

**Minutes of Board Meeting held at
The Lovat Arms Hotel, Fort Augustus on
Tuesday 26th May, 2009, 7pm.**

Present:

Mark Jennison, Felix Paterson, Denise Paterson, Kenneth Knott, Ian Whyte.

Welcome.

Mark welcomed Kenneth Knott to the first Directors' meeting since the AGM. Mark introduced Ian Whyte to the Board. Ian had expressed an interest in joining the Board after the AGM and was here to observe.

<p>1. Apologies</p> <p>There were no apologies.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes</p> <p>The previous minutes were approved. Proposed by FP and seconded by DP.</p>	
<p>3. Matters Arising</p> <p>There were no matters arising from the last meeting.</p>	

4. Wind Farm Performance

MJ talked through the performance spreadsheet. Annette has also emailed a breakdown explanation.

MJ reported that there have been teething problems with commissioning/ maintenance of turbines (due to heavy commitments of Nordex engineers) and this has reflected in lower electricity production for April. MJ is to check what the situation is for compensation payments if turbine availability is below certain agreed levels.

MJ

The Board was reminded about confidentiality of performance data and electricity prices.

MJ re-iterated that performance figures are based only on the 16 turbines that the Co-op has shares in.

Quarterly accounts are produced by E4All office. The Board was made aware that the Co-op pays a 2.8% share of the running costs of the Wind Farm (which includes 2.8% share of the Community Benefit payment).

KK asked if the Co-op has any sway over its contribution to the Community Benefit Fund. KK let it be known that he is a Board Member of the Community Company for Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston. KK & MJ to pursue.

KK
MJ

5. Co-op Non-Financial Work Programme

Naming Competition

20 winners have been chosen from 62 entries. The list of winners will be sent to all Board Members.

MJ to contact Falck with the competition results.

MJ

School Site Visits

The Co-op has not been contacted by Falck, although DP and FP have received contact from the 3 local schools indicating that they have been invited to the Wind Farm. MJ to contact Falck.

MJ

KK commented that not all children living locally went to the 3 local schools, and therefore had missed out on the opportunity to enter the Turbine Naming Competition.

MJ to check which schools Falck have invited to site visits.

MJ

5. Co-op Non-Financial Work Programme contd.

AGM Suggestions/Matters Arising from AGM

The following suggestions/questions were posed by members at the AGM:

1. Postal voting. MJ to check format for setting up postal voting.

MJ

KK proposed calling a General Meeting raising proposal for postal voting. Notice for this could be sent out with the next Newsletter.

MJ

KK also suggested website voting. To be investigated.

2. Micro Renewables - Domestic Scale. There was a short discussion. It was felt that this area is well covered by other agencies.

3. A member raised the question of the Co-op having a lobbying role. MJ stated that he represented E4All and the general co-op movement at Forum for Renewable Energy Development Scotland (FREDS).

Next Newsletter

MJ would collate information for the next newsletter. Possible articles include:

MJ

Turbine Naming Competition results

Clear information of the selling/cashing in of Co-op shares.

The Rights Issue on proposed additional 6 turbines.

Information on the planning progress of additional 6 turbines.

General meeting to raise issue of postal ballot.

Ongoing operation/maintenance/performance from Falck.

Impact on Biodiversity - ongoing monitoring/feedback.

KK

Director's Profile - Kenneth Knott

5. Co-op Non-Financial Work Programme contd.

Of the budget of £12,000 for Co-op Non Financial Work Programme, £1,380 has been spent on the production of the first newsletter and Co-op logo badges.

A lengthy discussion took place on future possible projects.

Suggestions were a **Renewable Energy Problem Solving Day** for schools. This could start with schools within the Great Glen and be extended to a National Competition involving all Co-ops. This idea was greeted with much interest. MJ to contact Linda Dodds, Great Glen Way Route Manager, as it is understood that she has the expertise to mastermind such an event.

MJ

KK informed the Board that a small private wind farm (5 turbines) is being proposed at Corrimony, Drumnadrochit. The local community have been offered the opportunity to invest and take ownership of 1 turbine. Could Co-op help to make up investment to ensure that the community succeeds? KK and MJ to pursue.

MJ
KK

6. GGEC Office Bearers

The need for a Vice-Chair was identified. It was not felt that any other office bearers were necessary. Further discussion was deferred until the September meeting, when it is hoped the full contingent of the Board would be present.

7. Minute Secretary

MJ has drawn up basic tasks/requirements of a Minute Secretary. All present agreed the need to employ a Minute Secretary on a contract basis - suggested fixed fee £40 per meeting. MJ to draft an advertisement to be posted locally. DP, FP, KK to distribute.

MJ
DP/
DP/
KK

8. Dates for Meetings

MJ proposed dates for meetings for the following year. These dates are to tie in with Wind Farm performance reports and the AGM planning.

Tuesday 1st September 2009

Tuesday 3rd November 2009

Tuesday 2nd February 2010

Tuesday 4th May 2010

It was agreed to keep the AGM in April - to be finalised with Annette.

