

**Sunart Community Renewables**  
**Minutes of Annual General Meeting**  
**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015 at 7pm**  
 Sunart Centre, Strontian.

**28 Members Present including all Board members:** list of those present appendix 1.

		<b>ACTION</b>
1	<b>Apologies:</b> list of apologies received in appendix 2	
2	<b>Welcome</b> The Chair, Richard Laybourne, welcomed everyone to the first AGM of Sunart Community Renewables and introduced the current Board members.	
3.	<p><b>Chair's Report</b></p> <p>The Chair pointed out the coincidence of the AGM with "Back to the Future" day, the day in the film's future to which the characters travel. He offered a number of humorous quotations from the film to illustrate the achievement of completing the scheme. More seriously, he itemised the work to be carried out over the coming months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Short term: setting up an operations and maintenance regime, and completing the outstanding construction elements. The board may appoint someone part-time to monitor the equipment and keep the intake clean.</li> <li>- Medium term: the company want to investigate telemetry to remotely manage the system, allowing displays on the website to show members how much has been generated etc.</li> <li>- Longer term: the board will set up a schedule for dividend and loan payments. The Chair pointed out that the better-than-expected share take-up meant that interest payments on the loan would be significantly lower.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair reminded the members that the surplus from the scheme would be gift-aided to Sunart Community Company to establish a community benefit fund, although a portion would be retained by the SCR to ensure operating costs would be covered.</p> <p>He concluded by thanking a number of organisations and individuals who had particularly contributed to the development of the community hydro project including Sunart Community Company, Sunart Community Council, Community Energy Scotland, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Scottish &amp; Southern Electricity, Scottish Enterprise Bank, RBS Social and Community Capital Fund, community groups from Sleat, Applecross and Mull, neighbours of the scheme and Anaheilt and Scotstown Common Grazings Committees.</p> <p>Individual Board members were thanked, along with Dave Thompson MSP, Crawford Cameron, Duncan Cameron and James Hilder. Finally, the Chair thanked investor/members for their support and their investment for making the scheme possible. He acknowledged that he may not have named and thanked all involved, at which point Simon Willis was mentioned for his professional videos, and Kate MacLennan for her ecological survey.</p> <p>The Chair ended with a final quotation from Back to the Future: "If you put your mind to it, you can accomplish anything."</p>	
4.	<p><b>Financial Report</b></p> <p>4.1. Chris Morgan, treasurer, gave a summary of the financial accounts for the first financial year of SCR: August 2014- March 2015. The accounts are still with our auditors.</p> <p>He noted that this period covered the share issue and negotiation for top up loans, prior to construction and therefore expenditure was relatively low - £142,000.</p> <p>4.2. The Chair asked the meeting if they would delegate approval of the audited accounts to the Board when they were ready. They would also be made available</p>	<b>CM</b>

	<p>to members for any comments or questions prior to sign off. The meeting agreed to this course of action.</p> <p>4.3. In answer to a question from a member, the Chair confirmed that the loans taken were relatively low to date (£60,000) and it was unlikely that SCR would require all the 'top up loan' available from RBS Social and Community Capital Fund – up to a further £140,000. We had successfully negotiated a relatively low rate of interest from our lenders. The success of the share issue meant the low level of loan required would release more money for the community once these had been paid back. It was reported that Sunart Community Renewables share offer is being spoken about widely as an example of a successful community initiative.</p>	
5	<p><b>Appointment of Auditors</b></p> <p>The Board recommended appointment of R.S.Clements of Oban as auditors: proposed by Richard Laybourne, seconded by James Hilder. This was agreed by the members present.</p>	
6	<p><b>Election of the Board</b></p> <p>6.1. The Chair reported that there had been 10 nominations for the 12 places on the Board and recommended therefore that all be appointed. Members present had a brief profile of each nominee, 9 of whom were existing Directors with one additional nominee, Tim McIntyre. The Chair gave a brief summary of his expertise and experience The meeting agreed to the appointments.</p> <p>6.2. Noting that there are 2 vacancies, the Chair suggested that anyone else interested in joining the Board should get in touch.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p> <p>The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and support for the Hydro The meeting closed at 7.40pm</p>	

## **APPENDIX 1: Members Present (28)**

Denise Anderson  
David Barker  
Hazel Bartle-Ross  
Tim Coldwell  
David Collings  
Gillian Collings  
Justine Dunn  
Robert Dunn  
Aiden Edwards  
Hugh Edwards  
Peter Ford  
Malcolm Gillespie  
Brian Gray  
James Hilder  
Michelle Hilder  
Catriona Hunter  
Richard Laybourne  
Jacqueline Laybourne  
Mary McIntyre  
Jamie McIntyre  
Dale Meegan  
Donald Michie  
Chris Morgan  
Eveline Shackleton  
Jean Swain  
John Tyldsley  
Douglas Wilson  
Sheila Wilson  
Wendy Wilson

**APPENDIX 2: Apologies received (22)**

Rob Bolton

Phil Crompton

Marilyn Green

Glenda Green

David Harris Burland

Jennifer Harris-Burland

Maureen Hilder

Sandra Holmes

Clare Holohan

Dave Kime

Jenny Kime

Lochaber Housing Association Property Services

Andrew McConnell

Alison Macleod

Tim McIntyre

David Ogg

Fiona Ogg

Martin Petty

Martin Roger

Alexis Taylor

Jean Whitton

Richard Wilson