

GREAT GLEN ENERGY CO-OP

Minutes of a Board meeting held at Wester Altourie on 13th June 2011 at 5.45pm

Present :-	Graham Strachan (Chairman)	GS
	Felix Paterson	FP
	Kenneth Knott	KK
	Garry Page	GP
	Lorna Lumsden	LL

Apologies Ian Whyte

1. **WELCOME** The Chairman, GS, welcomed directors to the meeting.

2. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICE BEARERS

It was resolved to appoint GS as continuing chairman proposed by LL, seconded by KK.

FP was appointed to stand in as deputy in any absence of GS. It was also resolved that, if FP was required to chair an AGM meeting there would be a one-off fee enhancement of £50.00 payable to FP. Proposed by LL and seconded by KK.

LL was re-appointed as admin secretary. Proposed by GS, seconded by FP.

3. **MINUTES** of meeting held on 25th January 2011 were discussed and proposed as true record by KK, seconded by LL.

4. MATTERS ARISING

- Additional web statistics to be requested (GS)
- KK suggested it was likely that production figures will have to be made available on the website in future.
- Euan Fraser from Falck to be involved at next Board Meeting.

5. AGM REVIEW

It was universally felt that the AGM had gone well, that the venue (Kingsmills Hotel) was good and that it should be used again in 2012. The Directors expressed a preference for a weekday early evening AGM in 2012.

6. PERFORMANCE REVIEW

KK felt production had become more consistent in recent months. Although it was noted that government compensation payments for “switch-off” at times of low grid demand were being paid to the generators, the Directors were unclear how this revenue was distributed to the membership in the case of Millennium Wind Farm. GS to ascertain clarification from Annette of this detail which the Directors noted was one additional element in a complex formula when calculating financial return to the Co-op membership. It was noted that the ability to shut off wind generation at very short notice was in marked contrast to nuclear power which can not be switched on and off either quickly or easily.

It was also noted that May’s production figures (details awaited) were very encouraging.

The directors felt a fuller explanation of the calculation formula would be most helpful although they appreciated that Annette Heslop of E4A (company secretary to GGEC) understood the mechanism fully and dealt with the complex aspects of data compilation most efficiently.

GS to seek clarification from E4A on Nordex compensatory payments.

The Directors also considered the possibility of holding a joint “tutorial style” meeting with other Highland co-ops associated with Falck in order to better understand amongst other things, Community Project Fund, the calculation formula for arriving at share interest figures and a fuller appreciation of risk control responsibilities. Graham to investigate.

7. COMMUNITY PROJECT FUND ISSUES

Garry will purchase book tokens to award to the turbine naming winners. 6 x £20. Cheque to Garry and receipt to E4A. GS to notify Steph to arrange £120 transfer to cheque a/c.

Further community environmental projects to be encouraged.

Given the poor response to offers of assistance for school projects with a renewable component, KK suggested purchasing educational materials to present to schools as a package. KK will undertake further research on suitable and appropriate book titles and other media relating to renewable energy or sustainable living.

Another suggestion was to use the available funds to purchase a relevant educational item to present to schools as a gift.

8. INSURANCE AND RISK CONTROL

A paper had been circulated (KWEC Board Paper) about how risk should be managed through the entire operation.. Although the directors felt operational and administrative matters were well managed by Falck and E4A they felt it is prudent to identify matters where due diligence should be carried out and identify any specific risks which need attention. GS will discuss the issue with Annette of E4A and prepare a paper for the Board. Board members had considered the issues in the KWEC paper and felt there where no specific risks that required their attention but that this was an issue which should be monitored regularly.

9. AOCB

It was thought that one annual newsletter would suffice and this would be distributed with the annual AGM notifications.

KK advised that a firm called Ridgewind are developing plans for a windfarm adjacent to Millennium. Some concern was expressed about the possible diverting of wind availability if the proposals by Ridgewind encroached on any directional air flow thus causing a reduction in Millennium's ability to continue generation at the current level.

10. FUTURE MEETING DATES

Provisional dates set for 24th October 2011 at Dochfour with Euan and possibly Annette and 17th January 2012, probably at Invermoriston.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.15 pm