



**MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF STRATHERRICK AND FOYERS
COMMUNITY TRUST LIMITED held in STRATHERRICK HALL, GORTHLECK on
WEDNESDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2015 commencing at 7.30pm.**

Present	Graeme Ambrose, Martin Donnelly, Frank Ellam, Peter Faye, Sharon Ferguson, Zoe Iliffe, Hugh Nicol, Gordon McAndie
Chair	Zoe Iliffe
In Attendance	Steven Watson, Project Coordinator
Also in Attendance	20 Members of the Community Trust including Ken Sinclair and 3 non members
Apologies	Stewart MacPherson

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair, Zoe Iliffe, welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chair referred to the letter and notice of meeting which had been produced and circulated to members as required. The content was agreed by the meeting with no objections from anyone present.

2. THE CHAIR'S REPORT.

The Chair read out her report in full on the work of the Trust over the last year.

3. CONSIDERATION OF ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

Frank Ellam, Finance Director introduced himself and presented the annual report and accounts. Frank explained the statutory requirements for accounts for a company limited by guarantee and talked through the Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet whilst these were projected on the screen.

The annual report and accounts of Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust for the year ended 30 June 2015 were considered and noted by the Members. Frank called for questions from the floor, but no questions were raised.

4. ELECTION/RE-ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Four completed nomination forms had been received but one candidate, namely Martin Donnelly, had subsequently withdrawn his nomination. The Chair explained that Martin had been proposed by the newly-formed Community Council as their nominated director to the Trust. In terms of the Articles of Association, three Directors required to be elected. As there were now three nominations and three vacancies, the following Directors were duly elected. - Graeme Ambrose, Hugh Nicol and Ken Sinclair

5. QUESTIONS FROM THE MEMBERS

1 There was a discussion about the purchase of the land at Riverside, Foyers and the use that the ground would be put to, about access to the land, conditions applied by the Scottish Land Fund.

The Chair responded that the land purchase was not yet concluded but that the expectation was that the Trust would own it. The ground would be available for all community uses and that any groups or individuals with specific plans should work these up. The Board was confident access from the public road would not be a problem. There were a few conditions as to what use the land was put to, provided that this was a community use. The Scottish Land Fund contribution to the purchase price was 90%. The Board's view was to first

secure the land for the community in perpetuity and then consult and agree the uses the area could be best put to.

2 There was a discussion about Community Land for Community Woodland and timber storage.

This had been a Community Council topic. Timber felled by SSE to clear power line paths had been promised but no community-owned site for its storage, processing or distribution had been available. This led to problems as access to or sawing on Forestry or SSE sites had been restricted due to safety policies. As regards progress on community-owned woodland, current Timber transport Routes were being finalised and diverted for archaeological reasons but the Forestry Commission remained committed to releasing land once this was concluded. Were a community woodland company to be formed, to manage some of the local timber resource, then this could be run as a social enterprise employing staff or apprentices, but applying surpluses to community benefit and not private gain.

3 There was a question as to whether the Trust was able to extend grant schemes to benefit commercial enterprises.

Funds from SSE at Glendoe prohibit this. It was confirmed in the meeting by reference to the Dunmaglass agreement that the Trust could only use money for 'not for profit initiatives'.

4 There was a discussion about the roles of the Community Trust and the Community Council.

The Trust was a non-statutory body and was constituted to receive and safeguard community funds from the energy generators. Funds could not be used to substitute for services which were provided by statutory bodies like Highland Council.

The Community Council was prohibited from holding financial or other assets and is a statutory body. The Community Council had a role in negotiating community payments from developers and representing the community as the local democratic body responsible.

The Community Council nominates a link Director to sit on the Trust Board, and currently a second Community Councillor is also a Trust director. The two bodies have different roles and responsibilities but are working together.

5 The issue of ties relating to income generated by the Trust from investments was raised.

The issue was about how free the Trust was likely to be in using income from its investments to new activities. Currently all the funds received and applied are accounted for with reference to the conditions relating to the origin of the funds, but once investments were made and income was generated this was likely to change.

The Chair thanked all attending, the voluntary effort by Directors and encouraged existing members to recruit additional members from the community. She urged everyone to work together for the benefit of Stratherrick and Foyers.

On behalf of the Community Council, Catriona Fraser thanked the Trust's Board for their work.

The AGM closed at 8.30 p.m.

Signed by Chair

Date
