

**Minutes of Board Meeting for
North West Mull Community Woodland Company Ltd
Meeting held on Monday 3rd June, 2019, 2019 @ 7.30pm**

Present: Colin Morrison (**CM**), Belinda Hale (**BH**), Pippa Gatty (**PG**) John Addy (**JA**), Jean Lanteri Laura (**JLL**), Rhuri Munro (**RM**) Ian Hepburn (**IH**) Tricia Evans (**TE**) Rebecca Munro (**REM**) Kirsty Shilson (**KS**)

Also Present: Helen Murray (minutes)

Apologies: Craig Whittaker (**CW**)

CM welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Nomination of Office bearers

CM: happy to be Chair again until the next AGM, unless anyone else would like to do it? **JA** proposed and **BH** seconded so **CM** is **Chair**.

CM: do we want a Vice Chair? **JA** proposed **REM** and **IH** seconded, so **REM** is **Vice-Chair**

CM: Proposed **IH** as Treasurer – **BH** asked if **IH** was happy to take it on, as yes, she seconded so **IH** is **Treasurer**.

CM: Company Secretary – **BH** did this role when she was admin so **HM** to do it? All agreed.

2. The minutes of the Board Meeting held on 8th April, 2019 were signed by **CM** as a true record of the proceedings.

CF actions –

***ACTION:CM/IH** to go to inspect plots for sale as they need to be laid out , maybe some low level of landscaping to make them more “attractive”.

***ACTION: CM** Langamull dumped car

3. Minutes

CM: streamlining the sign off process has been discussed – so has everyone read the minutes of 8th April and 28/5 (not circulated to **TE/KS/REM** as they were not Board members at the time). All have read, no comments to be made, both sets of minutes signed off.

4. Finance Report – no finance report this month as new Treasurer just appointed.

5. Andy Mayo’s handover document – circulated to Board prior to meeting (not **TE/KS/REM**).

- **Hydro** – up and running but it needs an “owner”. **KS** volunteered to do this and will need to discuss process with Andy. **TE** would also be happy to provide back up if needed
***ACTION: HM** to email all.
- **Woodfuels** – various issues need “owners”
PCC Woodchip – **IH** explained that PCC at Craignure are a long standing customer. They have raised a concern about the amount of fuel they have used this year and would like a meeting with us to discuss. **IH** is happy to go to meet with them
***ACTION:IH** to arrange meeting with PCC

Line manager for Eve – **TE** is happy to do this, also thinks it would be good for 2/3 other folk to be involved to understand the business, **JA** happy to be involved also.

***ACTION TE** to find out more about woodfuel business.

Pricing – need to review woodchip and cut/split prices. **IH** – the suggested rise is more than reasonable given current woodfuel prices. **CM** – no price rise for a long time, are the Board happy with Andy’s suggested increases? Yes, suggest raise from 1st August.

***ACTION: HM** to draft mailshot and price comparison for Board approval

Achnadrish – regular chip order – need to review how this goes, will be much more efficient once shed up and running

Wind blow Harvest – **IH** we can take out wind blow without changing the Forest design Plan (fdp). Harvesters are due on island soon if not already here – it's all sitka, up the hill road on the left. Some discussion had about why not done before, costing etc. Agree to carry forward this point but will need to make a decision soon.

Tractor/Equipment – **IH** – it's possible that we could take the existing tractor/trailer to Ulva to allow us to tender for house renovations building etc. excluding logistics. We would then need to purchase a more fit-for-purpose tractor for the Woodfuels business. Agree to carry forward this point but will need to make a decision soon. Andy was looking into funding sources for a new firewood processor and is going to continue with this task.

6. Woodshed

CM – to finish the shed we need to fireproof paint the inside, fit the electrics, install water tanks, raise the road level, get building warrant sign off and buy a generator. Eve is happy to do the painting, and as long as we have a "lone working" agreement with her Board are happy for her to get on and do the work

***ACTION: HM** to speak to Eve

CM and Andy were going to fit the electrical channelling but need the painting done first and to find the time to do the work. **JA**: would our local contractor do the fitting? Have we asked him? If he can't do it then can we find someone else? Board OK **CM** to resolve. Also need to ask contractor what size of generator we need and then just buy one. ***ACTION: CM**: to speak to contractor, and if answer is no, then to approach local builders to see if they can take it on & to ask contractor about generator.

