
Community Land Scotland

Annual General Meeting

Friday 6th June 2014

Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Sleat, Isle of Skye

1 Welcome

All were welcomed to the third annual general meeting of Community Land Scotland by David Cameron, Chairman. He particularly welcomed and introduced Rhona Middler who would shortly start work with Community Land Scotland.

Member's Present:

Aigas Community Forest, Assynt Foundation, Camuscross & Duisdale Initiative, The Findhorn Village Conservation Company, Isle of Canna Community Development Trust, Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust, Isle of Rum Community Trust, Knoydart Foundation, Kyle & Lochalsh Community Trust, North Harris Trust, North West Mull Community Woodland Company, Stòras Uibhist, Sleat Community Trust, South Cowal Community Development Company, Stòras Uibhist, Stornoway Trust, Tìree Community Development trust, Urras Baile Fhlòdaigearraidh Community Company, Urras Oighreachd Chàrlabhaigh, Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn, Urras Sgìre Oighreachd Bharabhais.

Names of those present:

Fiona Begg, Pamela Blyth, Amanda Bryan, David Cameron, Donnie Campbell, Ruth Cape, Stewart Connor, Rory Dutton, Huw Francis, Norman Gillies, Ian Hepburn, John Hutchison, Mo Hyde, Amy Kapherr-Diamant, Andrew Leaver, Norman MacAskill, Noreen Macdonald, Iain MacIver, Kenny MacLennan, Calum MacLeod, Lorne MacLeod, David MacMillan, John MacMillan, Rhona Middler, David Newton, Peter Peacock, Brendan O'Hanrahan, Angus Robertson, Steve Robertson, Lorna Schofield, Arthur Sevestre, Jean Urquhart, Susan Walker, Iain Wentworth, Angela Williams, Andy Wright.

2 Apologies

There were no apologies intimated.

3 Minutes of AGM on 7th June 2013

The minutes were proposed for approval by Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust, seconded by North Harris Trust and accepted by those present.

4 Chairman's Report

David Cameron referred to his circulated report which detailed a busy and very successful year, in which Community Land Scotland had made a significant contribution to influencing strategic policy.

The board had continued to press for legislative change and believed that stronger structures needed to be put in place and he encouraged members to continue to bring ideas forward. The board would continue to act on policy issues.

He was keen to do more work with members, particularly with regard to knowledge exchange and this would be part of Rhona Middler's remit.

The Chairman believed that the next big challenge for the remoter parts of Scotland would be to encourage resettlement and repopulation, reopening places where folk had lived at one time. He commended the nearby development at An Camus Mòr and new forest crofts at the other end of the scale. The role for Community Land Scotland was not yet clear but he believed that there would be a part to be played.

The Chairman expressed thanks for funding to the Highland Council, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, the Carnegie Trust and the Esmee Fairbairn Trust. A July decision was expected from the Robertson Trust and he continued to work with Comhairle nan Eilean Siar in this connection. He believed that funding for the organisation would be secure for the next two or three years.

He also believed that there was more scope for working along with related charities and he hoped to make progress with this in the forthcoming months.

He paid tribute to the considerable work undertaken by Peter Peacock, to the Board of Community Land Scotland and to the members. Much voluntary work had been offered and he commended Amanda Bryan and Fiona Mackenzie. He said that it had been a particular pleasure to work with Ruth Cape who would be leaving and wished her well in her future work in Palestine.

5 Receiving of Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2013, together with Report of the Directors, and Independent Examiner's Report

The accounts had previously been approved by the board of directors and on the recommendation of John Hutchison, Company Secretary, the meeting was content to receive the accounts.

6 Re-appointment of Independent Examiner

R A Clement Associates, Chartered Accountants, were proposed for re-appointment by Knoydart Foundation, seconded by Stornoway Trust and approved by those present.

7 Appointment of directors

The following had been nominated by members and were duly appointed:

- Ian Hepburn – nominated by North West Mull Community Woodland
- John Hutchison – nominated by Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust
- Lorne MacLeod – nominated by South Cowal Community Development Company

8 Any other competent business

None.

9 Conclusion of meeting

The meeting concluded at 1755 with David Cameron thanking everyone for attending.