

# **GREAT GLEN ENERGY CO-OP**

Minutes of a Board Meeting held at 5.30 pm 19<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at Wester Altourie

**Present :** Graham Strachan (Chairman) GS  
Ian Whyte IW  
Felix Patterson FP  
Lorna Lumsden LL

**1. Welcome** The Chairman welcomed the Directors.

**2. Apologies :** Apologies received from Garry Page and Kenneth Knott

## **3. Appointment of Office Bearers**

Graham Strachan agreed to continue as Chairman having been proposed by LL and seconded by FP.  
Lorna Lumsden agreed to continue as Admin Secretary having been proposed by Graham Strachan and seconded by Ian Whyte.

Felix Patterson agreed to continue as deputy chairman, proposed IW, seconded GS.

## **4. Minutes of Board meeting on 5pm 19th April 2012 Kingsmills Hotel Inverness**

The minutes of this Board Meeting were approved, adopted and signed as a true record by GS. An extra copy was signed for forwarding to E4A (FAO Tammy) and taken for posting that evening.

## **5. Matters Arising**

Following discussion it was agreed that further research into achieving a group discount offered by willing energy suppliers for members to take up if they wished, was required. IW agreed to undertake this task and to report to the next meeting but it was felt that two of the provisional offers (Good Energy and Ecotricity) might have merit in follow-up for a potential agreement. GS to contact E4A re provision / dissemination of member's detailed information for mailing purposes.

It was agreed that suggestions of joint meetings between Falck Highland Co-ops could be deferred meantime.

## **6. AGM review**

The Directors felt the AGM had been a success. Kingsmills was a good venue but a decision on the venue for 2013 would be made at the next meeting in the event that a cheaper alternative venue was found although the Kingsmills was well within budget, was a pleasant venue and had operational advantages. The Board recorded their thanks to Euan Fraser of Falck for his interesting update and talk after the AGM.

## **7. Share Transfers**

Defining policy rules for possible share transfers was making progress and it was hoped to have a clear strategy for finalisation at the next meeting. In principle, overall Co-op numbers should not alter significantly as a consequence of share ownership change. Inter family transfers would normally be approved in principle surrounding events such as minors becoming of age and family bereavements. These would be executed by E4A for free. Transfers resulting from member's wish to sell their shares would most likely be subject to an admin fee of £35.00 per transfer, charged to the buyer by E4A. In all cases

individual circumstances should be considered prior to approval to avoid the undesirable situation of diluting the membership thus incurring additional administration costs to the Co-op. The draft paper circulated by Graham clarified most situations and directors agreed to consider it in detail and comment, with aim to adopt at next meeting.

## **8. Community Fund**

Providing assistance with provision of literary materials on renewable energy subjects for the schools curriculum had been abandoned as a result of a disappointing response from schools.

Abriachan Forest Trust had presented an outline scenario seeking financial assistance to their renewable energy project for the Forest School. The Directors were keen to support this in principle and agreed to provide a sum of up to £5000 or up to 50% of the costs subject to match funding being in place once a fully costed / quoted for plan had been received from AFT for the project. GS to check amount of available funds. The progressive nature of the AFT was noted and it was felt there could be synergy in maintaining an ongoing dialogue with such a Great Glen community group. IW agreed to research the possibility of joint activities. Any funding provided must be acknowledged by appropriate plaques / credits etc.

## **9. Production performance and overview**

It was noted that May had been a poor month for wind thus reducing the overall annual output percentage figures.

## **10. AOCB**

The Directors felt it would be useful to have a site visit to the Millennium Wind farm. Provisional date set for 8<sup>th</sup> September, subject to GS discussion with Euan Fraser of Falck. LL to research prices for a 16 seater coach from DE coaches. The plan is to have a Directors' (with guest) visit this autumn, to report back on the visit to the membership at the 2013 AGM and arrange a general member's visit for 2013, with details to be announced in the annual newsletter with back-up information being provided at the AGM in April 2013.

It was noted that Kilbraur had a revised draft contract with E4A and it was felt there could be merit in streamlining all Co-ops to the same model thus ensuring consistency.

## **11. Meeting Dates**

Meetings are provisionally scheduled for :-  
18<sup>th</sup> September 2012 20<sup>th</sup> November 2012 19<sup>th</sup> February 2013 AGM on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2013.

The meeting closed at 6.45pm and GS thanked LL for providing a venue and hospitality.

Signed as an accurate record of the meeting \_\_\_\_\_ G. Strachan  
Chairman. 18th September 2012