CM: the water tanks need to be relocated up to the shed. They are 5m x 2m and too big for the lorry and need to be raised so that they can travel past the bridges. Discussion about the merits of taking them apart to move.

***ACTION: CM** to investigate and resolve.

7. AOB

Housing - CM – there is a sub-committee for this (**IH CW & CM**) some work has been done by Cameron Ansen and we are now at a point where we need to make some decisions – any volunteers for the sub- committee?

Some directors asked for clarification of the idea behind sub-committees (SC):

JA: the proposal is that SCs be given more delegated authority and accountability for defined outcomes. There are 3 at the moment – Ulva, Replant and Housing. Ulva and Replant comprise Board and non-board members – people brought in for their knowledge and expertise. The Ulva SC is well established, but needs a formal Terms of Reference (tor), membership, work programme, deliverables, timescales, working method and so on. This would then need Board approval. We will discuss at next SC meeting this week. There is already a Replant SC so this could be the bones of the new Woodland SC charged with all aspects of the woodland, beyond just replant – e.g. FDP contractor strategy, and making it happen. I would be interested in being on this SC – **IH/PG** also volunteered.

CM the replant SC needs a broader remit.

All SC's will need a chair, and meetings minuted – with a rolling action plan.

KS/TE/REM all agree that spreading the workload amongst SC's will get more work done.

TE suggested that woodland burials could come under the new remit.

Ulva and the Woodland SC's will need Tor, membership, work programme method of working and so on to be drawn up and presented to the Board for approval. **JLL** volunteered to do this for the Woodland SC

***ACTION: JLL to draft** for Woodland, **Ulva SC** to draft for Ulva

Some discussion had about cross overs between SC – e.g. Mull woodland and Ulva woodland

Following this explanation, **KS** expressed interest in being on the Housing SC.

Toilets CM briefly explained history of this project, and that we still need to find funding to replace them – approx. £10-15k. **RM** – could we lower the price of one or more of the plots we have to get them sold and use the money from that? **IH** advised there was some interest in the West Ardhu plots but have no update **JA**: need to market the Langamull plots – they need to be marked out. **CM** – this sits with the housing SC

***ACTION:** Housing SC to mark out and market.

Woodland Burials: need to find a new site that is within the new Sepa guidelines

Fencing: a neighbour has raised an issue with the new fence as people are trying to climb over it to gain access to the beach. It is not recognised path or right of way. **JLL & PG** agree it's an issue and eventually will lead to the fence being damaged. Need a style or signage. Board agree to invite neighbour to come and discuss a solution

***ACTION:** **REM** to contact him.

Another neighbour has mentioned to **CM** that the new fence line is a metre “out”. Discussion had about where the actual line should be, how much of the line is affected etc.

As nothing has been formally raised to the Board it was agreed to wait until he writes in with the full details.

Sheep/Deer: there are a number of both inside the new fence line. **JLL** is to speak to the sheep farmer - as will **CM** if he sees him – and ask him to move them out. Re the deer **JA** will speak to Rob Cameron as this will need to be done before the replant. The woodland crofter's would like it done ASAP. Probably another item for the new Woodland SC.

Community Land Week: **IH** – we have been awarded £350 to run an event on Ulva – guided walks etc. **REM**- it's also the same time as the archaeologists are on Ulva so we can get them involved also.

***ACTION:** **Ulva SC** to discuss and arrange.

TE asked about the Ulva Dev Mgr. vacancy – the applications are with the Ulva SC to review this week. **CM** will not be part of the process as a friend has applied.

***ACTION:** **Ulva SC**

Article 4.2.7 JLL questioned why this says “the protection or conservation of the environment” and proposes the “or” becomes “and”. Board discussed and explained this would require an EGM and involve the lawyer and a change at Companies House. It was agreed to make the change the next time the Articles are changed but not to have an EGM just for this one change.

Midsummer event: 21st June on Ulva – tickets currently on sale – need to mailshot members etc.

8. Date of next meeting:

8th July at 7.30pm. The meeting closed at 9.30pm pm