Registered Charity Number SC04108
Company Number SC28593

Minute of Meeting of Board of Directors of PST held in Café Roo on Wednesday 15 April 2015 at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT: Angus McCormack (Chairman)
Duncan Mackay (Vice-Chairman)
Matt Bruce
Eddie MacGregor
Liz Chaplin
Andrew Mackenzie
Donald Macritchie
Donna Mackenzie
Donald John MacSween (General Manager)
Calum Macdonald (Point and Sandwick Power)
Tony Robson

APOLOGIES: Kenny D Macdonald
Nan Morrison
Agnes Morrison
Jenny Pain

1 WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all those present to the meeting and confirmed with them that they had all received the papers emailed to them.

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to declare an interest or, alternatively, an interested could be declared at any time during the meeting.

No declarations of interests were made.

3 MINUTES

The Minute of Meeting of 24 February 2015 was **approved.**

4 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

5 WEBSITE PRESENTATION

The Chairman welcomed Judy Macdonald who gave a presentation on the proposed new website for Point and Sandwick Trust. The Chairman indicated that members' observations or ideas would be welcomed at this stage of the process.

The various sections of the new website were presented together with a slideshow of photographs relating to the arrival of the wind turbines on the island, their transport to the site and the various construction phases.

The Chairman raised the issue of a head photograph beside the member's name in the membership section, together with a short descriptive background sentence.

It was agreed that –

(1) Members email their photographs with short background descriptions of up to twenty words as soon as possible to Judy Macdonald for incorporation into the website;

(2) If anyone wished to update entries on the website, then they should send update to Donald John MacSween who will then forward to Judy for incorporation on to the website.

After discussion and questions on the new website and agreement that it be launched as soon as possible, the Chairman thanked Judy Macdonald for her presentation and she then left the meeting.

6 PENTLAND ROAD WIND FARM

The Chairman indicated that he had spoken to Peter Crone with regard to the issue of the gates and the disappearance of locks from gates. It was decided at his suggestion that once the project was finished and since PST would no longer need the road to run trucks through, a meeting be convened to discuss how to resolve the various issues. Peter Crone indicated that he had a suggestion to make and it was his view that everybody associated with that particular stretch of road should be involved in such a meeting, including Grazings Committees, and that this meeting should be convened by the Trust rather than PWF or PST.

The Chairman also indicated that Tony Robson had received a letter from the Factor of the Stornoway Trust and asked Tony to summarise it briefly. Tony indicated that the complaint was basically regarding drainage but that in fact this was a matter for Pentland Wind Farm and not for PST.

Tony stated that he had spoken to the Clerk of the Newvalley and Guershader Grazings Committee and that they were perfectly happy with the work undertaken so far by PST.

The Chairman indicated that the Trust would be responded to accordingly.

7 BEINN GHRIDEAG PROGRESS REPORT BY TONY ROBSON AND CALUM MACDONALD

Tony Robson gave a slide presentation to the Board giving detailed progress made during the construction and installation phases of the wind turbines at Beinn Ghrideag.

Calum Macdonald indicated progress as follows:-

(1) Civil and Electrical Works
These were now substantially complete and R J Macleod would return to the site for minor finishing works when the turbines were ready for connection.

(2) Turbine Delivery and Installation
Turbine 3 is complete with Turbine 2 near completion. There had been over thirty winded-off days so far and a spell of calm weather was need to meet the mid-May deadline.

(3) Grid Connection
Connection was still schedule for mid-May according to SSE.

(4) Transport Access to the Site
No complaints had been received from residents or from Grazings Committees during the construction phase. One complaint had been received from the Factor of the Stornoway Trust but this was a matter for Pentland Wind Farm and the Trust would be made aware of this.

(5) Costs and Contingency
Thus far the winded-off days will have cost up to 250,000 euros but the final amount would not be determined until the end of the job. There were cost overruns elsewhere of around £120,000 in professional fees at financial close and circa £60,000 in balance of plant contract variations. Another 100,000 to 150,000 euros should be anticipated in terms of winded-off days between now and final completion.

