



Kilfinan Community Forest Company

Minutes of Board Meeting

Date: Wednesday 23rd August 2023

| Agenda Item | Minutes | Action |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------|
| Present | Bob Brady (Chair) Ali Porter, Don McInnes, Stuart Dillon, Johanne Sim, Lisa Linsdell-Davis (Minutes Secretary) | |
| Apologies | None | |
| Declarations of Interest | Bob Brady – Hot House Stuart Dillon – Storage Unit Don McInnes – Work Shop Johanne Sim – Family member awarded contract for signs | |
| Minutes of Previous Meeting | Minutes of 2 nd August 2023 Proposed by – Bob Brady Seconded by – Don McInnes | |
| Matters Arising from Previous Minutes | J.C Personal belongings J.C has failed to remove his personal belongings so they will be moved out of the way prior to being disposed of. Barr Laith Signs These have now been ordered Old Office Glenan Woods have expressed that they would like this and are trying to sort out moving arrangements. - Ongoing | |
| Health & Safety | Play Park Signs regarding the dangers in the playpark have been ordered. | |
| Decisions made via email. | Forest Store Leasing The Store has been leased to F.M, a local business woman, on a 5 year lease, rent will be reviewed after 3 years. A meter reading will be taken on signing of the lease and Marie will send a quarterly bill. | |
| Finance | Bank Balances The Board were informed on the current balances Loan Discharge Documents – Don is still waiting on these | |

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Forestry Operations | <p>Volunteer Group- Due to a COVID outbreak there is no report from the volunteer group. Volunteers will prepare an area at the viewpoint on Barr Laith for the new picnic benches. They will also be looking at best places to put signage for the different paths.</p> <p>Tree Nursery – On going</p> <p>Mounding – The final 4.5 Hectares has now started</p> <p>Windblown Larch – This could be extracted and sold to the ploholders. The mast that is in this area looks as if it is ready to fall. There was a discussion on the possibility of contacting EE or other phone companies to see if they would be interested in using it.</p> <p>Ragwort and other invasive species – This has now been dealt with</p> | |
| Buildings and Infrastructure | <p>Access Road – Still on going as we are still awaiting a new Forest plan. Don contacted Helen Baines at HIE, who has been in contact with ABC. Application is ongoing</p> <p>Road Maintenance – McVickers will be asked to check the roads for any damage due to heavy rain. He will also be asked to check the paths. ONGOING</p> <p>Repairs – Telehandler – waiting on a quote from A.T.Best Tractor – The clutch is stuck on. As the tractor is not used much there was a discussion about whether it would be best to fix it or sell it alongside the log-splitter and accessories. Excavator – Is in the process of being fixed. Drying shed – New felt is needed for the roof, the Board agreed for it to be purchased.</p> | D.M B.B B.B |
| Sale of Building Plots | Don has spoken to our solicitors regarding pre-emption rights. Things are progressing. | D.M |
| Forest Crofts | <p>Updates: Several objections to the creation of croft 10 have been received and these will be sent to the crofting commission for advice.</p> <p>F. M interview for Croft 2 reassignment went very well. She had a good planting plan and was happy to accept the terms of the prospective lease. We agreed</p> | |

| | | |
|--------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| | <p>therefore to approve her application and forward her planting plan to Forestry Scotland for acceptance.</p> <p>R and L – Their planting plan was good but we queried their planting time scale and they were not happy with some of the terms of the lease. Also they planned to make several ponds which may interfere with the Forests riparian rights. The Board have asked for plans of their proposal showing the location of the ponds.</p> <p>Their application will be further considered on receipt of the additional information required.</p> | |
| Other Agenda Items | <p>I.W email Don has discussed the report with him.</p> <p>Hydro Electric Contract The Board has decided on Octopus Energy. Figures are £98.69 Per Megawatt + REGO of £8.75 per Megawatt £10.75 + 15% embedded benefits. This equates to 12.3p per kWh.</p> <p>Bothy Lights The Board discussed different options and decided to put a solar panel on the Bothy roof plus batteries.</p> <p>Bothy Beds It was decided to put bunk beds into the Bothy rather than a double bed.</p> <p>Renting the Bothy out The Board will investigate this.</p> <p>Forest Centre Johanne will put a notice on facebook about its availability.</p> <p>Micro Unit Lease M.W is taking on the micro unit as a dog grooming parlour, this is a local person. A water meter will be required. Bob will buy one. Don will draw up a lease. There is a demand for these micro units so the Board will look at this again at the next Board meeting.</p> <p>Container Leases Ongoing</p> <p>Barr Laith Challenge The Board agreed that it would be a good opportunity for the Forest to organise this.</p> <p>Bonfire and BBQ Possibly to be held around the 4th November. The Board agreed to discuss this at the next Board meeting.</p> <p>S. M Talk S.M met Bob and Johanne to talk about the possibility of the local Scottish Clan planting a substantial amount of trees in a section of the Forest, which the Clan could use for Clan meetings and celebrations. We all agreed</p> | <p>J.S</p> <p>B.B & D.M</p> |

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| | <p>that this would be a good idea as it could save us money on our replanting programme but the method of doing this would have to be properly investigated and we agreed to discuss it at our next meeting.</p> <p>R.B complaint</p> <p>As the breach he cited was information that was generally available in the published minutes we all felt there was no case to answer.</p> | |
| <p>Time, Date and place of next meeting</p> | <p>Forest Centre Wednesday 20th September 2pm</p> | |