

Minutes for KCFC Board meeting held on 10th November, 2014

Present – David Blair, Rob Borruso, , Nikki Brown, Willie McAllan, Fiona Hamilton

Apologies – Steve Williamson, Fraser Brown, Andrew Graham-Weall, Colin Willment, ,

Minutes of previous meeting

proposed DB , seconded WM

Matters Arising

AGM has been advertised. The accounts are being audited and almost finalised. The Accountant has sent through some recommendations on improving the Articles of Association These will be dealt with during AGM. Richard has done a tremendous amount of work. In recognition his probationary period will end early at end November and his salary adjusted accordingly. NB will pass on the Board's thanks.

Development Manager's report (Nikki Brown)

- Upper Acharossan. Electronic application for SLF has been submitted and hardcopy signed
- Thanks to Jamie and Willie for hard work on feasibility study/
- NFLS application form will be presented to directors by NB prior to the deadline 20th November. After that the independent panel member will be visiting.
- NB working on a new staffing structure to be put in place after acquisition
- Crowd-funding has raised almost £700. NB has taken on much of the social media work. A Christmas campaign will be devised with the hope of reaching £2k which will give a good amount for match funding with another funder. Hot Tap Media will try to find another social media worker. Danielle will be offered payment for the funds raised during her time.
- Frog life. Another site visit will be arranged at beginning of December to finalise siting pond away from future Hydro works. When installation date is finalised, volunteers can be sought.
- Archaeology survey report has come through identifying certain features. Findings need fed back to volunteers and projects prioritised. Claire will attend another public meeting. Heritage Lottery could be approached for funding to restore the curling pond and Kilfinan Way.
- The Walking Theatre Company event attracted over 60 people. Funding will be sought for future events, including a performance area/amphitheatre. It will be named The Rob Borruso Arena.
- Forestry Commission case study has been produced in draft form for comment by the board. There will be case studies produced on all community forests.
- NB will be providing headline figures at every board meeting in future, from spreadsheet drawn up by Richard.

KAG are applying to Climate Challenge Fund. There was discussion as to whether it will be possible for water to be piped to allotments & poly tunnel – the conclusion was that it would be feasible via various means.

Cash flow. Richard's forecasting will be useful for ensuring cash flow is healthy. A system for healthy reserves to be built up is required.

Hydro. Alasdair Johnston has given assurances that the funders are getting together to look at how they could smooth the passageway for the funding. WM has suggested that their systems are incompatible to enable them to lend us money. KCFC will be liable for diligence costs even if the two companies are unable to lend. They have been asked to produce a definitive list of conditions. After that a decision can be made as to whether the conditions are achievable and what the costs will be. An alternative plan may have to be drawn up, which would need to include the diligence costs. SW to continue liaising with Co-Hydro.

Housing. RB has had no response to his requests to roads department for feedback for his proposed plan. No progress can be made until roads department give the go-ahead. Local councillors and press will be asked to visit to see the work and successes of the forest. The drawings are all ready for the final application.

AOCB

School. The Crofting Connections partners (Toward, Tighnabruaich, Strachur) are applying for funding to run events during British Science Week. KCF are willing to host an event on composting if funding can be found to have Ron.

Thanks to Colin and RB for providing the play log.

Bank – since the local RBS branch (Tighnabruaich) is closing on 12th November 2014, it was agreed that KCFC would switch the treasurers account to a current business account, to enable online banking, cash withdrawal, etc.

DONM

Monday 24th November, 5 pm