

## **Minutes of Morvern Community Development Company**

### **Board Meeting held in public**

**Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018, Lochaline Primary Community Room, 7.30pm**

#### **Present**

**Directors:** John Hodgson, Jenni Hodgson, Angus Robertson, Susan Taylor, Sarah Jones, Alasdair Firth, Lilia Dobrokhodova (Development Officer and Co Secretary).

**Members of the public:** Peter Llewellyn, Gillian Llewellyn, Martin Sampson, Veronique Walraven.

**Apologies:** Jane Stuart-Smith, Lesley Jones, Mike Foulis, Clare Holohan, Ivan Woolley

#### **Agenda:**

1. Minutes of last board meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2017
2. Matters arising
3. Projects update
  - Marina
  - Community Business Hub
  - Housing
  - Hydro
  - Doctors Wood
  - Morvern Eco Wheels
4. AOB –
5. Next public meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018, Lochaline Primary School

1. **Minutes** – changes to be made to “Morvern Landscape” pending the board approval. See agenda item 2.

#### **2. Matters arising**

Dal Mhor – no further updates, the meeting scheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> January has been postponed.

Morvern Landscape – discussions ongoing. Alasdair suggested changes to minutes on 2<sup>nd</sup> November to give more details on the project. It was suggested that MCDC nominate another director to the landscape steering group.

### 3. Projects Update

**Marina** – doing well and soon preparations will start for the 2018 season. Veronique asked about paying for her winter mooring, she is to speak to one of the harbour masters.

**Community Business Hub** – decision on Stage 2 in February 2018.

**Housing** – it was suggested that Andrew Baxter could be helpful in developing the housing project. Jenni will help Lilia to push the housing forward. It was also suggested that we investigated if a housing developer could build the houses?

**Hydro** – a meeting with Hydroplan to be scheduled. MCDC have been working on the hydro project for a long time. FITs are down and staying down and there does not seem to be a better deal for community projects from the government. MCDC have CARES funding to take the project through planning. Deadline for FITs accreditation is April 2019. The schemes need to be fully consented in order to be accredited. CARES doubted that the scheme is financially viable. Hydroplan say that it is viable, i.e. that someone will invest in it. Barr - £5.9m project, Allt achadh Forsa - £750K. MCDC have an option for a lease on hydro with the Forestry Commission. Timescale on decision to go/not with the developer offer – meeting next Wednesday (tbc).

**Doctors Wood** – MCDC decided not to go ahead with this project. Possible option with Tilhill who are interested in buying it. Veronique stated that Sam Firth wrote a long email to MCDC about Doctor's Wood that MCDC did not acknowledge. Lilia to look into it.

**Morvern Eco Wheels** – although we are unable to make an official announcement, it is looking good for this project.

### 4. AOB –

**Fiunary Manse** – a discussion took place about the dilapidated state of the manse and if anything could be done about it. It was suggested that MCC get in touch with the owners in the first instance.

**Campervan site** – John is developing the idea.

**Mine museum** – late application submitted to MCT, decision in 2 weeks time. If positive, can make a start with a feasibility study.

**Killundine** – is coming up for sale in summer 2018. MCW making first steps for community right to buy. Ideas for woodland crofts and native woods. MCW would like to have an option to buy but make a decision at a later stage. Looking for involvement, input, comments etc. Over 1000ha, cost £2-5m.