

**Minutes of Board Meeting for
North West Mull Community Woodland Company Ltd
Meeting held on Mon 26 October 2015**

Present: Colin Morrison, John Morrison, Andy Mayo, Iain Thomson, John Addy

Also Present: Malcolm Ward (Development manager)

1. CM **welcomed** everyone to the meeting.
2. There were **apologies** from Ian Hepburn and Neil Munro.
3. The **minutes** from **21 September 2015** were signed by CM as a true record of the proceedings.
4. **Matters arising.**
 - AM suggested we should have further discussion on boiler size for the woodshed development
5. **Items not on the agenda**
 - Applecross hydro
 - Forest design plan revision
 - Fireworks night
6. The **finance report** was circulated by AM prior to the meeting.
 - Cash flow in trading company good as invoicing is now up to date and woodfuel sales increase
 - An additional monthly deduction is now being made to finance the truck cost
 - Due to being unable to access our online account the Triodos Bank figure is lower than actual
Action: AM to update
 - Our thanks and condolences to the family of Barbara Hartley whose kind donation of £671 from a collection at Barbara's funeral has been placed in the bank to create a memorial at the woodland burial ground.
7. The **Development Manager's Report** had been circulated by MW prior to the meeting.
 - IAH met with Tilhill to update on Forest management activities. Due to the continued decline of the saw log market the pre-agreed price we achieve with the mill may need to be adjusted down however it is not expected to be a large drop and will allow us to export more of the timber waiting at roadside. MW to confirm with Tilhill that the promised picnic tables would be supplied/paid for.
 - Island Woodfuels: It's expected that our truck will be on the road and delivering within the next few days – payment of the operator's licence is being made and we await final confirmation of receipt.
8. **Micro Hydro:** This item to be carried forward to be the main agenda item for the next meeting. The board felt a full discussion was required on the design of the next stage of the project.
9. **Access:** MW suggested that as Louise (Administrator) is attending training on the "Branching Out" project it would be worth progressing a new footpath project to create an area both for public use and for "Branching Out" events. JA reminded all that the Waterfall path was the preferred option during the community access consultation and that we should concentrate efforts here. **Action: MW to confirm funding available for path creation.**
10. **Volunteering opportunities:** We currently require more help with all parts of our activities. MW advised we had been contacted by a new member of the community who expressed an interest in

assisting. JA suggested we may wish to contact interested members who would wish to assist with native woodland and coppice management.

11. **Housing:** A meeting has been arranged for 6 November to discuss best practice in social housing provision and housing need in Craignure. CM to accompany MW.

12. **Woodfuels:** As we can now deliver with our 7.5 ton delivery vehicle, a new procedure for processing firewood, stocking and delivering it is required. A work party was arranged for Tuesday 27 October to work through this new procedure. **Action: CM, MW, JA and JM work party**

13. **Crofts:** Quarterly crofters meeting has been rescheduled from 2 November to 9 November. This is to discuss management plans. Most of the crofters are now some way through their plans.

14. **Correspondence:** No correspondence

15. **Any other competent business:**

- **Applecross hydro:** Following a visit by CM to Applecross, funding and design of their hydro project was discussed and how we may be influenced by their decisions. A particular point was made in respect to their share offer.
- **Forest design plan:** The latest review of the forest design plan has been received by MW from Tilhill Forestry. It was decided that when everyone has had a chance to review this that a specific meeting would not be held but that directors should email their issues to MW to be forwarded to Tilhill for discussion and correction. **Action: All to email points to MW. MW to forward on.**
- **Bonfire night:** A request for firewood has been received for the Dervaig bonfire night by CM. **Action: AQ to deliver poles and waste slabs to the site.**

16. **Dates of next meetings:** 30 November 2015
21 December 2015 (provisional)

Development Report October 2015

1. **Forest management** – IAH met with Tilhill representatives on 14 October to discuss and update on forest activities. Revised forest management plan received. BBC Landward filming took place.
2. **Housing** – MW met with Rural Housing Scotland / Our Island Home on 21 October to update on affordable housing project. RHI/OIH reported that WHHA are still showing a level of interest in the project but haven't replied to our own correspondence yet. MW attending island housing meeting at Craignure 6 November. West Property advise no further activity with WA house plots – they are fully aware of adjustments we can make to site with felling etc and will advise clients as necessary.
3. **Island Woodfuels** – Fuel orders picking up now considerably for season.
Woodshed: Drawings and questions received from Engineers. Response made and they've been advised of level of urgency.
Training: MW attended Usewoodfuel training event in Turriff 14 October – Fuel sampling and testing.
Vehicle: Operators licence received. Log bags delivered. Vehicle and Hiab operation tested. Clarifying loading training with AQ week beginning 26 October. Decals for all vehicles received.
4. **Forest Crofts** – Review meeting re-arranged for 9 November.
5. **Micro Generation – Hydro West Ardhu** – Planning permission for full project received and application for feed in tariff accepted prior to deadline. We await consideration as in a queue of at least 1500 projects.
6. **Woodland Burials** – Quotation received for groundworks of access road and car parking area. MW has asked the contractor to re-quote for full site. MW prepared and sent pre-planning enquiry to A&BC . Site to be named Sithean Riabhach Woodland Burial Ground and company/internet name Isle of Mull Woodland Burials.
7. **Toilets** – Third Sector Transfer with holding department who are producing a revised business plan in response to our application. They're scheduled to update on 27 October (committee meeting scheduled for 9 December).

MW 23/10/15

North West Mull Community Woodland Company Limited

Finance Report to 30th September

Current Balance

Petty : £39.33

Bank : Clydesdale: £62,620.23 Triodos: £20,049.35 Total: £82,708.91

Significant movements since last report

Debits

1. CPC training for truck	£700.00
2. SSE Hydro connection feed	£1,038.73
3. Mott MacDonald – additional hydro plans	
4. Mott MacDonald – technical assistance with FIT application	£1,184.4
5. Mull deer management group	£139.00

Credits

1. VAT repayment	£5,094.96
2. Refund on advert for hydro (not required)	£480.00
3. Wayleave from SSE	£188.00
4.	

Upcoming Significant Movements

(excluding regular cost/credits)

1. Debit - Replacement projector	£490.00
2. Credit – Donations from Barbara Hartley funeral	£661.00
3. Debit – Additional hydro planning works	£1,102.00

Haul Route

In the coming months, there will be one further bill related to Servitude final payment to be paid to FCS (£15,000).

Trading Company

Current Balance: £14,410.72

Significant Movements:

Sales credits :	£9,422.15
Operational debits :	£660.10
Charity Management Fees debit:	£3,264.00

Andy Mayo