

**Minutes of Board Meeting for  
North West Mull Community Woodland Company Ltd  
Meeting held at Dervaig Church Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2011**

**Present:** John Morrison, Colin Morrison, Pete Pinnington, Catriona Duncan, Alex Duncan, Matthew Reade, Chris Baker, Ailsa Morgan, Calum Duffy and Ann Evans (Company Secretary).

**Also Present:** Ian Hepburn (Development Manager) and Belinda Hale (Administrator)

1. CM **welcomed** everyone to the Meeting

2. There were no **apologies**

3. The **Minutes** of the Board Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2010 were signed by CM as a true record of the proceedings.

4. **Matters Arising.** IAH had been to a meeting where he had an informal conversation with a Director of HIE who advised him to apply for an extension of our grant period. IAH has since spoken to Claire Hannah about this and she will send the relevant forms.

Our solicitors have written to David Thomas with the result that he has removed the unsanctioned dam he built on NWMCWC land.

5. Several **items** were **declared** that do not appear on the **Agenda**: Access, use of land by David Thomas, Pete Pinnington's water supply and Tobermory Harbour Association's plans for a wind farm.

6. JM had previously circulated his **Finance Report**. He highlighted that the Company is still short of cash although this will be helped by CES repaying some of the expenditure on the Micro Hydro report. Christmas Tree sales have now brought in £1200, an excellent total.

JM and IAH presented the **Annual Accounts** prepared by Clements. These were unanimously accepted by the Board and signed by CM and AE. These accounts will be presented to the Members at the AGM.

7. IAH had previously circulated his **Development Manager's Report**. Tilhill have agreed to carry out a survey for the proposed pontoon at Fishnish. The FC will probably want a permanent pier eventually, not necessarily at Fishnish, and we may need to commit to use it to help them get finance.

All the necessary funding for the **Access** feasibility study is now in place.

Recent work on the **Micro Hydro** project has shown the situation to be slightly better than the original projections and Tony Proud's rainfall records validate the model predictions. It is still hoped to get the full survey completed in time to apply for planning permission at the end of March.

8. **Sub Committee Reports.** JM and PP made a report on the supply of **Woodfuel** which has raised £2300 in the last year. They are the main volunteers for this source of good income for the Company and have worked very hard to meet all the invoiced orders, plus the logs that form part of David Winfield's servitude.

9. **Fundraising.** It was agreed that Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March should be the date for the Bingo Night which will include a raffle and refreshments but no bar. A portable DVD player has been donated as one

of the main prizes. **Action CatD** to organise everything and send BH copy for posters. **Action BH** to design and help distribute posters.

**10.** The **date** for the **AGM** was confirmed as Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February in Dervaig Village Hall. **Action BH** to arrange required notices and publicity. **Action IAH** to write again to Community Council to see if they wish to nominate a representative on the NWMCWC Board. All the Directors agreed to think about suitable nominees for the Board as some of the Directors are due to retire at the AGM.

**11. Correspondence.** IAH has received a reply from A&B about the concerns regarding David Thomas's development. They have referred the demolition of the workshop to another department and agreed to keep an eye on things pending a formal Planning Application from Mr Thomas.

**12. Any other Competent Business.** A request was made by neighbours for NWMCWC to enforce the limitation in the deeds that stops land previously used as Dervaig Motors being used for tourism. Although it would be easier for this to be done by a Company rather than private individuals it was agreed after extensive discussion not to seek enforcement of the restriction. **Action IAH** to ask for detailed plans of the proposed development and to formally turn down the neighbour's request.

AM thought some picnic benches and seats could be put up on scenic parts of the haul route that are on our land. It was suggested that local businesses could be invited to sponsor them. CB volunteered to sponsor one. **Action AAR subcomm** to organise.

Mike Shilson has contacted JM about the Tobermory Harbour Association's wind turbine project and requested the Board to consider allowing it to be sited on our land. It was agreed that the will of the local community has been made quite clear during consultation for previous projects. If a formal application is made by Tobermory Harbour Association it was agreed that the answer should be no.

PP asked permission to re-route his water supply in case it is affected by felling operations in Langamull. The Board agreed in principle and PP is to verify the source. It may need a new servitude, and one of the proposed forest crofts is nearby so IAH to liaise with PP on this.

**13.** It was agreed that the **next Board Meeting** will be held immediately after the AGM on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February in Dervaig Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.10pm.