

**Minutes of Morvern Community Development Company
Board Meeting held in public
Wednesday, 14th August 2019, Lochaline Primary, 7.30pm**

MCDC/MCTC Directors: Nick Tordoff, Lesley Jones, Mark Lawrence, Jane Stuart – Smith, Lilia Dobrokhodova (Development Officer)

Members of the public: Peter Boyle, Keith and Henriette Laidlaw, Alda Grace, Miles Welsh, Kate Cruickshank.

Apologies: Sarah Jones, Angus Robertson, Jennie Robertson, Alasdair Firth.

Agenda:

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of previous meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Projects update
 - Barr hydro
 - Housing
 - Community hub
 - Marina
5. 20 year anniversary
6. AOB
7. Next public meeting, AGM 14th November, Lochaline Village Hall

2. Minutes –

EU bid – no update since last meeting. Bid is in. One of the officers working on this for RSPB moved on. Contact through andy.robinson@rspb.org.uk

3. Matters arising – wording has been changed on the “Conflict of Interest”.

4. Projects

Barr Hydro – MorVolts is now fully incorporated. Nick, Angus and Sarah are directors and Lilia a company secretary. Bridging loan is in place and work continues on detailed design, financial model and legal stuff. 2 offers from lenders – Triodos and Clydesdale.

Progressing compensatory planting with a local land owner, this is a requirement of planning.

Rates – still an issue. The question is whether MorVolts would have to pay commercial rates. Commercial schemes do not usually pay rates but this a year by year decision by the Scottish Government. Meeting Kate Forbes on Friday who is a Minister responsible for rates, seeking political backing. Also talking to local rates assessors. De Minimis rules are possibly incorporated into UK legislation.

Housing and Community Hub – awaiting building warrant decision on the hub. Housing building warrant approved.

Transformer is now moved from the hub site.

One submission for the public art competition, will let it run its course until deadline of 31st August, if nothing else comes through, will potentially engage with an artist to develop an idea.

Pontoons – income up £8K on last year. MCTC management accounts been presented. Looking for cleaners.

Decision to close pontoons for the winter period.

Looking at a possibility of a boatyard at net station.

5. 20 years of MCDC – planned for 28th September.

7. AOB –

Village maintenance – email from a member of the community addressed to MCC but arrived with MCDC with regard to village maintenance, grass overgrown etc. Email passed on to MCC. A map of what land belongs to who would be useful to determine responsibilities for village maintenance would be useful.

MCT, MCC, MCDC – Jane meeting with MCT and MCC with regard to community planning to help MCT inform their funding decisions. Possibly needs someone from outside of the community to run the planning exercise.