

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
Glendalough Hotel
Wednesday 19 November 2008

Present: Dermot Hand – Chair. Stephen Arthur, Sean Byrne, Claire Chambers, Michael Cogan, Pearse Connolly, Pat Dunne, Sean Eustace, Pat Ewen, Pearse Foley, Philip Geoghegan, Daire Gilvary, Brian Kehoe, Tim Kyne, Philip Maguire, Sean Malone, Richard More-O’Ferrall, John Power, Mervyn Sunderland, Joe Walker.

In attendance: Colin Murphy, Lenka Mulligan, Helen Lawless.

Apologies: John Byrne, Michael Keegan, Eileen Kennedy, Edmond Kenny, Peter Galvin

The chair welcomed solicitor JP Galligan, Partner with Lavelle Coleman, who was invited to address the Board on the legal duties and responsibilities of directors.

Item	Issue	Decision/action
1.	FACILITATED DISCUSSION ON DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS JP Galligan briefed Directors on their legal responsibilities and answered queries. (Note attached).	<i>Directors to review note and discuss further as necessary.</i>
2.	2. MINUTES OF THE DIRECTORS' MEETING HELD ON 15 OCTOBER 2008. Noted that: the venue was Glendalough Hotel, not Glenasmole and that Philip Maguire and Philip Geoghegan were present.	<i>Amended minutes adopted on proposal of Pearse Connolly, seconded by Pat Ewen.</i>
3.	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES. Sean Malone noted that his dissatisfaction and comments regarding the outcome of the co-option process were not fully recorded in the minutes of the directors' meeting held on September 17 2008. Chair repeated his and other directors' total rejection of Sean's assertions and emphasised that such comments were completely unacceptable and disrespectful of his colleague directors	<i>Discussion on this and other issues, including the highly successful forestry project, was closed on proposal of Sean Byrne, seconded by Pearse Foley.</i>
4.	PRESENTATION ON WICKLOW OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY. (Brian Kehoe, recently appointed CEO, County Wicklow Partnership). (PowerPoint presentation attached). Specific points: a. Pat Ewen: Strategy is absolutely essential so that the ongoing recreational activity is coordinated and local communities and environments protected. Brian confirmed that the Walks Scheme is indirectly connected with WORS. b. Sean Byrne: Suggested a collective submission by all groups involved in WORS to the new County Development Plan. c. Philip Geoghegan: Suggested that group should network on the actions and use funding in parallel. d. Sean Eustace: Welcomed the strategy and expressed	

	<p>his hope that Wicklow Co Co could work recreational/heritage.</p> <p>e. John Power: Offered support for recreational activities in the county, provided nothing is imposed on local people and repeated his assertion that people are very welcome in the mountains.</p> <p>f. Chair: Thanked Brian, offered the Board's support and praise for the project achievements to date and concluded that landowners could benefit from implementation of WORS.</p>	
5.	<p>MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/PR</p> <p>a. Richard More-O'Ferrall: Thanked those who had responded to his questionnaire and gave a comprehensive briefing to Directors on the feedback received. He outlined a range of suggestions that had been made and his recommendations for the PR role and brief, which received broad acceptance and support from the Board. Issues discussed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold public events periodically (EG Walk & Talk at Glenmalure - large attendance and good discussion); • Use internet and email more – e-newsletter ; monthly / bi-monthly – develop a network of contacts; • Connect with Parish & community newsletters; WRP, WCT, WCC, www.wicklowway.com, etc. • Follow-up newsletters with press releases; • Make it possible for individual to directors take ownership and responsibility and to get involved; • Promote periodical conferences / public meetings, including press briefings; • Change the name 'panel meetings' to 'public discussion meetings' to make them more inviting; • Revisit WDMB (the statutory partners' forum) and make proposals for reorganization and re-development. 	<p><i>Chair suggested that the Executive should review the WDMB format and bring forward proposals to the Board in the New Year.</i></p>
6.	<p>DUBLIN MOUNTAINS PARTNERSHIP</p> <p>Philip Maguire: Raised the need for WUC to have a briefing with Bill Murphy, chair of the Partnership committee. It was noted that Christopher Keogh is representing the Private Woodland Owners' Group on the Partnership.</p>	<p><i>Colin to arrange.</i></p>
7.	<p>WICKLOW COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2010-2016</p> <p>a. Colin Murphy: Reported about upcoming meeting in Wicklow Co Co. re new WCDP on Wednesday 26th November and asked for one representative per panel. Sean Byrne, Philip Geoghegan, Pearse Connolly and Sean Malone are willing to attend.</p> <p>b. Pat Ewen: Suggested that WUC should organise a meeting with councilors re new development plan. Overall, the Directors felt that the terminology of the Issues Booklet is very technical and unclear and that WUC should request at the upcoming meeting a detailed explanation of terms such as amenity route, access corridor zone, etc.</p>	<p><i>Colin to confirm meeting arrangements.</i></p> <p><i>Colin to organise at opportune stage.</i></p>
8.	<p>MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS AND FUNDING</p> <p>Joe Walker: Gave a monthly report. Overheads to August c. €8.0k over budget. By the year-end, and with additional wages (related to ECOAM project) he estimates that we will exceed the annual expenditure budget by some €24k.</p>	

	However, we expect to exceed our annual income budget by c. €12k. If things go to plan, he anticipates break-even situation by the end of the year.	
9.	<p>ECOAM POSSIBLE PROJECT</p> <p>a. Colin: Referred to narrative on actions. News expected at end November.</p> <p>b. Chair: Summed up three possible outcomes: 1) funding will be awarded in full 2) need to revise funding 3) no funding. Exec. and Board approval is necessary before contract is signed.</p>	<i>Colin to brief board on outcome of ECOAM bid and if necessary, will arrange a special directors' meeting to make a decision on any specific offer.</i>
10.	<p>CHRISTMAS PARTY</p> <p>Friday December 5, Wicklow Heather, Laragh</p>	<i>Directors: To RVSP to Margaret by phone or email. (Apologies from RMOF)</i>
11.	<p>INACCURATE PUBLICITY INITIATED BY IFA</p> <p>Chair: Reported no response to letter sent at board's request on 21 October.</p> <p>Pat Dunne: Reported his understanding that a reply is imminent.</p>	
12.	<p>MEETINGS OF WICKLOW POLICING LAISON COMMITTEE</p> <p>a. Tim Kyne: Reported on Garda/Blessington Forum meeting that confirmed stronger police (uniformed and undercover presence).</p> <p>b. Sean Malone: Clarified the CCTV plans.</p>	
13.	<p>NEXT DIRECTORS' MEETING:</p> <p>Wednesday 21 January 2009. 8.00pm. Venue to be confirmed.</p>	<i>All</i>

END