

**Minutes of Board Meeting for
North West Mull Community Woodland Company Ltd
Meeting held at Dervaig Church Hall at 7:30pm on Monday 14th December 2009**

Present: Tom Addy, John Morrison, Peter Pinnington, Ailsa Morgan, Tony Proud.

In attendance: Ian Hepburn (Development Manager), Belinda Hale (Administrator)

1. Welcome: In the absence of CM, TA chaired the meeting and welcomed Dr Patterson and Kevin Luscombe.

2. Apologies: Colin Morrison, Callum Duffy, Adam Dawson

3. Presentation by Dr Bill Patterson and Kevin Luscombe about the archaeology at Kildavie. Mull Historical Society would like to 'Adopt a Monument' at Kildavie, IAH to be involved. JM suggested promotion of project via Noticeboard and Website to help interest more volunteers. Eventually it is planned to have marked walks and information notices on site, and also at the West Ardu Dun. **Action: IAH and JM to liaise with Dr. Patterson.** Presenters were thanked by TA.

4. Minutes. The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd November 2009 were signed by TA as a true record of the proceedings, prop. AM, 2nd. JM.

5. Matters Arising. Forest Management Plan, IAH awaiting list of training needs from sub coms.

Deer Management subcom to have a meeting in the New Year.

Tree O Clock went well but we were unable to gain any grant funding.

Rough Shooting. It was agreed that although the final decision needs to be at Board level, the AAR subcom should formulate a policy for a vote at the next Meeting. **Action AAR subcom.**

6. Declaration of items not on the Agenda – none.

7. Finance Report. This had been circulated prior to the meeting by JM. He confirmed that the bank charges had been removed as requested.

It was unanimously agreed that the Year End Charity Accounts could be signed off by JM and CM. **Action JM, CM.** It was also agreed to reappoint Clements to act in the coming year.

Trading Company Accounts. Neither of the official signatories to this account were present at the meeting (CM, MR) so they will be signed off as soon as a meeting can be convened. **Action IAH.**

8. Development Manager's Report, attached. IAH ran through the progress on the haul route. There has been a good response to the Forest Crofts scheme and it was agreed to take it to the next stage by inviting all prospective crofters to put in a more detailed application. **Action IAH.**

IAH is having difficulty getting answers about Rural Homes for Rent so he will look into other propositions. It was agreed that this covers item 12 on the Agenda for the time being. **Action IAH.**

9. Sub Committee Reports. AM reported that the AAR subcom had a useful information gathering meeting about cycle routes with guests Ian Grant and Ewan Baxter. Options include designated routes and a skills development area. AM and possibly other Directors to visit their schemes to see what might be transferable to Mull. **Action AM.**

JM reported that firewood orders are being fulfilled well. JM, BH to look at survey results for further prospective customers. **Action JM, BH.**

10. Date for AGM. Thursday 28th January 2010 at 7.30pm in Dervaig Village Hall. Claire Hannah is to be invited to visit during the day of the next Board Meeting which was arranged for Monday 25th January 2010 at 7.30pm in Dervaig Church Hall. **Action BH** to advise Claire and book Village Hall.

11. Suggestions for new Directors. A number of names were suggested as possible new Directors and, after discussion, it was agreed that three of them should be approached. **Action CM.**

12. Housing - was dealt with in Development Manager's Report.

13. Correspondence. IAH had visited West Ardhu Dun with John Addy who is happy to keep the monument clear and thin the site for coppice regrowth under the terms of an agreement between him and the Company. JA also requested a more substantial area in the same agreement. IAH thought the Dun area should be a separate agreement. The Dun area will be let as part of a legal agreement with Historic Scotland. IAH given unanimous go ahead. **Action IAH.**

14. Any Other Competent Business. 100 Club. There need to be more subscribers so it was agreed to delay the initial draw while JM and BH work out a new schedule and re promote the Club. **Action JM, BH.**

Tony Proud had heard of a scheme in the US where forests sell off carbon credits and wondered if it was a fundraising idea for NWMCCWC. IAH says there is a scheme available for carbon offset in small plantations. He is expecting details in next few weeks.

15. Date and time of next Meeting. Monday 25th January 2010 at 7.30pm in Dervaig Church Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.45pm.