name

Date