Minutes of meeting of Point and Sandwick Development Trust
Held on Thursday 11th March 2010, Aird Hall

Sederunt

Donald John MacSween, Jenny Pain, Calum Macdonald, Kenny Dan Macdonald, Donald Taylor, Angus MacCormack, George Ken Macdonald, Willie MacFarlane

Apologies Scott Connor, Donald Macritchie, Katherine Mackinnon, Andrew Mackenzie, Donald M Macdonald

1. **Minutes of 11th February 2010**. The minutes were agreed as a correct record and there were no matters arising.

2. Future training. Leading on from training day held 3 weeks ago. Calum sent everyone training needs form, of which only 1 has been returned. Please fill in or email Calum to let him know what training you would like. Wendy Reid is keen to provide more training. Finance and Directors responsibility key points. Good day was held. **ACTION: ALL**

3. Insurance. Came up at training. Recommended trustees and directors should have indemnity insurance cover in case of suing on grounds of not acquitting duties diligently. Covers any law suit defence. Wise to have this. Agreed by all that Calum should expedite this, up to £1000 cost.

Action: C Macdonald

4. Enercon update. Nothing back from SSE meeting re statcom. Just had formal grid connection offer from SSE which is due Oct 2013, at a cost of £1m, must reply within 30 days with a deposit of 30%. Asked Atmos to check this offer, appears that cost is due to wanting to underground the cable from turbines to substation. Query underground necessity, especially given nesting birds. **ACTION: CM**

5. Planning conditions update. Received NATS clearance, but no response from Mairi Mackinnon, (Planning) to confirm receipt of letter. Only outstanding is HIAL, verbally received clearance but awaiting this in writing.

6. Stornoway Trust Lease Update. Meeting with trustees held and agreed next Wednesday trustees will hold meeting with Tolsta and on 25th March with PSDT at Ionad Stoodie at 8pm.

Action: DJ MacSween to book hall

All trustees of SY Trust should be attending.. Full turnout of PSDT is essential. Agenda: signing lease agreement. SY Trust sent a letter to N Tolsta strengthening previous letter, on hearing from Big Lottery who were threatening to drop application from N Tolsta because a letter was not received. Subject to Tolsta receiving lottery funding, SY Trust will apply to resume for ground for lease. Big Lottery is just starting to look at our application, will ask for same letter from us. Ask lottery to send deadline on our behalf, try to arrange this on our behalf before 25th. Invite N Sandwick Grazings to this meeting. Important to reassure them that no detriment will come to SNSG.

Action – C Macdonald, DJ MacSween.

Previously agreed to help Melbost to develop wind scheme, but Community Energy Scotland need clear letter of support from SY Trust before making financial assistance. Unfortunately, Trust still determined to go with LWP to exclusion of any community alternatives. CM is due to hold another meeting with the Trustees on Monday the 15th, when An Teallach Energy (CM and Angus Maclennan) and SgurrEnergy would make a further presentation on the superiority of the Trust developing its own community scheme rather than persisting with Amec.

Willie proposed that Melbost should put pressure on the Trust by writing to them asking for support in order to progress their scheme and this was agreed. **ACTION: WM**

Calum to send new Crofters and Wind farms booklet to everyone. It advises that a draft lease and land resumption should be applied for before planning consent. Any application to resume has to go to land court who will consider any arguments pro and con. Key point = economic benefit to community is paramount. Clear indication that crofters will have considerable power in land court.
Calum to try and get copy of LWP lease prior to meeting.

Action: Calum Macdonald

7. Finance Update and PSP Report. Big Lottery committee meets in April to decide our application, along with other Lewis CWF applications. Big Lottery has one person going through all applications, of which two are done. PSDT may be asked to do same things as Tolsta, one is to prove community support by providing turnout figures for public meetings back to 2005. PSDT also had to have over 100 members. May also have to ballot which council will organise, cost around £2500. Positive actions may be to include leaflet houses encouraging them to return ballot, possibly hold public meeting prior to ballot. Need to check what is allowed by way of encouragement. Emphasise on community benefits. Publicise in local press eg Hebrides Alpha agreement. **ACTION: DJ, CM**

8. Membership Database Update. As mentioned above, directors need to drive to sign up further members. **Every Director must sign 5-10 new members**. **ACTION: ALL**

9. Registration of Directors with Companies House. Donnie M to action. Items 8 & 9 to remain standing items on agenda.

10. AOB. None stated.

11. Date of Next Meeting. Thursday 25th March, 7pm, Ionad Stoodie. To be followed at 8pm by meeting with Stornoway Trust. All Directors are requested to make every effort to attend these two meetings.