

## **NAIRN IMPROVEMENT COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE**

### **MINUTES OF THE SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD in NAIRN COMMUNITY & ARTS CENTRE on 7 AUGUST 2013 at 7.30 pm**

#### **Directors Present**

Alastair Noble	Michael Barnett
Iain Fairweather	Magnus Swanson
Graham Kerr	Campbell Mair
Matthew Hilton	John Hart

- 1 The Chairman Alastair Noble welcomed those present and introduced each of the directors.
- 2 The Company Secretary Michael Barnett reported he had received apologies for absence from Rosemary Young (director) and two other members.
- 3 The Company Secretary Michael Barnett reported that membership of the company currently stood at 1050. He summarised the Company's status as a Community Body and registered Charity under the control of residents of Nairnshire. He said that the main activity in the past year had been the Feasibility Study on the use of the Old Social Work Building. This had been funded by Awards for All, and the work had involved meetings with Highland Council and our elected Councillors; input from professionals such as surveyors and valuers; a consultation exercise conducted by Alan Jones Associates; input from VisitScotland; and professional support from Polly Chapman of HISEZ.
- 4 The Company Secretary presented the accounts of the company for the year ended 30 November 2012 for consideration, and explained each of the entries. The accounts had been signed by an Independent Examiner from Signpost as required by OSCR.
- 5 The Chairman Alastair Noble gave his report and a copy is attached to this minute.
- 6 The Chairman said that under the company's constitution, it was a requirement that three of the directors stand down. Rosemary Young, John Hart and Iain Fairweather were standing down and offering themselves for re-election. The meeting approved each of these appointments separately and unanimously.

7 Alastair Noble then invited a discussion of the Feasibility Study Report, which he introduced by briefly talking through the abbreviated report that those present had copies of. He emphasised that the work had been done in partnership with Highland Council and the Study essentially looked at the options, their feasibility, and asked whether the building could be put to sustainable use.

Comments from members that were discussed included:

“Long overdue – in the 1950’s Nairn was the Brighton of the North, and all we have now is beaches”.

“There are sceptics in the community and Highland Council – has Highland Council proved itself willing to work in partnership with NICE?”

“Are there any other examples in the Highlands that support Highland Council’s willingness to do the right thing for Nairn?”

“Are Highland Council ambivalent?”

“Are there things that Highland Council can bring to the table that will help?”

“Has NICE engaged with our MSP Fergus Ewing?”

“We appreciate all that the directors have done”.

“How is the 10% requirement under the Right to Buy legislation determined?”

“What is VisitScotland prepared to do for Nairn?”

“Is NICE looking at the Building in the context of the whole town centre?”

A non-member present said he was not against what NICE was doing, but he did not want to see another café or bistro in the building because it would take such business from other parts of the town.

In conclusion, Chairman Alastair Noble asked whether members supported the Report, and there was overwhelming endorsement and further thanks expressed for all the work the directors had done.

There was no other business, and the meeting concluded at 9.00 pm

*Michael Barnett  
Secretary*