

Minutes of the Kilfinan Community Forest Company Board of Directors, held at the Forest at 6pm on Monday 3rd September 2012

Attendees:

Rob Borusso
David Blair
Eve Mcfarlane
Andrew Graham-Weall
Steve Williamson
Eamon King

Apologies

Rob Blair
Willie McAllan

Welcome from David

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed as correct by Steve and seconded by Eve.

Job descriptions

Eamon and Willie to create descriptions for: Head forester and Part-time Garden Outlet Employee. Eamon has emailed basic descriptions to Willie so that he can amend when he returns from holiday.

Eamon advised Leader Conversion fund application has been reduced so there is more chance of success. This means that we will have to raise £26,000, Michaela will be asked to write to Kilfinan Trust to see if they can help as we are creating more employment.

Felling at Achacrossan

Eamon will supply a new restocking map this week to comply with A&B plans.

We have the **Masterplan** back from A&B Planning who say the formal application can go in with no amendments, then Principal Planning Permission should go in for mid-November. Also, the Felling Licence should come in 3 to 4 weeks but may also be mid-November.

'Cares' loan application for the hydro pre-planning works; Rob Borusso has offered to help Eamon complete this form.

Rhododendron Clearance.

We should get the go-ahead this month; then get contractors in to work well in front of the felling team. Eamon will contact contractors now to set the wheels in motion.

Board e-mail addresses

Rob and Andrew still need to fix their '[@kilfinancommunityforest.com](mailto:)' email addresses.

Autumn croft event

About 4 weeks away, Eamon will let Andrew have wording for **Posters**; event will be held at either the school or the Royal Hotel, details to be confirmed with speakers etc.

Volunteer weekend mid Sept

New Caledonian Woodlands Group. Accommodation: either camping or large room at rear of Wellpark Hotel. Delegation to bar confirms this okay with Anne, and at a reduced rate, with breakfast extra!

Steve and Andrew will scope route of path for them to clear ... also check electrics in kitchen .

Project Plan and Working groups

Michaela has made a great start on the project plan, Eamon will put times and dates in and then keep updated as necessary.

David is beginning to allocate people to the various working groups, and we all agreed that it is important to include external advisors on specific subjects as and when they are relevant. Rob Borusso suggested an Architecture student would be good for the crofts ... maybe for their thesis.

The Working Groups will support Eamon and also drive development forward.

Finance - KCFC bank accounts

Ailsa Close recommends combining accounts to simplify accounts and save money by avoiding overdraft fees. Willie will be able to research this on his return.

Company Secretary

Steve Williamson has volunteered to fill this role.

Treasurer

Willie is now in post.

Administrator

Michaela Hunter has been asked to be our administrator, and has accepted. She began on August 31st!

Keyholders; Eve, Steve, Eamon, Michaela and Craig all have keys to the office. Stuart Jack still has a set and is dropping them in soon.

Volunteer groups

We are continuing with the path coming on really well and meet every Tuesday afternoon, unless it's raining, at 1.30pm. The more the merrier!

Female directors

It was agreed that it would be better have more female directors on the board, Eve to approach suggested people.

Away day -blue skies

Date to be set for mid-October, David suggested using Dun Beag as a venue, hopefully using Penny as a facilitator.

CWA conference

Eamon attended the conference at the weekend, reported that it was very informative and enjoyable with a great hotel and food! As usual it is good to exchange ideas with other forest groups and the woodland visit was to the first community woodland in Scotland, set up 25 years ago.

Equipment

Craig still needs a midge suit, Pat Mullholland has offered to show him the Chipper, Maybe we should send Criag on a chainsaw course.

A camera will be purchased for still and short movie clips.

A hard drive back-up will be purchased and research on whether the website has space to back up Eamon's files.

Any Other Business

General discussion about the perceptions of the project in the area; all directors agreed that good news and up to date information is vital for the community. This will be helped by the fact that we have now managed to open the notice board at the entrance and can update the information in it!

Meetings

Next meeting Wednesday 19th Sept 2012