

Kilfinan Community Forest Company  
Minutes of Board Meeting  
Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2016

**Present:** Steve Williamson, Ali Porter, David Hunter, Jo Coley, Di Wilson, Mark Bamford, Rob Borruso, Fiona Hamilton

**Apologies:** Willie MacAllan

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Proposed: DH

Seconded: MB

**Matters Arising**

All items on agenda

**Forest Operations Manager's report**

- **Hydro** Final approval has been received via email for the last of the hydro admin approving the export and feeding tariffs. £970 is due to be paid, but only £711 received. RB will pursue rest of payment. RB is dealing with some of the technological issues arising. AP and RP will survey the rock bed to see if anything can be done with it to help resolve the issues.
- **Weir** A video has been taken of the weir under water. RB thinks the water is undercutting the wall. AP will take a look and decide what will be needed. This is likely to affect Co-hydro being repaid their retainer.
- **Felling:** There is an issue regarding the FSE accreditation. RB will chase it up. Meetings arranged with Lindsay (Tilhill) and Di Oliver (Community Woodlands)
- No news regarding Auchenlochan to date.
- **Housing** Chris Moss is still to carry out ground surveys then building warrants will be ready to be submitted.
- **Forest Operations** There were many issues over the festive season due to weather. Much time was spent trying to keep ditches clear to prevent water damage. Only one tree came down in the winds. Wind factor was outside Ops Manager's quadrant of fear. All were suitably impressed. RB smug.
- **Firewood** Stock has all been rotated. Should be gone by end of the season. Ops Manager come over all relaxed. Smug repeated.
- **Volunteer** There was a new start today from Dunoon Job Centre. He will volunteer twice a week, supporting Andy.
- **Digger** Suspicious smell. AP/RB will have a look.
- **Drying Shed** Materials need bought. RB has been buying on his own card and claiming back. It was agreed this wasn't acceptable. A company credit card required. Richard recommends leaving Coop bank as they don't offer this facility. Richard & JC will explore options.
- **Big Shed** Don McInnes is interested in renting a bay in the big shed. RB will price the costs of re-fitting the bays for rent to artisans before confirming the rental price per bay. MB overwhelmed at possibility of becoming an artisan.
- **Composting allowance** There has been no word from council about increasing allowance to 100 tonnes.
- **Paths** Top end of path no longer needs remodelled. It was possible to flush out the pipe, which was wider than originally thought.

**Actions: RB, AP, RI, JC**

**Financial Report**

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- Report was presented. Cash flow is very tight and will be for next 6 months, as expected. Windblow income due end February.

### **Director Training**

- A half day training has been offered by John Black, HIE, 7,8 or 9<sup>th</sup> March. SW will finalise date.

**Actions: SW**

### **Woodland Burials**

- Site has been marked on master map – 2pprox.. 1 ha.
- Digger work needed for stump removal. AP will ask Ross McArthur to quote. Nothing else can progress until it's done. Camping site to be done at the same time.

**Actions: AP**

### **Forest Access Coordinator report**

- Report submitted in advance of meeting. Directors expressed satisfaction with work of Coordinator and her suggested schedule of work. She plans to meet with Marketing Group as soon as possible.
- Third Sector funding , SM & RB are working on the application. Board approved proceeding with all suggested funding applications.

**Actions: SM, RB**

### **Email**

- Everyone now has @kilfinancommunityforest.com address

### **AOCB**

The birth of Nikki and Fraser Brown's baby girl was welcomed. Wetting of the head postponed till parents recovered.

### **OWLS (Outdoor & Woodland Learning, Scotland)**

- CPD event 19<sup>th</sup> March given approval to go ahead. FH asked for suggestions on how to entice secondary teachers.
- MB will think of workshops for secondary teachers. Primitive Technology theme aimed Science teachers and Design & Technology & Food Tech.
- FH will liaise with MB and SM re planning, and with JC re finances.

**Actions: FH, MB, SM**

### **DONM**

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February, 5pm