



Minutes of the third Annual General Meeting of the Kilfinan Community Forest Company held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 19th October 2011 at Kames Church Hall.

1. Welcome & Apologies

David Blair, introduced himself as Chair of the board and welcomed the members to the third Annual General Meeting of Kilfinan Community Forest Company. He introduced the KCFC Board of Directors who include Vanessa Barlow, Rob Blair, Andrew Graham-Weall, Penny Graham-Weall, Stuart Jack and Eve Macfarlane. Apologies were received from: Kristin Leicht.

2. Minutes of last AGM held on Wednesday 7th July 2010 at Kames Church Hall at 7.30pm was proposed as correct by Andrew Graham-Weall and seconded by Rob Blair.

3. Chair Report

David Blair began the Chair Report for the period 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011 by thanking the directors of Kilfinan Community Forest Company for all their volunteering and hard work in the previous year. Thanks were proposed for Sara Maclean and Jean Donaldson of the KCFC Growing Green Team and Dave Bannister, Scott Hood and Sean Convery of the Forest Operations Team for all their hard work. Special mention was made to Vanessa Barlow who has taken an active role in coordinating the volunteers in the forest.

Review of the Period's Activities

Full forest ownership of 127ha of Acharossan Forest was formally transferred to the Kilfinan community on 26th March 2010 with confirmation of the Climate Challenge Fund approval at £165,000 in the same week.

- the CCF programme installed a community access road and parking in the forest, a network of paths within the site, all the utilities for the community, visitors and staff with office, kitchen, meeting space, workshop, tool store, and toilets. A 9m x 30m community Polytunnel was erected and contains 16 raised beds with resources to complete a total of 28 beds. The allotment site was cleared, and a machinery shed to house the community composting facility was purchased.
- regular monthly local Producers Markets at Kames Recreational Hall have showcased local food and crafts; and are well attended, enjoyable events, supporting small local producers and businesses
- a further bid for £164k was made in February this year to CCF for the next year's activities and an application for £130k was made to HIE and Argyll & Islands Leader for a two year Development Officer role.

Kilfinan Community Forest, one year on from purchase, is a busy, vibrant workplace and community asset, with volunteers, members of the public, contractors, directors and employees all cooperatively working to achieve the aims and objectives. Affiliations have been made between Kyles Allotment Group, Kyles of Bute Horticultural Society; Kyles Marketing Group and Kilfinan Community Forest and Tighnabruaich Primary. Kings Court volunteers have been able to improve their general well being and feeling of belonging to the community.

Future Developments

Another round of CCF funding was secured in 21st March 2011 for further carbon reduction measures and community action and funding for a Development Officer was secured from Argyll & Islands Leader Programme in early March.

David Blair asked for any Questions from the members in attendance. No questions were asked.

4. Election of Directors

Eve MacFarlane was proposed to be a Director to the KCFC board and this was approved by members. Although no further nominations had been received at the KCFC office and no further nominations were proposed by the members at the AGM.

5. Financial statement

Sara Maclean, Carbon Savings Officer for KCFC was kind enough to give a brief summary of finance for last year on the Climate Challenge Funding and the unrestricted funds position. Funded by the Scottish Government the Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) is administered by Keep Scotland Beautiful.

KCFC had an opening balance of unrestricted funding with the RBS in Tighnabruaich at 01-04-10 of £4,888.05.

- Total income from CCF in the period was £155,516.06 from the original award of £164,624 however expenditure incurred amounted to £164,624 in line with the approved grant.
- Total incoming funding from Future Jobs was £21,238 in the period.
- Total donations were £6776.85 (charitable donations, scrapwood donations and HMRC gift aid).
- The balance of £19,071.37 in the KCFC CCF Coop account at 31/03/11 will be expended on CCF activities post 1st April 2011.

This leaves the unrestricted funding at 31/3/11 in the core account balance with RBS at £8,829.

6. Appointment of the independent financial examiner

It was proposed that Ailsa Close of Argyll Accounting in Dunoon be appointed as Independent Financial Examiner of the KCFC accounts and this was approved by members present.

7. Any other Business

The KCFC Board proposed a minor Change to the KCFC Constitution to allow KCFC to register as a rural housing body which allows the inclusion of housing burdens on title of any plots for sale. The change in text will be as follows.

- 3.2.3.1 the provision of housing **on rural land or the provision of rural land for housing** for those who are in conditions of need and the improvement of housing in the public sector or in charitable ownership provided that such power shall not extend to relieving any local authorities or other bodies of a statutory duty to provide or improve housing;

This was approved.

David then informed attendees of the passing away of Sean Convery in March of this year. Sean was a hard working employee and he is sorely missed. The meeting concluded by David thanking all for coming along and invited the audience with the opportunity to stay for a chat with Directors with tea and coffee.