

## **Minutes of TBI meeting on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2010 in Cromarty**

**Present** Teen, Grant, Ken, Mike, John W, Barbel, Agric, Penny, Martin, Sue, Hugh, John C, Frank, Anne.

**Apologies** Wendy, Christine, Jo, Kathryn Logan,

The meeting was chaired by Teen who began by introducing Richard Robinson. Richard was appointed on Monday and started work on Tuesday as TBI's Project Leader. Richard said he would be looking at the needs of the project and looking at funding needs for the future.

**Constitution** Martin gave an update on the constitution. His draft Memoranda and Articles were discussed prior to us becoming a Company limited by Guarantee. Members are asked to read and comment by May 20<sup>th</sup>. ***Martin will compile the application and send out invitations to our first AGM on June 5<sup>th</sup>***

### **TBI Roles and Tasks**

Penny had made a list of probable roles and work associated with them.

This is work which needs to be done to ensure the smooth functioning of TBI. People are asked to read, comment and offer. Penny indicated that individuals may be contacted to invite them to take up roles. Richard made clear it is his role to run co-ordinating projects whereas TBI has roles in order to keep the show on the road.

Sue made clear she is having considerable health problems and can't fulfil the role of the secretary at present so had decided to resign. Sue was thanked for her work.

### **Communications group**

Maggie said the group had needed a break after organising several big events and showing 6 films over the winter but was now planning a programme of stalls at Summer events and a winter programme. There was much discussion as to whether we should go to the Black Isle show. ***Maggie and Anne will contact local vegetable growers to see if they might be interested in joining us to focus on local food.***

Teen reported that it is possible that Rob Hopkins may give a talk if he comes to this area.

### **Finance**

Penny reported on the current position and that we have been able to retain Gail as Finance officer.

Our last grant from the Climate Challenge Fund was completely spent. During the current financial year there will be £700 available for volunteer expenses. Volunteers can claim if they have excessive or unusual expenses. Penny was thanked for the huge amount of work she has put in to the job of treasurer.

### **Food**

Agric reported that Sheila Wickens has got started very quickly on the Grow North project and there have been over 50 people registering an interest in being involved.

There is now a 3<sup>rd</sup> community garden at Fortrose Leisure Centre and that Grow North participants will work in the community garden most convenient for them. Polytunnels will be erected at Nethererton and Loch na Mhoid very soon.

Anne and Tommy will be taking forward the next phase of the Highland Food challenge soon.

We have been asked to provide 100 local lunches for the Green Fair at Fortrose— it was pointed out that the kitchen at the town hall is very poorly equipped.

Helen Charley who lives in Rosemarkie has offered her garden to TBI members for fruit and veg growing.

### **Energy group**

Martin reported that 16 people are signed up for the next phase of the smart meter project, and that the Fortrose Academy smart meter project will be going ahead. The librarian has offered to issue the meters.

Alan Mackenzie is co-ordinating purchasing of books for TBI which will be available for loan through the library.

The date for this years Greening Homes and gardens is Sep 11<sup>th</sup>.

Community Wind Farm—Martin updated the group on progress and said that TBI plans to continue researching opportunities and models for community involvement.

### **Website**

New website up and running.

Anyone with password problems should use the email facility on the front page. After discussion it was agreed to redirect the new site from the old one. *Hugh will do this.*

There was discussion about whether all subgroup minutes should go on the website –it was agreed that each subgroup could decide this for themselves.. It was decided to have minutes of recent meetings on the web with older ones in an archive.

### **Permaculture Course**

Maggie Wormold is organising this at Glachbeg on June 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup>—there are still some spaces available

### **AGM**

Notices about this will go out tomorrow.

### **AOB**

Grant demonstrated the screen being sold by the Greenhouse. It was decided to buy it.

### **Next meeting**

It is hoped to have this in Rosemarkie on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June at 7.30pm.