

## Sunart Community Company

**Board Meeting** (Zoom) 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021

**Attending:** J Hilder (JH) Treasurer; J Jones (JJ) secretary; P Sharples, (PS), Chair; D Barker (DB), J Madden (JM), Jane Mellis and Becky Drinkwater (SCC staff)

**Apologies:** J Tyldsley (JT), D Calver (DC)

**1. Welcome:** PS chaired meeting

**2. Acceptance of minutes** of July Board meeting – proposed J Hilder, seconded P Sharples.

**Amendments:** None

**3. Updates on:**

**Christmas Market and Auction:** Jane Mellis has 8 stalls organised in addition to the community company stall, and the organising is in hand. There will be at least two gazebos. DB very kindly donating his gazebo to SCC when he moves away. The board wish to thank David and Val Barker for this generous donation. James is going to arrange signage for the market. Auction:

**Actions:** James and John to chase gifts and Becky to start organising the auction on the National Fundraising Database. Jane is to ask school to nominate a pupil to do the Christmas Lights switch on.

**Action:** Board to think about potential prizes for auction. Becky to put a call out for prizes on social media and James to circulate list of previous prizes to board for comments.

**Longrigg Woodland:** Venue booked and speakers arranged for public meetings on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> November. Running order complete, leaflet & envelope stuffing to take place before the weekend with board member assistance. PS offered help dropping leaflets.

**Men's Shed:** JJ emailed water company, **Action:** JJ to forward connection costs to JH for payment/approval.

**Loch Moorings:** Boat found on Loch – owners have been located.

**4. Website/Communications:** BD – Social media engagement increased, relevant webpages for Longrigg Woodland updated, using social media to raise awareness about upcoming Longrigg meeting and other SCC activities. BD encouraged directors to share any updates about projects which they wish to be included on the website, to [becky@sunartcommunitycompany.co.uk](mailto:becky@sunartcommunitycompany.co.uk), along with any pictures of the local area/SCC projects we can share on social media.

**5. Ash Dieback disease** – JM drew the Boards attention to the fact that many of the old Ash trees along the banks of the Strontian River, (owned by the company) are suffering from Ash die back and some of the overhanging limbs are dangerous. The Board agreed to request at least two quotes from local tree surgeons as a matter of urgency  
**Action** JH and JJ to progress.

**6. Finance:** Community Company Current account: £22,100.26. The Oakwood account: £14,472.96. Community Benefit Fund (CBF) – Meeting arranged for 10<sup>th</sup> November. JH – the board wishes to thank Sunart Community Renewables for transferring £10k into SCC account, which will be allocated to SCBF funding. JH reminded board about

endowment fund meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> October, to find at more about this fund and make a decision regarding allocating funds for this. The fund requires a minimum input of £25k to activate Foundation Scotland's match funding. Scotstown Grazings Committee have returned the £5000 loan, with a letter of thanks from Joan Richards, treasurer of the committee.

**7. Staffing:** Becky will remain in her role as Project Admin – it was previously minuted that BD would likely be tendering her resignation due to further education commitments but after further discussions has chosen to remain in her role.

**8. AOB:** Call for new SCC directors at Jan AGM – Tony Gowland approached and possible yes, need 5/6 potential new directors nominated for Jan AGM.

**9. Next meeting:** Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm.