

# Fernaig Community Trust

## Minutes of Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023, Achmore Hall

**Present:** Colin McAndrew, Lizzie Bird, Duncan Gibson, Roddy MacPherson and Colin Parsons

### *Action*

<p><b>1. Welcome</b></p> <p>Colin McAndrew welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p>Georgie and Martin</p>	
<p><b>2. Minutes of Meeting 14<sup>h</sup> February 2023</b></p> <p>Lizzie had received amendments from Colin P and had sent a second version of the draft minutes to the Board noting the amendments. There were, however, three items which she had queried. One was an item of which she had no note nor was it remembered by the rest of the Board. The other two items dealt with wording and the last item including some information that had only been informed to the Board after the meeting. After some discussion it was agreed that the minutes could stand as per the second draft.</p> <p>The draft minutes were proposed by Colin McA, seconded by Roddy and agreed with one abstention from Colin P.</p> <p>Lizzie then proposed that in future we change how we manage Draft minutes. In the past she had made any notified changes and re-issued to the Board. Now she will circulate the draft minutes to the Board as before but if there are any changes needed these should be noted by email to the whole Board and not just to Lizzie. Any changes will then be discussed/agreed at the next meeting before approval and this was agreed.</p>	<p><i>Lizzie</i></p>
<p><b>3. Matters arising and any correspondence</b></p> <p>a) Regarding correspondence, Lizzie said we needed to maintain the procedure regarding FCT email/letter responses to people/organisations out with the Board. Where a Board member has been asked to or feels they need to respond to an official or personal enquiry, they must first circulate a draft response to the Board for approval.</p> <p>The need to maintain procedure was highlighted because the Board were awaiting information regarding an enquiry from Highland Council (HC) via the Community Council for Lizzie to respond on behalf of the FCT but another director had sent an</p>	<p><i>Lizzie</i></p>

<p>email, with the information that had been asked for, to the Board but had also cc'd HC and the Community Council. With no Board approval of the email contents Colin McA pointed out that the inclusion of the Board member's emails went against the GDPR code. He had subsequently received a private email from HC that was nothing to do with this issue,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) Colin McA confirmed the electricity had been disconnected in the old office and had received a closing statement to February 23<sup>rd</sup> including a charge of £79 for the disconnection. He had then received a letter from SSE with new charges from the April 1st !</li> <li>c) The NFU Insurance had been paid by Georgie</li> <li>d) Regarding the CLS conference on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> June, as Colin P was going to attend it was agreed that costs will be covered by FCT. Colin P asked about anyone else in the community wanting to attend and Colin McA said that we may be offered a free or reduced ticket nearer the time.</li> <li>e) Lizzie confirmed the updated GDPR document has been uploaded to the website.</li> <li>f) Colin P reported we are now up to 98 members with a few more to come.</li> <li>g) Colin McA referred to the Concordat future discussions and said it may be overtaken by the FLS new Community Strategy which was under consultation last year. Colin P said that our Concordat with FLS originated with ideas from other communities.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>4. Finance</b></p> <p>Georgie had sent her apologies being unable to attend the meeting and will send the February accounts to the Board later this week.</p>	

## 5. Office Update and next steps

Colin McA reported that at last he had made contact with our Solicitors, Anderson Macarthur and Margaret Mackay, and she apologised for the delay believing another member of staff was dealing with the matter. However, she will now deal personally with the sale as FLS solicitors now say it is urgent. She confirmed she had received the Draft Order and will go back to them with suitable amendments. Colin had received an email with questions regarding the Draft Order.

The Trust confirmed -

1. The agreement to sell the old forestry office to Forestry and Land Scotland for £60,000
2. The agreement to instruct Anderson Macarthur as their solicitors for the sale
3. The Trust delegates authority to Colin McAndrew to be the point of contact for Anderson Macarthur to instruct them in the legal aspects of the sale.

As point of contact or to sign the deeds on behalf of the Trust in due course, Colin McA will supply Anderson Macarthur with two forms of identification, a photo ID and proof of address.

Colin McA then listed three areas to discuss at this meeting -

- 1, The Draft Order (Sale document) received from Anderson Macarthur
2. Final clearance and vacating the office
3. Conclusion of sale and Funds being received

### **The Draft Order**

Colin went through all the questions on the 26 Clauses in the Draft Order and the Board agreed to his responses to send back to Margaret MacKay.

### **Final Clearance**

Colin McA, Georgie and Lizzie had been to the old office on the February 21st. The table, chairs and bookcase are going to the hall. The filing cabinet will also go to the hall to be shared by the FCT and CC. The cabinet locking bar was found and needs a new lock as there are no keys. Lizzie brought the bar to the meeting and Duncan will look at replacing the lock. Colin P reported there is an old door in his store at the old office.

### **Conclusion of sale and Funds being received.**

It was agreed that this needed further discussion by the Board, who will draw up a list of its proposals but we will also ask for suggestions from the local community and hold an open meeting.

**Colin McA**

**Duncan**

<p><b>6 Land Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Colin McA felt that for good order we should ask for an inspection certificate for the wooden bridge, which is now 5 years old. All agreed.</li><li>b) We need to install the kissing gate, currently stored at the Fank, but it will be a fair-weather job.</li><li>c) As Duncan had to leave the meeting there was no update from him contacting Kyleakin quarry to get a refreshed quote from that given last September to cover all the proposed works.</li><li>d) Colin McA said we needed a plan regarding Path maintenance with some idea of dates and personnel. Colin P confirmed that he has the strimmer stored in the old office and it was agreed that this should be serviced</li></ul>	<p><i><b>Colin McA</b></i></p>  <p><i><b>Duncan</b></i></p>
<p><b>7. Priorities and Workplan for 2023</b></p> <p>Colin McA has drawn up a draft plan and we will discuss at our next meeting.</p>	
<p><b>8. AOB</b></p> <p><b>Ideas from Membership feedback to Colin P</b></p> <p>There was further discussion regarding FLS and local firewood provision – again to be listed in future discussions with FLS.</p> <p>Colin P said he would be happy to look at facts and figures regarding a Hydro unit.</p> <p>Lizzie mentioned she had spoken to Becky from FLS who said she would supply information on one standing sale in the Glen.</p>	<p><i><b>Colin P</b></i></p>

**Date of next meeting: 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023, 7.30pm Achmore Hall**

Meeting closed at 9.25 pm