



# Kilmallie Community Company

## Board Meeting – Minutes

Minutes of the KCC board which met on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2008 at 7.30 pm at Kilmallie Hall.

1. **Present:** P Brian (chair), P Biggin (secretary), O Vietch, H Muir, R Grieve, Linda Taylor, A MacKenzie

2. **Apologies,** A MacPhie, J Ireland, J Willis, G Rogerson

3. **Minutes of previous meeting** –were accepted and signed by the chair.

### 4. **Matters Arising**

Linda Taylor was formally appointed and welcomed as a co-opted director. *Forms have been sent to Companies House and the bank.*

After the last meeting a letter was written to the planners expressing the view that the entire areas of the woods should be classed as green space on the local plan. The letter was been acknowledged. We need to check that our views have been acted upon when the next plan is published.

### 5. **Membership**

No new members or changes to note. New members can be recruited at any time.

### 6. **Finance.**

Allan presented a list of transactions to date. We have a balance of £904.

A tax return has to be completed. Ossie is to consult VAL on an informal basis to establish how grant income is dealt with for tax purposes. If all else fails we must employ an accountant.

### 7. **Progress with Arjo.**

Although there has been contact with Arjo and there are no indications of any change of course we have had no estimate from Arjo of what their solicitors fees might be. Our own solicitors guessed a figure of £2000 plus any ground survey work. This estimate was used in our application for grant aid. Given our success with grant aid (see below) it was agreed that secretary should approach ARJO via our solicitors to see if we can get negotiations under way. *I spoke to Keith Falconer (Tues 29<sup>th</sup>) of MacPhee & partners and he will contact John Govier to start negotiations with Arjo's solicitors.*

### 8. **Grant Applications**

**Investing in Ideas:** This application has been successful. A “letter of offer” and “terms and conditions” has been received. Copies were circulated to directors before the meeting. The conditions were thought to be acceptable and the letter of offer signed (*and sent off*). The “letter of offer” contains a lot of information about the Investing in Communities (Growing Communities Assets ) scheme but although the two schemes are from the Big Lottery Fund the “Investing in Ideas” grant is not conditional on the other scheme.



**Investing in Communities:** After our application for “Investing in Ideas” we had advice that we should follow up with an application to “Investing in Communities”. This took the form of an “outline proposal”. This met with a favourable response from BLF and we have now been asked to complete a full application. This might involve considerable work and will be assisted by Gail Rogerson.

Quite a bit of discussion on this. Opinions varied should we get stuck into it asap or should we hold off until we have some indication of progress on ownership. There is a deadline for applications to be completed 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2008. The first job is to sort out our work programme and to cost it; this then needs to be linked to the outcomes that the grant scheme requires. There needs to be more consultation with the membership on the work programme. My impression was that most directors are happy for Ossie and I to carry on working on this but not to get involved with public consultations or committed until some progress has been made on ownership.

Various items were mentioned in the discussion on work programme. Fencing - dismantling old and building new, deadwood survey, insurance, bracken biodiversity, policy towards bikers, rope swings, etc.

## 9. AOB.

**Ditch** – a ditch to intercept water flowing into the back gardens of Guisach Terrace has been constructed and quite a few trees felled on the bottom boundary of the pine wood (below the power line and therefore not the core of the wood.) The work was done by Highland Council – with the consent of Arjo - and is not very satisfactory in some respects. A field drain would have been better than an open ditch and the work is not very tidy. The neighbouring residents are however happy.

**Photographs** – Allan suggested that a good set of photographs taken throughout the wood would form a useful record.

**Web Site:** - Consent was given by the board for secretary to set up a web site at an estimated cost of £40 per annum. This would be a useful platform for making information freely available.

## 10. Date of next Meeting.

An AGM is required at the latest by 23rd November. The consensus was that we should put off the meeting until there is some progress on ownership. Provisionally the AGM should be at the beginning of November – say Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup>. 21 days notice is required.

The date for the next board meet is Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August.

The meeting closed at 9:00 pm with thanks to the chair.