

## **Minutes of the Kilfinan Community Forest Company Board of Directors, held at the Office at 5pm, Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2013**

**Attendees:** David Blair (Chair), Eve Macfarlane, Robert Borruso, Andrew Graham-Weall, Steve Williamson, Fiona Hamilton, Eamon King, Jamie Chaplin-Brice, Nikki Woolf

**Apologies:** Willie McAllan

**Welcome from David**

**Minutes of the previous meeting:** 15<sup>th</sup> May proposed correct by EM and seconded by FH

### **Operations Manager Report**

#### **Access Road**

- J C-B confirmed that Ross Macarthur would be visiting on 30<sup>th</sup> May, to discuss options in respect to the road being a slightly shorter distance than previously discussed.

#### **Forest operations building**

- EK to contact Sheila McLean (LEADER) and Helen MacDougall (HIE), to discuss whether KCFC can manage the project in-house in order to use the forest's own timber.
- J C-B to approach Dan Jones re possibility of project support work.

#### **Forest Design Plan**

- No further update; Jamie to contact Keith Bridget to discuss the possibility of renting office space in the Business Centre two days per week.

#### **FSC**

- J C-P met Colin Macmare from the Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC) – KCFC is to become accredited under the RJ Dixons Group Scheme.
- Jamie to put together a mini FDP.

#### **SRDP meeting**

- Jamie attended; any suggestions for government support need to be submitted by 30<sup>th</sup> June.
- Announced at the meeting that there will be more support on rhododendron plans.

## **Woodchipper**

- Colin has passed his woodchipper ticket.

## **Wayleave**

- J C-B has emailed Gavin Carswell regarding payment; awaiting reply.

## **Tractor tyres**

- Holding off buying.
- NW to order compressor from Toolstation if we don't get one from Foundation Scotland.  
EK to update on progress.

## **Bute Forest**

- J C-B visited Bute forest - follow up discussion to be had re reselling treated softwood and purchase of a wagon load of hardwood.
- J C-B to confirm interest with Bute.

## **Office computer**

- Team to go through all files and determine what's relevant, and find original software disks.
- R Borruso has a spare hard drive that can be used.

## **'Forest For All' event**

- Board has confirmed attendance, to man the BBQ/ do forest tours.

## **Development Officer Report**

### **Volunteers**

- EK confirmed that Alec is still volunteering – currently tidying up bottom car park area.
- J C-B to speak to John Moran about KAG work.

### **Archaeology**

- Biddy Simpson and Claire Ellis visited KCFC on 29<sup>th</sup> May. £7K (plus VAT) needed for initial feasibility study.
- EK suggested to either approach the Heritage Lottery Fund for the smaller band funding (£1K-£10K) or FCS, who have already expressed an interest.

- EK has a meeting with FCS on 30<sup>th</sup> May to discuss.

### **Paths For All**

- EK had a meeting with Paths For All on 29<sup>th</sup> May to inspect the school path. They have recommended that we monitor drainage and compact ground where we can.
- They have offered to run two free courses on how to build paths, only for volunteers at the forest. EK to chase quote for staff courses.

### **Voluntary Action Fund**

- No update.

### **Met Mast**

- EK in process of getting quotes; planning will lapse in the next few months.
- A G-W visiting James Lithco on 31<sup>st</sup> May, to find out about local engineers.

### **CARES loan**

- No update from Community Energy Scotland on payment plan.

### **Rhododendron claim**

- There will be no movement on this until cash flow can be demonstrated, to satisfy FCS and the Scottish Government.
- EK liaising with EGGER on advance.

### **Awards For All**

- Paths to be wood chipped for the opening event. NW to check what's left in the budget in order to establish best taskforce to get site prepared.

## **Minutes**

### **KCFC office building**

- R Borruso to draw up final office design and circulate for final approval; to then go in for planning application.

## **Hydro**

- EK and DB conducted fish habitat survey; EK pulling together to be sent to Simon Pattullo (SEPA case officer).

## **Development Officer position**

- WM and DB emailed Helen MacDougall (HIE) – not back until w/c 3<sup>rd</sup> June; to follow up then.

## **AOB**

- A G-W met with Argyll & Bute planning officer, to discuss working with KCFC on developing the village. A G-W to meet with various businesses around Tighnabruaich, to investigate opportunities.
- SSE – NW to contact Mike Smith and find out when they can come.

**Date of next meeting: 17<sup>th</sup> June, 5pm**