

Minutes of Morvern Community Development Company Public Meeting

Thursday, 15th January 2015

Lochaline Village Hall

Present: Angus Robertson, Jane Stuart – Smith, John Hodgson, Jenni Hodgson, Clare Holohan.

Members of the public: Linda Martin, Peter Boyle

Lochaline Stores: Lesley Jones, Sarah Jones

Apologies: Tracy Lawes, Lilia Dobrokhodova

There was one item on the agenda for the meeting **The Future of Community Petrol Pumps in Lochaline.**

Lesley Jones declared an interest.

Jane Stuart – Smtih introduced and chaired the meeting.

There are 2 options for the future of petrol pumps in Lochaline:

1. MCTC take over the running
2. Pumps close

It is very important that community fully understand what is involved in running the pumps.

Asked for community to make suggestions/comments.

Angus presented accounts and thoughts for consideration (attached notes). There are risks for MCDL but in Angus' opinion benefits to local people and businesses outweigh the risks. Some members are completely unaware of the complexity of running the pumps and a vote of thanks was expressed to the shop for the service to the community for the last 15 years.

Sarah Jones suggested setting up a separate trading company in order to avoid VAT on fuel. Angus expressed concern about legalities of this etc. Advice to be obtained from the VAT office.

A member of public suggested a "pay at pump" service – Sarah Jones raised a problem of 27 existing fuel accounts. Credit card/All Star card system was discussed. Angus raised issues of Health and Safety – must be someone at premises at all times.

5p per litre subsidy is now approved as of this afternoon but in retrospective. Now it is time to lobby parliament as Development Company (rather than a private company) for quarterly claim backs.

Jane suggested a hand – out for members of the public using the pumps to inform public of plans. Jenni Hodgson expressed dismay at people not turning out for this meeting.

Jane volunteered herself, Angus and Lilia to collaborate on “press release” into the future of the pumps.

Member of public suggested using Survey Monkey – make a link available on the website, laminate on pumps, publish on Facebook etc.

MCDC to write to “account holders” informing of plans and possibility of closure.

Decision to be made by next meeting (second Thursday in February).

Lilia to start looking into setting up phone line and card machine following decision to enable change over by mid March.