

Minutes

Present: Iain Scott (vice chair/IS), Ann Macleod (AAB), Ben Walton (Treasurer/BW), Steve Husband (SH), Phil Shaughnessy (PS), in attendance: Peter Muir (Smokehouse Development Officer/PM), Julia Campbell (JC/LDO), guest Richard Williams (RW/CALL)

Apologies: Iain Muir (IFM), Linda Macleod (LM), Anne Campbell (AAC)

1. IS welcomed all to the meetings including Richard Williams who gave a brief update on CALL projects in Coigach. RW circulated timetable of deadlines etc for projects to be included in Part 2 of CALL's HLF application and will email copies to board/LDOs. RW asked if CCDC would like SWT to process payments to contractors etc or if there was a benefit to CCDC undertaking the work (ie IF there was a management fee that would provide further employment of admin staff). ACTION: To be discussed ALL.

RW attended a production meeting last week to discuss Achlochan projects and interpretation with crofters Una MacGregor, Mairi Thornton and Ian Mackenzie.

Jan Faulkingham (self-employed land consultant) has volunteered to look over projects and proposes visiting the area in September to walk the proposed path projects to give a rough assessment of work required and a high level price for inclusion in the CALL project.

Polbain Paths: Action: On behalf of CALLP JC was asked to advise interested parties that there is funding available if Polbain Grazings Committee and Achiltibuie Tourist Association wish to take the project forward.

CALLP are holding open days on Monday 1 September (Elphin) and Tuesday 2 September (Coigach) to allow members of the public/community to comment on projects and add suggestions. RW will make a point of inviting Coigach Crofters. Action: RW will email JC PDF poster to advertise on CCDC website.

2. Minutes of Directors' Meeting 21st July; Proposed by BW, seconded by AAB.

3. Matters arising:

Action: IFM will speak to HIE about JC's hours (carry forward)

Action: PM to initiate recruitment of Renewables Project Officer (carry forward)

HSCHT Allocation policy: requested and received by LDOs. (Action completed)

SYHA: AAC and JC have arranged visit to current warden (carry forward)

Action: PM to contact Crown Estates regarding 50 year lease of land by Smokehouse (carry forward)

Action: JC to investigate Windows 365 (carry forward).

4. Finance: The co-op access key fob for JC has finally arrived. Paul Capewell, A9 Accountant's offer to attend the AGM was warmly welcomed. Accounts have to be submitted to Companies House by 30th November.

5. Date for AGM: Provisional date Tuesday 18th November. Action: JC to check if Paul Capewell and IFM are both available then circulate AGM timetable to all.

6. Community Energy:

- a) Wind Turbine

PM has given CWP's figures to the accountant.

- b) Ben Mòr Hydro

After staff changes SWT are getting up to speed and progress should soon be made again on the hydro project. BMH land legalities are close to completion.

- c) Renewables Project Manager

Tender document for hydro & wind projects joint project management has been approved by CCDC board, but we are awaiting BMH's view on this approach. Action: IFM to contact Johnny Hughes CEO of SWT if there are any further delays.

7. Land and Housing :
 - a) Schoolhouse Action: JC to email Robbie Bain THC for feedback.
 - b) SYHA Acheninver Action: JC and AAC to ask warden for visitor figures etc.
8. Piers & Harbours: Cllr Ian Cockburn will tell CCC when the Harbour Board is meeting as there is a possibility of them coming to Coigach. RW is organising a Piers and Harbours Group meeting to discuss the next step once they have received advice from the Harbour Board. P&H Group now have an even stronger case to present to THC as there is evidence of the problems caused to local business and the community.
9. Smokehouse: PM has produced GANTT chart and finding it helpful. ACTION: PM to update for each subsequent Board meeting. Architect has made site visit. PM is in discussion with potential users. Results of asbestos tests are negative. PS asked if it would be possible to clear some of the unnecessary materials out of the building as it gave a bad impression of the situation. ACTION: PM to consider how we could do this whilst ensuring nothing of value was thrown out. Smokehouse insurance brought up to date to reflect increased activity on site.
10. Flensburg Students Visit: Wulf Boie, University of Flensburg will make initial visit on around the 9th September in anticipation of the students' residency in February 2015.
11. Community Broadband: Andrew Muir has emailed letter with relevant information as requested. ACTION: JC to update and prepare for sending to BT.
12. Paths/CALL covered by RW at the beginning of the meeting.
13. AOCB: none.
14. LDO Monthly Report: Smokehouse Pop-up shop was well received and attracted a lot of interest and general enjoyment by both participants (stall holders, volunteers and donators) and shoppers and visitors. Income generated for Coigach Community Hall approximately £300.
15. Date of Next Meeting: Monday 22nd September,