

Mull and Iona Community Trust
Minutes for the 230th Board Meeting
An Roth Community Enterprise Centre, Craignure
Monday 10th July 2017

Meeting Started at 19:30

Present: Caroline Wood (CW), Steve Willis (SW), Derek Crook (DC), Chris Baker (CB), Ian Jones (IJ), Sandy Brunton (SB), Alexa Kershaw (AK) via Skype, Rob MacManaway (RMcM) and Andrew Robertson (AR)

In Attendance: Dot Stewart (DS) & Laura Percy (LP)

1. Welcome, Apologies and AOB

- Apologies were received from: Emma Alecock (EA), Carolyne Charrington (CC), Moray Finch (MF), Vanessa MacLean (VML), Tom Corbett (TC)
- Any other business:
 - 9.1. Delivery of Board Papers
 - 9.2. GigaPlus Argyll communication

2. Approve Minutes – Monday 12th June 2017

2.1 Approval of minutes of Monday 12th June 2017 & review of actions

- There were no corrections to the minutes.
- CB proposed and AR seconded.

2.2 Matters Arising

- All items covered on the agenda
- The Board had a brief discussion about the sale and community acquisition of the Isle of Ulva.

3. Declarations of Interest

- Chris Baker is no longer vice chair of Mull Car Club and is now chair of Mull First Aid.

4. Finance

4.1 There was no finance paper this month in VML's absence.

4.2 Membership number - 266.

- LP informed the Board that once we have a new administrator working in the office, the membership will be easier to keep on top of.

5. Personnel

5.1 Staff reviews

- Ongoing as per AR's schedule
 - AR asked the Board to send him a reminder when a staff review has taken place so that he can keep track of whose appraisal is due next.

5.2 HR Review including Policy Approvals – Appraisal Policy

- Ongoing. CW and EA to present the Appraisal Policy to VML first for approval before submitting to the Board.

6. Special Items

6.1 General Manager's Report

- CB updated the Board on the very latest news with GigaPlus Argyll. It's been very difficult to know what to say to the public because GPA don't know what's going to happen either since AB Internet went into administration. Very complex conversations happening at a high level. SW asked some questions about the viability of the whole project. CB informed the Board that a communication is due to go out soon to all the people who have signed up for updates.
- The Board asked for further information on Moray's note about the polytunnel at Buinessan School.
- Long distance path – DC to join steering group
- DC to attend Apprentice meeting
- Ardura Forest – Moray in ongoing consultation with Tillhill, outlining financials. An Alternative to commercial forestry was discussed involving ecological restoration of the ancient woodland in the area. Discussions ongoing.
- Aros Walled Garden – arrange an open day and ask for community suggestions.
- SB thanked everyone involved in all of the various projects.
- AR asked about cruise ships fees at Ulva Ferry Pontoon.
- West Highland Housing Association letters of support – more houses now being built at Lochdon.

**Actions from
Board Meeting**

1. CW & EA to finalise the Appraisal Policy. (CW & EA) **Ongoing**

2. Vanessa to do a review of Sales against Expenditure for the Pontoon Year to Date. (VML) **Ongoing**

3. DS, SB, CW, RMcM, IJ and AK to consider award nominations.

4. DS and MF to discuss Ranger Service Board updates.

5. LP to develop Director's Login on website.

6.2 Issues List

- All items on the issues list are in hand.
 - Item 14 done so take off list

6.3 20th Birthday Celebration Update

- No further progress. DS suggested to combine something with AGM, attendance at shows.
- SB suggested making a birthday card/newsletter. The Board liked the idea.
- DS to contact Susie Chalupa and James Hilder to ask for photos.
- The Board felt it was important to name all the volunteers and directors who have been involved with MICT over the years
- AR, CB, SW, DC will help with names.

6.4 Acceptance of Regeneration Capital Grant Fund for Tobermory Light Industrial

- Mairi Greig email to Board refers. The Board recognised the project may take longer now that the Big Lottery grant application was rejected. There is a tight deadline involved with the RCGF grant although we haven't had the grant agreement back yet. The Board accepted the RCGF.

6.5 Update on review of Mull and Iona Community Trust/An Roth Trading Limited trading activities and VAT

- Ongoing/no update.

6.6 Update on application to Forestry Commission Scotland regarding Ardura Forest

- Covered earlier in meeting in General Managers report.

