

Board of Directors

Minutes

of meeting held in Magnus House, Aigas Field Centre
at 7.30pm on Monday 11th August 2014

Present	Apologies	In Attendance
John Graham Andrew Leaver		Warwick Lister-Kaye
Mark Hedderwick Peter Masheter		John Lister-Kaye
Calum Fraser Nick Ward		
Philip Webb Anne Forsyth		
Alison McAllister Graeme Scott		

Item	Action
1 Apologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	
2 Minutes of Meeting of 3rd June <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by John Graham. Seconded by Mark Hedderwick. 	
3 Review of outstanding actions not covered on agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3/4/5 Andrew to draft a formal Board remuneration policy for approval at next meeting – carried forward 	
4 Development Officer presentations and discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final two candidates selected by Andrew Leaver and John Graham following interviews on 18th July attended the meeting. Presentations were taken from Donnie Chisholm and [REDACTED] followed by informal question and discussion with each candidate. 	
5 Decision on appointment of Development Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following discussion the Board selected Donnie Chisholm as preferred candidate for the post of Development Officer. • Andrew Leaver to confirm with SLF there is no reason not to offer the post at this time and then contact Donnie Chisholm to offer the position. 	AL
6 Update from Forest Purchase and Lease working group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FCS forwarded draft disposal information in July and this has been sent to Macleod and MacCallum. Delays at FCS followed by holidays have held up process but it is expected to move forward soon. • Andrew asked to ensure that a permanent wayleave through the main block of the forest to the purchased area is negotiated in the purchase and also that ownership and use of the old road sections adjacent to the A831 are confirmed. • Andrew confirmed information sent by email earlier same day that a purchase of the entire woodland has been assessed as non-State Aid by HIE/SLF. This means the potential exists to secure additional funding from SLF for purchase of full 270ha 	AL

Item	Action
<p>of Aigas Forest. Further match funding from other sources would also be required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board confirmed that potential to secure further funding from SLF be investigated. • Andrew to confirm intention to investigate purchase of whole woodland to NFLS. • Andrew to arrange a meeting with HIE case officers to identify way forward for additional funding application and then to keep Board informed. 	<p>AL</p> <p>AL</p>
<p>7 Update from Development of Forestry Management working group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group has not been able to meet however Phil Webb tabled some information for the Board and group members agreed a provisional date for a meeting. 	
<p>8 Update from Access, Paths and Interpretation working group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group have met and identified some options for presentation at the public meeting. • Contact has also been made with Stewart Easthaugh at The Highland Council and he has offered large scale maps. • Group to prepare materials for display / discussion at public meeting on September 11th. 	<p>Paths Working Group</p>
<p>9 Update on current financial position</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £20,000 has been received from SSE. • £8,000 has been received from SLF. • Bank account balance currently over £35,000. 	
<p>10 Public Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date set for Thursday 11th September in Kilmorack Hall. • Agreed format should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Update on activities and current position ○ Opportunity to comment on paths proposals ○ Opportunity to review priorities agreed during 2009 consultation ○ Opportunity to suggest additional activities ACF may consider • Andrew to pull together and circulate a plan for the public meeting 	<p>AL</p>
<p>10 Date of Next Meeting Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday 6th October. Magnus House is not available. Andrew to confirm venue for October meeting. • December meeting is 8th December in Magnus House. 	<p>AL</p>

Item	Action
<p>11 AOCB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An email letter from Mike Spencer-Nairn, Chair of ABO-WESAYNO and addressed to Graeme Scott was tabled. The letter requested that Aigas Community Forest refrain from negotiating with ABO over any potential community benefit deriving from their current wind farm development at Allt Carach. The Board agreed to refuse to discuss this issue with ABO. Andrew to respond to Mike Spencer-Nairn confirming ACF will not negotiate with ABO. • Warwick Lister-Kaye discussed the expected planning application from ABO and suggested that Aigas Community Forest object. It was agreed that this could be discussed by the Board as and when the application by ABO was submitted. 	AL

Summary of Outstanding Actions		
Ref	Action	Person Responsible
33/2	Provide regular cash flow forecasts to the Board	GS
33/9	Ensure all appropriate insurances in place when Forest purchased	AL
33/11	Clarify the position on Board members personal liability	GS
35/1	Andrew Leaver to confirm with SLF there is no reason not to offer the DO post at this time and then contact Donnie Chisholm to offer the position.	AL
35/2	Andrew asked to ensure that a permanent wayleave through the main block of the forest to the purchased area is negotiated in the purchase and also that ownership and use of the old road sections adjacent to the A831 are confirmed.	AL
35/3	Andrew to confirm intention to investigate purchase of whole woodland to NFLS.	AL
35/4	Andrew to arrange a meeting with HIE case officers to identify way forward for additional funding application and then to keep Board informed.	AL
35/5	Group to prepare materials for display / discussion at public meeting on September 11 th .	Paths Working Group
35/6	Andrew to pull together and circulate a plan for the public meeting	AL
35/7	Andrew to confirm venue for October meeting.	AL
35/8	Andrew to respond to Mike Spencer-Nairn confirming ACF will not negotiate with ABO.	AL