

Mull and Iona Community Trust
Minutes for the 240th Board Meeting
By teleconference
Friday 15 December 2017

Meeting Started at 19:00

Present: Sandy Brunton (SB) – Chair, Chris Baker (CB), Rob MacManaway (RM), Andrew Robertson (AR), Caroline Wood (CW), Ian Jones (IJ), Derek Crook (DC), Alexa Kershaw (AK), Tom Corbett (TC), Emma Alecock (EA), Gemma Paterson (GP)

Apologies: Steve Ohlsen (SO), Alex Stevens (AS), Helen MacDonald (HM)

In Attendance: Moray Finch (MF), Dot Stewart (DS), and Cally Fleming (CF)

1. The meeting was convened to discuss a response to the message sent by email on 14 December 2017 by Colin Morrison, Chair of North West Mull Community Woodland Company.
 2. MF opened the discussion with reference to staff concerns in particular from the Ulva Ferry Local Development Officers about local perceptions of the “passive” stance taken by the MICT board in the statement agreed at the Board meeting on 11 December.
 3. CF commented extensively about recent feedback from Ulva Ferry residents and expressed concern that our projects in Ulva Ferry, in particular the Shore Facilities Building may find difficulty maintaining local support in the event of failure of the ballot and consequential attachment of blame to the passive MICT stance. MF noted that this presented a business risk to MICT as the shore facilities building is necessary if the pontoon is to be a commercial success.
 4. A number of board members expressed the view that the statement from the 11 December Board meeting should remain unchanged, had been thoroughly discussed and agreed after much debate. There was concern that MICT is being pressured into providing explicit support despite the fact that the majority of its membership is not entitled to vote in the ballot.
 5. AS was unable to attend the teleconference and had asked for her views to be noted; as a new member of the board from outside the NWMCWC area, AS is concerned that a passive stance would be viewed negatively by many, in particular by younger people who otherwise would not be interested or aware of MICTs activities and this posed a major risk of reputational damage to MICT.
 6. Two alternative versions of the statement had been drafted by MF and circulated prior to the meeting. These were discussed at great length with no consensus reached. Given that the two versions might still not be acceptable to NWMCWC it was felt sensible to seek a meeting with NWMCWC to find a constructive way forwards.
 7. It was agreed that MF draft a response to Colin Morrison on Saturday 16 December, that the board comment on this, and then SB send it by Sunday.
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Meeting closed at 20.35pm

**The next Board Meeting will be held at An Roth on Monday 8th January 2018 at 7.30pm.*

Signed

Name

Date

**Actions from
Board Meeting**

1. MF to draft message to NWMCWC for comment.
2. Sandy Brunton to send message once finalised