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| Minute of Colintraive and Glendaruel Development Trust AGM  Sunday 20th July 2014; 14.00; Colintraive Hall. | | | |
| **Directors Present:** | Charles Dixon-Spain (CDS); Sandra Wilson (SW); Jim McLuckie (JMcL);Bill Carlow (BC) |  |
| **Staff in attendance:** | Sara Maclean (SMcL); Eamon King (EK);Margaret Shields (MS) |  |
| **Members present:** | A Lamb; M Greig; D.Munro (DM); M. Russell; C Russell; D. Clarke De Bisschop; D Steedman (DS); M.McFarlane; J.Shiveral; A. Craig; E. Fairbairn; J. Finnie; A.Barker; J. Mackenzie |  |
| **Directors Apologies:** | Colin Boyd; Alex McNaughton |  |
| **Member Apologies:** | M.Kaufmann; J.McLuckie; R.McKenna; M.Donald; S.Carlow |  |
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| **Previous minutes:** | The draft minute of the 2014 AGM was proposed by DS and seconded by DM. |  |
| **Presentation of Accounts:** | The accounts were presented by Margaret Shields, in the absence of Colin Boyd (Treasurer).  Members were asked to adopt accounts from the previous two years. Although the relevant accounts were adopted at the 2013 AGM, a subsequent statutory audit required that the forest asset should be accounted for in a particular way. This alteration had been approved by OSCR and Companies House. The attending members unanimously agreed to adopt the accounts of the previous two years. |  |
| **Chairman’s Report:** | The Chairman thanked Rhona Sutherland, who had retired at the end of 2013, Mark Chambers and Nikki Brown, who left in 2014, for their valuable work with CGDT and wished them luck for the future. Margaret Shields and Eamon King were welcomed to their first CGDT AGM.  Progress on the first full year of work on the forest was reported; access, renewables, archaeology and forest crofts were moving forward.  The Greener Colglen Project was also progressing well. The two community polytunnels had been erected and were currently being fitted out as growing spaces. Four short term posts had been created to complete the project, in addition to the Project Officer. Sara Maclean was thanked for her exemplary work in the latter post.  Other projects were being planned and included Local Community Broadband and a project around the Glendaruel Hotal building. An application had been made to the Coastal Communities Fund for £325k to create two posts to upgrade the Cowal Way. The proposal had been successful in the first stage of the process and the outcome of the second stage would be known at the end of the year.  The chair reported his membership of a panel on a Scottish Government Policy initiative on Community Benefit and reporting to the Cross Party Group on Scottish Power, Renewables and Energy, Environment at Holyrood. The CGDT Board had been concerned at the effects of Government advice on State Aid and de minimis regulations; government and the civil service had been requested to adjust their advice to benefit community organisations, with some progress. The Land Reform Review Group had been consulting and CGDT’s views were communicated, particularly with regard to the Community Right to Buy legislation improvements. CGDT had also interacted at regional and national level with government and agencies around climate change - in the continuing Are You Ready project - as well as around crofting, community woodlands and the Forestry Commission. Sara (as Greener Colglen Project Officer), was a member of the Steering Group of Scottish Communities Climate Action Network. The chair believed this type of interaction was hugely important for the reputation and profile of the trust, yielding benefits in a culture of community empowerment.  CGDT currently employed 7 people and the expanding role as an employer had necessitated the creation of employment policies and procedures .These documents were available on the CGDT website, as was a register of interest for community members to inform the trust of skills offered either voluntarily or as a contractor. A review of CGDT financial systems had been undertaken and improvements made. CGDT now had to find core funding in order to continue delivering the benefits successfully secured in the last 5 years. Renewables, wind, biomass and hydro, Community Broadband, Crofts, Woodlots and other initiatives were all aimed at eventually putting together an income for the trust which could employ more than the current seven and create real economic benefit in the local community - attracting people to live here and therefore ensuring services are maintained. This had to be CGDT’s focus.  The Chair thanked CGDT voluntary directors for their time, efforts, frankness and tireless enthusiasm before inviting questions or comments from the members.  In response to A.Barker’s questions about the hotel, and J. McLuckie’s request for explanation of the State Aid issue, CDS reported on funding, State Aid issues and de minimis problems, describing his concerns about momentum if CGDT had to wait three years before making further funding applications. M.Russel said he would continue to press for an imaginative conclusion in order to encourage community ownership. C.Russell sought clarification on the community right to buy timescales and confirmation of full community consultation in relation to the hotel. CDS confirmed that there would be full community consultation and that one year remained before the community right to buy lapsed. |  |
| **Resignation and appointment of Directors:** | J.McLuckie stood down and was re-elected. B.Carlow stood down and did not wish to be re-elected but was willing to be co-opted for renewables alone. John Shiveral was nominated and elected as a Director. |  |
| **Appointment of Auditors:** | The continued appointment of Ailsa Close as auditor was proposed by J. Shiveral and seconded by A. Craig. |  |
| **AOCB:** | None  CDS thanked members for attending the AGM, which concluded at 14.30, and invited them to tea before presentations from project workers Sara Maclean and Eamon King. |  |
| **ADOPTION:** | **Proposed:** |  |
|  | **Seconded:** |  |
|  | **SIGNED:** |  |
|  | **Chairman:** |  |
|  | **DATE:** |  |