

Board of Directors

Minutes

of meeting held in Magnus House, Aigas Field Centre
at 7.30pm on Monday 20th April 2015

Present		Apologies	In Attendance
John Graham	Andrew Leaver	Calum Fraser	Donnie Chisholm
Graeme Scott	Warwick Lister-Kaye	Peter Smith	
David Garvie	Peter Masheter	Nick Ward	
Mark Hedderwick	Anne Forsyth		

Item	Action
<p>1 Apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calum Fraser, Peter Smith, Nick Ward 	
<p>2 Minutes of meeting of 11th February</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes were proposed by John Graham and seconded by Mark Hedderwick. 	
<p>3 Review of outstanding actions not covered on the agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insurance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Donnie confirmed that woodland insurance including fire cover had been arranged for the date of purchase. ○ Following discussion it was agreed to identify what Trustee Indemnity Insurance covers and bring this information back to the next meeting. • Renewal of Mast Lease <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No further communication has been received from CKD Galbraith on lease renewal. Andrew to follow up. ○ Lease payments for the current year have been agreed and the first tranche (>£6k) has been received. 	<p>DC/AL</p> <p>AL</p>
<p>4 Discrepancy in title</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew informed the Board about a title discrepancy that has been identified by the land registers. A five yard strip of land on the riverbank in the riverside strip has been leased by Lovat Estates to a third party connected with Beaully Fishings. A title search identified that FCS probably did not own this strip and so any action to have the Lovat lease overturned would be time consuming and costly with no guarantee of success. It was agreed that the strip itself has no integral or ransom value and so we will accept that it has not been sold to Aigas Community Forest. 	
<p>5 Forest Design Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It was agreed that initial community consultation should be based in the forest with a follow-up presentation of the draft plan in Kilmorack Hall later on. 	

Item	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Weekly walks open for anyone to attend will be held on every Thursday in May (7th, 14th, 21st and 28th) from 7.00pm – 8.30pm. One person will lead the walk; another will take notes on comments made by participants. ○ Walks will be promoted via newsletter and on Facebook. ● Access and recreation plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Anne has continued dialogue with Robbie Short about a route over from Kilmorack. ○ Andrew highlighted that Teanassie School had asked if a direct path from school to forest could be created. Route options were discussed and Anne and Mark undertook to scout these. 	<p>AL</p> <p>AF/MH</p>
<p>6 Deer Management Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Donnie has had further discussions with SNH who have indicated that collaborative management of deer by the three major landowners (Masheter, Lister-Kaye, ACF) inside the 'greater Aigas' fenceline would be both effective and acceptable within the FDP. ● There are other landowners and crofters managing land inside this fence and they would be welcome to join a collaboration at a later stage if they wish. ● Neighbours on the other side of the fence can be informed and invited to attend meetings but their participation is not essential. ● There was agreement from Warwick and Peter that this approach should be progressed and it was agreed to meet separately to discuss details. DC to arrange meeting. 	<p>DC</p>
<p>7 Forest open day / Ownership celebration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It was agreed to build community interest in the forest with the consultation walks throughout May before holding a celebration on Saturday 6th June from 3pm onwards at the Loch nan Losgann. 	
<p>8 AOCB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Community Broadband <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ John and David outlined the opportunity to establish a community broadband service transmitting from the telecoms mast. Grant funding for investigation and capital costs may be provided by Community Broadband Scotland. ○ It was agreed that this could be a valuable and potentially profitable service for the community. David will undertake further research. 	<p>DG</p>

Item	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a phone box <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The opportunity exists to adopt the phone box in Crask of Aigas. The phone would be removed but the community would be left with the phone box and an electricity supply. There was general interest. Andrew will investigate further and report back. • Research in the forest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Andrew noted that a UHI PhD student is currently researching the Pine Tree Lappet Moth ○ Warwick confirmed that Field Centre staff are undertaking wildlife surveys. ○ Both sets of research will be shared with ACF. • Volunteering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Donnie noted that Lifescan have offered 60 man days of volunteering (30 people on 2 days) in May. This will be most likely used for path clearing in areas where there is no danger of disturbing rare species. 	AL

Summary of Outstanding Actions		
Ref	Action	Person Responsible
36/4	Donnie to investigate options for development of an access and recreation plan.	DC
36/7	Identify a list of potential grant funders for all currently proposed projects.	DC
37/5	Bring forward a proposal for a woodfuel business to a future meeting	DC
37/6	Investigate options for developing branding and signage for the forest	AL
38/1	Provide a trustee induction session	GS
38/6	Establish and monitor a budget / cashflow forecast	GS/DC
38/10	Circulate board members skills audit	AL
40/1	Identify what Trustee Liability Insurance covers and bring information to next meeting	DC/AL
40/2	Follow up with CKD Galbraith on mast lease renewal.	AL
40/3	Promote the community consultation walks	AL
40/4	Scout a route from Teanassie School to the forest	AF / MH
40/5	Arrange deer management meeting with Warwick, Peter and ACF	DC
40/6	Undertake further research of the community broadband option and bring to future meeting.	DG
40/7	Undertake further investigation of the Adopt a phone box opportunity	AL