8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

There was submitted update report by the General Manager as follows:-

(1) Finance
The Annual Accounts for the Point and Sandwick Trust had been circulated and were tabled for approval by the Board.

The Annual Accounts were unanimously **approved** and the Board requested that John Moffat, Mann Judd, attend the next Board meeting to answer queries regarding the accounts. The General Manager undertook to make the necessary arrangements.

The General Manager gave further details of the Board's financial position and recommended that a short term loan from Point and Sandwick Power in the region of £20,000 be approved.

It was agreed that a short term loan from Point and Sandwick Power in the region of £20,000 be approved.

(2) Memorandum and Articles of Association
The General Manager indicated that following approval of the Special Resolutions by the Board in February 2015 an Emergency General Meeting would be held and notice circulated to all members at least four weeks in advance.

He further indicated that the earliest an Annual General Meeting could be held would be the end of May and that completion of commissioning of the turbines is expected around that time, together with the 10th Anniversary celebrations. The General Manager therefore recommended that the Special Resolution meeting be held over for the Annual General Meeting scheduled for 23rd October 2015.

It was agreed that the Special Resolution meeting be deferred until the Annual General Meeting on 23rd October 2015.

(3) PST 10th Anniversary Celebrations

The General Manager referred to the last Board meeting discussion regarding the 10th Anniversary Celebrations and recommended that –

(a) PST hold an "Open Day" at the office, with all the organisations who may be beneficiaries invited, plus the general public.
(b) Other people and organisations who have assisted in getting the Beinn Ghrideag project to completion would be invited.
(c) A dinner be held for Directors past and present, and also their guests.
(d) The possibility of escorted visits by the public to the site would also be investigated.

(4) Website Update/Facebook/Publicity

The General Manager indicated that the Facebook site had been less active over the last few weeks because of weather related delays at the site. He said it was expected that the more favourable weather forecast for the next week would see a resumption of activity and news for posting on Facebook.

The General Manager also reported that the new website was nearing completion and would be ready to go live to coincide with the 10th Anniversary celebrations and the end of construction in May.

(5) Funding Proposal for Crofting Forestry – The Woodlands Trust

The General Manager referred to the presentation given to the Board by Eleanor Garty of the Woodlands Trust on 27 August 2014 when Project 4 in the PST Business and Community Development Projects was discussed and when it was agreed that the Woodlands Trust would progress the project for PST and come back to a subsequent meeting with a Project Proposal. He indicated that the Woodlands Trust Proposal, in partnership with PST and the Forestry Commission, had now been received and would deliver this key part of the PST Business and Community Development (BCDP). He confirmed that it was a well put together proposal and had been circulated to all Board members for their consideration. The General Manager stated that the Proposal fulfilled all the key objectives set out in the BCDP and would be a flagship project, covering all of the Western Isles, with special objectives for Point and Sandwick. He further stated that the person appointed to the role of Forestry Development Officer would be employed by the Woodlands Trust, based in the PST Office, and that a project start in early autmn would provide instance evidence of PST's resolve to make a lasting economic and environmental impact from the outset. He added that the project would have added value in levering in external funding and leave a lasting legacy in the form of much needed woodland throughout the Western Isles.

After discussion regarding the Woodlands Trust proposal, it was agreed that the Board approve the Woodlands Trust Proposal with a view to the project commencing in early autumn 2015.

10 RENEWABLE ISSUES

Calum Macdonald reported for the Board's information that a Point and Sandwick Community Consortium had now been formed and that a Board had been elected comprising twelve members. He informed the PST Board that the Point and Sandwick Villages Grazings Committees had each appointed two members to the Consortium Board and that Board's role was to develop a community turbine plan for all these villages. He further informed the Board that these Grazings committee representatives had held a meeting with Melbost shareholders and it had been agreed unanimously to go ahead with a proposal for eight community turbines on Melbost Common Grazings and an advert would appear in The Stornoway Gazette in the near future.

This was noted.

11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.