

## **Development Coll**

### **MINUTES**

#### **Meeting held on Wed 3rd September 2014**

Present            George McConnachie  
                      Lavinia Maclean Bristol  
                      Nic Smith  
                      Juliette Summers (via speaker phone)  
                      John Fraser  
                      (Also one potential director and one observer)

Apologies        Huw Roberts  
                      Seonaid Maclean Bristol

There were no declarations of interest.

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting, which was not quorate so notes rather than minutes were taken.

#### **Mobile project**

Only Vodafone will be available at the start. The start date has been pushed back to the end of September. George is working on the MOUs, using the template from the consultant as a start point, but each MOU will be slightly different. Action point John is to pass on Paul Connelly's email to George.

#### **Management Committee**

Coll Cosmos – they have booked a second weekend. The first one has 10 people booked in so far. George is working on tying these in with Calmac and Scotrail so we get the benefit of their marketing.

Legionella – following a risk assessment we have the report. Directors have a legal responsibility to ensure action is taken. Jane has raised some of the issues with TSL, ABC and the manufacturers. We have decided to change the taps in the toilets.

Environmental Health – we passed their inspection with flying colours.

Just Enterprise is providing some online book-keeping support for the Sage program.

Teens event – kids want it to run in October.

Theatre – Hela 22 Sept, kids play in October, and another in November

Sales figures – were studied at the last meeting and are very satisfactory.

#### **DC Finance update**

George gave a brief update.

#### **Housing.**

George has met with ACHA to discuss some of our options. Arlene met with councilors

Roddy McCuish and Neil MacIntyre while they were on Coll. They will try and get an answer from Scottish Water. The next step is for ACHA to come to Coll with someone from the Scottish Land Fund and meet with the housing group. The SLF are keen on a link with a housing association and it will be useful to have all parties at one meeting. This meeting will not be open to the public, its aim is to clarify various options.

George attended a housing workshop at the DTAS conference and heard about a project at Helmsdale which sounded very similar to what we hope to achieve. They are building 2 x 2 bed and 2 x 3 bed houses and selling 3 plots. It may be possible to get funds to cover the expenses of a visit to see how they planned the project.

Nic is keen to hold community consultation when the options are a bit clearer, this could be combined with a 'what should DC do next' event.

AOB. Seonaid has informed the directors she is taking a four month sabbatical from DC and will return in the New Year. All the directors were happy with this. Currently we can have up to 5 co-opted directors and seven elected. George will ask Jim's advice to see if this ratio can be altered.

The main meeting was closed.

Lavinia explained to Margaret some of the responsibilities and possible pitfalls of being a director. We discussed how best to manage communication with directors who don't use emails.

This part of the meeting finished.

There was a private meeting to discuss the mobile project.

We have to sign a contract with SSE and they have indicated potential electric costs of £4,400. We had agreed by email this was not acceptable. Lavinia and George had an email from Derek who is waiting to hear the actual costs from a mast at Castleton, Isle of Man which is a similar size. We have annual running costs of £1400 covered but we did not feel able to locate any more money. Derek said we could use the £4000 as well but George said we had already spent £1000 for his work on the project and there was still a lot to do. We agreed to wait until we had figures from Castleton but we felt if Derek was so sure the cost would be in his quoted range he could give us a guarantee to cover any excess. The delay with the start date is due to SSE and the meter. This contract could have been given to us several weeks ago.

VAT. George explained he had got a second opinion from a VAT expert through DTAS and his view was that the VAT would not be recoverable. So far expenditure is matching the budget.