

## **Laide and Aultbea Community Woodland – Directors Meeting**

### **31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 Minutes**

**Present.** John Rippin. Tony Carpenter. Andrew Jackman. Nick Murray  
Janet Barclay. Peter Jarosz

**Apologies** Kevin Ginty. Alan Turnbull

#### **Approval of the last minutes:-**

**Proposer** Tony Carpenter

**Secunder** Peter Jarosz

#### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising but points were added to the agenda to be brought up at AOB

#### **Minutes**

JR stated in the absence of Alan Turnbull he was prepared to take the minutes unless anyone objected or would prefer to take them themselves.

There was no objections and the Chairman agreed to take the minutes

#### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer opened his report by stating that the OSCR report had been submitted in time and the Companies House Accounts submitted without any problems.

PJ then gave us a detailed breakdown of our finances and stated that the tight position with funds we had experienced over the past few weeks had been eased by the payment of the grant for the production of the Nature Trail Boards. In addition he had received notice from Inland Revenue that the Gift aid application of £1462 would be paid in the very near future and he anticipated the final payment for the Highland Leader grant £1685.96 was imminent.

Once our commitment at the Clydesdale Bank was at an end he would transfer the bulk of our reserves to a Scottish Widows 7 day account which would give us 1.65% gross interest and relieve us of having a restriction on obtaining funds from the account beyond seven days.

When the treasurer's report was completed the chairman took the opportunity of thanking Peter for the short term interest free loan of £2500.00 which had now been re-paid. This was loan which Peter had suggested making from his own funds to avoid us having to negotiate a temporary overdraft situation.

#### **Motion 1**

Proposed by Nick Murray and seconded by Tony Carpenter

That the following decision by the board made unanimously at the scoping notes meeting be entered into these minutes and adopted as our safe working practise.

That we follow the guidance given by the H and S Executive that all persons using chainsaws in the wood and for LACW purposes must have undergone the appropriate approved training to NPTC attestation and where the H and S E recommend refreshment training every three years we will adopt a more rigorous policy of in house training every year following a training check list prepared by the H and S officer.

The motion was approved unanimously

#### **Motion 2**

Proposed by Kevin Ginty and seconded by John Rippin

Due to the poor sales of 2011 calendar we cancel plans to produce a 2012 calendar although the

photography competition will still go ahead for 2011 with prizes for first, second and third.

The motion was carried unanimously

### **Events**

JB briefed on various events - Gairloch museum display was in the final stages of preparation (Jan called for help during the following week to establish the display) and Gairloch Wildlife Week involvement had been confirmed. We also had Easter egg hunt, Primrose Walk, Wildlife walk with Paul Bolton, James Merryweather's day, Peter Cunningham electro fishing and Nature trail official opening all on the agenda with some dates still to be confirmed. The lichen identification day was in some doubt as it is already being done within the Gairloch Wildlife Week and the cost is £420 for a single day event.

The programme for the year is a busy one everyone agreed Jan had done a great job in putting the programme together.

### **The Visitor Centre Building**

This was debated at length and it was decided for various reasons that we would proceed as soon as possible with finalising our application for funding. AJ and PJ will liaise and move the project on as quickly as they can.

It was also agreed that, as no-one in our organisation would be available on a day to day basis, it is important we should find a suitable person to project manage the construction, this should be mentioned in the next and subsequent newsletters asking any interested parties to contact us. PJ said we should be able to obtain some grant assistance, remuneration for work carried out in this regard.

### **The Newsletter**

Due mid April to give everyone a timely reminder that Easter Egg Hunt and Primrose Walk events are imminent. Any articles to JR ASAP

### **Health and Safety update**

NM reported that our H and S policy is now in place and he would look into the supply and cost of signage required when carrying out any tasks which might offer a risk to the public

### **A O B**

AJ explained the Land Manager options available to us under the SRDP scheme and it was agreed that we apply for further path improvement.

The Works Access Trail to the hide and Eastern Boundary was within this years programme and Andrew reported that discussions had already taken place with Murdo Macrae and the work was imminent.

Survey - PJ stated that he thought it was inevitable we carry out another appraisal to put us in a better position when applying for funds

### **Next Meeting**

Due to take place Aultbea Hall 7.30 pm Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2011.