

## **Minutes of an Open Meeting of the Board of Holmehill Ltd held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2006 in Leighton House**

**In attendance:** Gerard Hastings, Phil Tebbutt, Caroline Crawford, Steve Mason, Deirdre Wilson, Malcolm Wilson, John Seddon, Andrew Gould, Rosemary Bland, Claire Watt.

### **1. Welcome and Apologies**

Gerard welcomed all present. Apologies were received from Paul Jones, David Prescott, David and Paula Woolley, Jim Bennett, Alison Brown and David Totten

### **2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

### **3. Matters arising**

Caroline has emailed Mick Stewart at Stirling Council enquiring as to why we have had no response to the request for a Tree Preservation Order (TPO). A reply has been received which it was agreed was rather inadequate and contradictory. It could be summarized as saying that the trees don't need a TPO as they are inside the Conservation Area but that a TPO could strengthen the case for their conservation! No apology was offered for the delay in response. It was agreed that the next step should be to contact Councillor Ann Dixon and Caroline will take this for action.

Dave Prescott was to produce a list of possible fundraising ideas – Steve will follow this up. He was also producing some sample press releases for the possible outcomes of the Court Case. Gerard will chase this up by email.

Alison had sought tenders for a Business Plan. She has emailed this document to Rosemary. Two replies have been received but it has been decided to extend the date for tender to see if we can widen our options. Rosemary and Caroline will discuss this outwith the meeting.

Alison was also looking into an application for a technical assistance grant for the ballot. It was unclear what progress had been made. Steve will follow this up with Catherine Francis of the Scottish Land Fund.

Claire has looked at the Memorandum and Articles for clarification about carrying out an AGM. We have to have one within 18 months of setting up the Company – this gives us a few months grace and with the Court Case pending it was decided to delay the AGM until September.

### **4. Appeal Procedure**

We will be back in Court on 6<sup>th</sup> February, Rosemary asked for as many as possible to attend. If the case is not completed that day 14<sup>th</sup> February has also been set aside

## **5. Finance Group Report**

After the cancellation of the Bingo Night Margaret Stewart raffled some of the prizes and raised £58. Our thanks to Margaret.

## **6. Communications Group Report**

Articles have appeared in the recent Community View and the Stirling Observer. Rosemary and Caroline attended the performance of The Ceilidh Tree with the display boards. The turn out was poor but they recruited one new member. The display is now laminated for future use, it is currently at Caroline's house but Liz Law has offered to keep it in the Annexe.

## **7. Events Group Report**

There are no new events planned.

## **8. Sub Tasks Group Membership**

If we win the Case the Ballot Group will be of most importance at that stage. The group would carry out its own communications and therefore it would make sense for the Communications Group to be smaller and Ballot Group bigger. The Events and Fundraising Groups will remain the same. All the activities of the various groups will need to be co-ordinated and Steve suggested that the Chairs of each group meet weekly at a time to suit them all to ensure all ground is being covered. More members are required for the Ballot Group. Volunteers should contact Deirdre or in her absence Steve Mason. Phil volunteered at the meeting.

## **9. Any Other Business**

Dave Totten has had to stand down from the board – Claire Watt will take on his role as Membership Secretary. Rosemary has already written to thank David for his efforts on behalf of the group.

Deirdre advised the group of the sudden passing of Margaret Stewart's husband. It was agreed to send a card expressing our sadness.

## **10. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February in Leighton House in the Haining (upstairs common room).