Lochbroom Community Renewables Ltd

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting held on 05 September 2019 at Parlour Bar, Ceilidh Place

Present: Tim Gauntlett (Chair), Rob Gibson, Dave Maxwell, Andy Kaye, Sarah Di Rollo (minutes), Sandy Osborne, Paul Copestake.

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| Item | AGENDA item | Discussion | Actions | Owner |
| 1 | Apologies | Kathleen Donald |
| 2 | Approval of minutes of previous Board Meeting  | The draft minutes of the previous meeting were approved Proposed: SOSeconded: DM | Upload pdf to Dropbox Post on website | RG/DM |
| 3 | Matters arising from previous minutes | 1) Payments of interest – completed.2) Allt a Bhraigie – AK went to Lael Forest community ownership meeting and met Wayne Grant (Braemore Estate Keeper) who requested contact details of LCR on behalf of Chris Thompson (Braemore Estate Owner) who is keen to discuss the possible development of a joint hydro scheme. 3) Climate Action Group – reported back re discussions to date. Proposal that LCR AGM 2020 be developed into a celebration of community renewables with a number of build up events throughout the year piggybacked onto other existing tabled community events in conjunction with other existing community groups and the UCT Environmental Group.RG emphasised the importance of succession planning and that any events organised should be seen as a springboard to encourage networking and community involvement.4) Discussion re AK stepping down as a director at LCR AGM 2019. Has agreed to continue on as volunteer and treasurer with a view to using the 2019/2020 year as a handover period for treasurer post to new director. Discussion re splitting role of book-keeper and treasurer. TG to discuss with UCT whether this might be a role that could be shared across several community organisations and UCT. | PC to email Braemore estate ownerTG to liaise with UCT Environment Group, SD with USS /SWTTG to discuss with UCT re possibility of shared book-keeper | PCTG/SD/KD/ABHTG |
| 4 | Future membership and direction. |  |  Carry forward to AGM. |   | TG |
| 6 | Operating update |  | PC advised that June/July were good months and August very good. Automatic rain gauge fully operational for past 3 months – will help with forecasting.General maintenance – SO continues to monitor.PC advised that the access road is becoming overgrown with tree saplings etc and around the satellite dish. Proposed work party for some clearing works by volunteers. Requested that machines not be used on a sunday. SO advised that intake at low flow rates has been helped by the adjustments made so far.SO advised that the turbine has been slightly overheating but this does not appear to be causing any issues and it is no longer tripping out with the temperature alarm. The low water sensor is no longer causing the turbine to trip out either. Badcaul Primary School has requested a visit for 4x Primary 1-3 children and a teacher. PC to liaise with Susan MacSweeney (teacher). Approved.SO advised that a 'Bronze' maintenance/service package has been obtained from Gilkes | Load up usual graph on face book.PC to organise work party for ground clearing.PC to liaise to enable visit. | PC/DMPCPC |
| 7 | AGM Planning |  | Date set for 5th October at Braemore Hall, 2-3.30pm. Hall booked by AK. Agenda to be circulated by DM in advance to all volunteers. TG to chair meeting. Treasurer to report. Terry Rose (UCT Director) to be asked to report on Forest/Land Purchase progress.Neil Gerrard to be asked for a brief report on Loch a Bhroain hydro scheme.Lorraine Thompson (chair of CBF) +/- Clachan Development Group or Ullapool CIC (recipients of CBF funds) to be asked to speak briefly.Brief update re Climate Action Lochbroom subgroup and plans for next years AGM 'celebration'.PC to do a handout for everyone to be placed on seats explaining flow data for the year. Refreshments to include: tea/coffee/juice/milk/biscuits+/- home baking/cakes! As before everyone to bring something. Notice in Ullapool News/Facebook page to ask that people notify or provide name and contact details to The New Broom or email LCR@broompower.org if they would like a lift to/from the AGM by the 2/10/19. Also to ask people to car share where possible.TG will continue to put regular updates/reminders in the Ullapool News and DM on facebook.Wear T-shirts! | TG to ask TR to present reportTG to ask NG to reportDM to ask LT to report. TG to ask Clachan rep to report.SD to prepare brief report. | DMTGAKTGTGDM/TGSDPCDM/AllTG/DMTGAll |
| 8 | Land purchase sub-group update | AK | AK and PC attended community consultations in Braemore and Ullapool respectively. Very successful and well attended and new views given to consultants. Some polarised views given but general strong community support for progress with project to date. Discussions at meetings regarding the advantages of a community asset vs public asset and the local control gained with community asset. Emphasis given to explain that UCT will not be developing land for projects but acting as a vehicle for community purchase only if this is supported by the community for their use.  | Continue liaison with UCT | TG, AK |
| 9 | Loch a’ Bhraoin subgroup update | TG | Concerns that Mr Lorimer is progressing with the scheme at speed and is no longer interested in taking the community aspect forward.  | Report from NG at AGM?  | TG |
| 10  | AOB | SD | Visit from Raasay Community Trust – 6/9/19, 12pm meeting at the Ceilidh Place for those that can make it then on to the turbine house/intake site.LCR Art project update – High School children have had several workshops with artist Caroline Williams and continue to work on these. Planned exhibition to open in the Macphail Centre at the end of October – invites to all LCR members will be extended for the preview – possible date Monday 28th October TBC. Further workshops to be funded by remaining £1000 Tesco BoH probably with Dolphin Project.  |  | TG, AK, DMSD |
| 12 | Date/time of next meetings | **Thursday 24th October 2019 7.00 pm, ?Parlour Bar, Ceilidh Place – TG to confirm.** |