6.7 Highland Business Awards and SURF Awards

- The Board discussed the merits and pitfalls of self-nominated awards. A couple of Board members expressed concern that the award ceremonies were expensive to attend. SB emphasised that whilst expensive, the awards are highly recognisable and demonstrate our achievements. DS, SB, CW, RMcM, IJ and AK to have a think about which awards we might like to apply to, particularly which project officers might be able to help with the application.

6.8 MICT Strategy

- DS raised MICT's Strategy with the Board because we haven't actually reviewed our strategic document as we intended after our strategy day, it needs quite a lot of work putting into it. Needs a small working group of directors and staff and have it clear to present at the AGM. SB, IJ, VML, CW, MF and DS to be involved. DS emphasised the importance in reviewing MICT's strategy in order to help staff and directors understand the direction the Trust is taking and what projects we should strive to be involved in.

6.9 Childcare Project Update

- DS gave an update to the Board on the withdrawal from the summer holiday trial of 1140 hours childcare through Mini Muileachs due to recruitment issues. The Board discussed whether to continue with the trial and try to run the service during other school holidays. Due to the amount of work still required and the potential risk to MICT's reputation, the Board decided to withdraw from the entire trial but agreed it had been an invaluable learning curve. We will continue with the Care Inspectorate application, the process will be useful to the development work. DS updated the Board that the site originally under consideration for the nursery was now not felt to be suitable for the project and updated on the potential new site and plans. Board supportive.

6.10 Islands (Scotland) Bill – Call for Evidence

- Ewan Masson meeting Mull Community Council and Iona Community Council on 11th July, meeting MF on morning of 12th. SW and RMcM to send quick report to Board to give them a heads up for what to expect. Public meeting arranged for August. AR, DC, RMcM and SB to be involved.

6.11 Ulva Ferry Housing Passive House Status

- Helen MacDonald asked the Board to consider Passive House Certification options for the Ulva Ferry Houses. Work has already been undertaken by Thorne Wyness Architects and there are various options that could be pursued: Passive House Certification, PHI Certification, AECB Silver Standard and Building Warrant Silver Standard. Helen recommended AECB Silver Standard and Building Warrant Silver Standard as the higher costs for the other certificates were difficult to justify when we have other budget commitments.
- The Board decided they were happy to go with Helen's recommendation.
- The Board discussed other budget restraints for the Ulva Ferry Houses.

7. Steering Group Reports

7.1 Recycling Project

- Now underway. Various meetings happening. IJ said Sian Scott was making good progress.

7.2 Childcare Project

- Covered on agenda.

7.3 Tobermory Lighthouse Path

- After some delays work started this morning on site, lots of clearing work. Materials delivered by the Northern Lighthouse Board. More updates coming soon as it develops but progress is being made.

7.4 Eagle Partnership

- No update.

7.5 Intergenerational Project

- Workshops have happened. Concerts coming up in August

7.6 Light Industrial

- Report from Andrew Pinkerton outlining procurement strategy.

7.7 MESS

- Steering group meeting in Bunessan on 18th July.

7.8 Ulva Ferry LDO & Housing

- Discussion about topsoil. SB suggested asking on Everything Mull. CB to help.

7.9 Ulva Ferry Pontoon

- CB working on WiFi. Phase 2 ongoing. Regatta on hold.

7.10 Ranger Service

- No update. DS suggested that it is reviewed how the Ranger Service update the Board on their progress.

7.11 Long Distance Path

- No update.

7.13 Mull and Iona Community Councils

- Iona Community Council - Mike Russell and Ewan Masson visiting soon. Update on Iona housing planning applications. Iona pods. New coastal rowing skiff getting more use.
- Mull Community Council – objection to Celtic Sea Loch Scridain oyster development. The objection is to the provider not the development.

8. Discussion Items

- There were no discussion items.

9. Any Other Business

9.1 . Board papers – LP could make a directors area on website. LP, MF and DS to look into it.

9.2. GigaPlus Argyll communication – covered on agenda. SW has received questions about GigaPlus Argyll because there has been a perceived lack of communication from the group.

10. Members Forum

No members present

Meeting closed at 10.00pm

**The next Board Meeting will be held at An Roth on Monday 14th August.*

Signed

Name

Date