COLONSAY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

24.7.025 – Public Minute DRAFT

Attendance: Dannie Onn (DO), William Joll (WJ), Callum Hay (CH), Andrew Abrahams (AA), Helen Mann (HM), William Joll (WJ), Linsay Chalmers (LC), Lesley McInnes (LM)

Members of the Public: 1

Apologies: Darragh Keenaghan (DH), Maggie Fay (MF), Carrie Seymour (CS), Lizzie Keenaghan (LK)

M**inutes of Last meeting**.

Approved.

Matters Arising:

A second funding application has now been made for the Village Hall solar roof project.

Machair Wind: CCC 'straw poll' broadly indicates one third support; one third support with changes made; and one third objection. Further 'votes are coming in and will be reported in due course.

Declarations of Interest:

None.

Appointment of a new director

The board agreed unanimously to appoint Liz Griffiths (LG) to the board. She has agreed to be the treasurer for a trial period of one year and her skills, experience and knowledge will be helpful in other ways.

Monthly Bulletin:

An August bulletin was circulated prior to the meeting. Further information may be added following this meeting. All approved the draft bulletin for issue.

Treasurer and book-keeping

CH reports that he has discussed the treasurer role with LG and she will pick up the treasury work. Book-keeping has been taken over by CS. Tanya Wren has completed last year's accounts, which are ready for the auditor. The timing of this will be reported in due course, which will determine the earliest AGM date. CH confirmed that the cost of auditing for last year has been funded from the additional Scalasaig project contribution by MOWI.

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Although we may not reach the threshold for income to trigger an audit for the current year, we may have sufficient assets to trigger an audit anyway. CH has been working with our accountant on the balance sheet and they hope that with the transfer of houses to MOWI and other sales and acquisitions, we may avoid an audit next year. LC noted that other charities are experiencing difficulties with finding auditors and the Scottish Government proposes to raise the qualifying income to £1 million. CH once again thanked Linsay for her help in finding an auditor for us.

Fuel Project Report

An update report was circulated prior to the meeting. The board noted the content of the report.

The approval process by HIE is underway and should be complete mid-August. With a two-month lead-time, the project could be completed in October, before the ferry timetable changes.

CH reiterated the need for technical back-up to run the fuel operation. No further offers of help have been received. HM offered to be part of the process and would generally be on-hand to respond to issues. The board agreed that others would now be approached directly. The notion of paying someone to do the job was rejected because it is a community service with an ethos of helping each other.

CH left the meeting after this item.

Ben Sgoiltaire Lease

The visit from prospective tenants last month was postponed because of illness. We have no moving in date as yet but understand that progress is being made towards the signing of a lease.

Old Manse

There is no real progress to report. A positive response from RIHF will lead to a meeting in the coming weeks. The application requirement that the property must have been empty for 6 months may be waived. We have no date yet for tenants moving to their new home. There will be a full report for the next meeting.

Local Place Plan

A report was circulated prior to the meeting including early draft text. DO added that the delays to the ABC LDP stages means that our LPP remains on track to influence the LDP. The report was noted and there were no specific questions or comments at this stage.

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Machair Wind update

The current situation is as set out in the monthly bulletin. DO confirmed that the MoU has been signed by CCDC and CCC and will now be taken forward before the year end to reflect the Local Place Plan and any review of the Community Plan. It is probable that the consents will be forthcoming for the development. Our community must therefore focus on what community benefits might be appropriate if Iberdrola commit to development.

There has been no progress on attracting senior management to visit the island, although the local engagement team has hinted that a visit to coincide with the 2nd consultation event on 23 September might be possible.

Marine Sectoral Plan for Offshore Wind Energy

DO summarised the consultation event in the Village Hall, which some had attended. Around 30 members of the public had turned up, many voicing strong opinions about the proposed machair Wind development. The most significant observation was that it is too late now to consult on whether the site to the west of Colonsay should have been in the plan, yet only now can we see the potential impacts.

Company policies

As yet, little progress has been made on expanding on our suite of housing policies to include other asserts and more general company policies as our responsibilities increase. This is an important matter because of the potential risks to the company as an asset owner on behalf of the community and because funders increasingly wish to see them. A list of policies will be brought to a near future meeting to take the process forward.

AOCB

Residual crushed stone supplies. AA has agreed to take this forward and has discussed transport and distribution with a local contractor. Our thanks To AA.

DONM - Thursday 4 September at 7pm

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