

**Approved minutes of the Coigach Community Development Company
Directors' Meeting, Monday August 16th 2010, 7.00 pm**

Present and Apologies: Present Linda Macleod (for part of Meeting, see below.) Anne Macleod, Ann Macleod, Iain Muir Phil Shaughnessy, Nick Clooney, and Richard Williams. Apologies-Steve Husband.

1.Minutes of last meeting/s

We had been unable to approve the Minutes of the meeting on 18.05.2010 as there was a power cut and we were unable to have copies of the minutes to hand. Approval proposed by NC and seconded by LM. The Minutes of the meeting on 22.6.10 were also approved, proposed by AnneM, seconded by PS.

The meeting planned for 16.8.2010 was inquorate due to holidays and work commitments. It had been attended by NC, AnneM and AAB who took the opportunity to organise the advertising and details for the LDO position, ready for approval by the rest of the Directors. Lindsay Campbell from HIE had supplied us with templates for the advert and the job specification.

1 Matters arising:

a)IM proposed approval of the actions re recruitment and advertising which were discussed and sanctioned following the inquorate meeting, seconded by PS.

b)AAB had spoken to Joseph Peach re recruiting one or two Junior members to attend meetings and keep up with the activities of CCDC. Joseph had seemed keen on the idea and AAB will arrange a meeting with him to pursue this. Some discussion took place as to whether or not the Directors would need Disclosure if we had Junior Members or whether a guardian would need to attend also.

c)IM asked AAB if she had been in touch with Wendy Reid as yet re us joining DTAS.

This had not been done yet but would be done asap by AAB.

2 LDO recruitment:

AAB reported that there had been a good number of applicants for the job. IM, AnneM, NC and AAB had met to draw up a shortlist. There was no date for interviews as yet as we had asked Lindsay if she could supply us with some help with the interviews, from the team at HIE. NC had drafted a letter to the interviewees to be sent out as soon as we hear from Lindsay and finalise a date. AnneM and NC were to be on the interview panel alongside the person organised by Lindsay. We discussed other aspects of the LDO interviews such as the possibility of job-share which we agreed we supported. NC had confirmed that the Hall office could be used by the LDO as long as it did not interrupt the smooth running of the Hall. A rent for office space was suggested of approx £20 pw. IM said he would clarify with Lindsay re the set up of the post and materials re the contract. (LM came into the meeting at this point)

3 Report from the Community Energy Sub-Committee

AAB reported that we had heard from Dorothy Stott at the Planning Dept, following the scoping letter sent by Roger from Atmos. She had advised us that a full Environmental Impact Assessment would be required. Ms Stott had sent supporting documents from SNH who wished for a full EIA and SEPA who did not request one but sent a detailed list of requirements. Our initial enquiries suggested that it would not be worth appealing against this decision. AAB was arranging a meeting in the near future to work out what was the best way of progressing with this. Action: As SH was away AAB would arrange a meeting with Alison H. regarding the work involved in a full EIA and the funding of it.

4 Report from Land and Housing Sub-committee

PS reported that we would have to pay solicitor's fees involved in any transfer of land offered to us by A. Graham. He also said that there were problems of access. IM outlined some historical issues regarding difficulties of access. PS agreed to ask Iain Campbell about the crofting issues. Action: PS

AAB reported that she had spoken to Ian Heron from the Land Unit and he advised that the offer re the Hydroponicum ground would need to be a formal written offer, not just through an intermediary, (in this case Alison H). The owners would need to formally inform the Land Unit as well. Some discussion followed regarding the whereabouts of the owners who were thought to have left Ullapool and gone to live in Spain. Action: Housing Sub-Committee to contact owners to request a formal written offer

5 Report from Piers and Harbours sub-committee

PS and AAB reported that Cllr J Urquhart was looking into what may be the next steps re further extensive work needing done on Badentarbet Pier. Action: AAB to give Cllr JU the contact details for PS so that the Group be kept up to date.

6 Treasurer's Report.

Sheila Green had agreed to be our Treasurer but had no tasks as yet as we had not yet opened a bank account. Actions: IM to expedite Bank account and AAB to pass on copies of Minutes to SG to inform her of ongoing issues.

7 AOCB.

IM reported that SWT had been given a donation for otter conservation in Coigach. Mark Foxwell had discussed the possibility of a path way-marked from the end of the Broch to take people round the point, following the coastline round to the public access between Island View and the Piping School. Mark would like this to be done under the auspices of the CCDC if possible. There was to be an artificial otter holt constructed which could be viewed from the path. He was keen to involve schoolchildren in the project. Action: PS to ask IM(po) and Ian Campbell about Grazings issues.

AAB reported that she had attended an event in Lochinver at the invitation of Mark Foxwell (no-one else had been available that day). The event had been to introduce the Assynt and Coigach Living Landscapes Initiative, sponsored by SWT. This was concerned with preserving the ecosystems in the area. A consultant, Amanda Bryan had been appointed to see what sort of projects would be feasible. The Assynt groups attending had been very welcoming and were keen for Coigach to be involved. IM, NC and RW agreed to be the Sub –group to deal with this. Action- Sub Group to meet with Amanda when she came to Coigach. IM to e-mail web link to the project to rest of group.

RW was applying to the Broadband Challenge fund for Tanera. Stated he would be grateful for a letter of support from CCDC. It was thought that improved broadband was an infrastructure necessity if new people were to be attracted to the Island as well as helping the viability of existing businesses, with a spin off to the mainland economy. All

agreed that we should support this. Action: LM to liaise with RW before writing a letter of support.

Date of next Meeting Monday Sept 20th2010 at 19.00.The Meeting closed at 20.35.