

MULL & IONA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Minutes of the meeting held on 6th February 2006 in Craignure Hall

PRESENT: Sandy Brunton, Michael Ackerley, John Cable, Derek Crook, Georgia O'Neill, Jo Currie

APOLOGIES: Olive Brown , Tom Bettley, Chris Reade

MINUTES: January's minutes proposed by Michael, seconded by Derek.

MATTERS ARISING: Georgia has still to contact Debbie Lyndley about the Chamber's audit. If Debbie is unable to complete the audit, <Jo> will arrange an alternative auditor.

Sandy had received a reply from Gary Clark of Glasgow Chamber in response to his email about the roads. Mr Clark suggested lobbying all 7 list MSPs and sending a petition to the Public Petitions Committee. Sandy will forward this information to, and liase with, the 'Keep Mull Moving' committee.

ANNUAL DINNER: John Puris MEP has confirmed that he will attend as guest speaker on 10th March. A discussion took place about possible businesses for Mr Purvis to visit in the afternoon prior to the dinner. Jo Currie kindly offered to provide lunch for our visitor.

Publicity. <Georgia> will send info to R&A and email Chamber members. <John> will find out if notice of our AGM and the Postwatch meeting can be circulated amongst the membership of Holiday Mull.

POSTWATCH: The event will take place at the Isle of Mull Hotel on 8th March. <Georgia> will email details amongst Chamber members and also to MICT to be passed on through their mailing list and also make posters.

Topics to discuss: Rural Post Office network under threat; Lack of Government support; Opening up the competition; The Universal Rate; Costs of delivery by other carriers to the island.

TRAVEL EXPO: Travel Show 26th – 27th April 2006. John brought along the latest designs for the new display boards. <John> will update details on the VisitScotland website.

There have been plenty of offers of help for manning the stand at the show.

MARINE PARK: No new info available from SNH. John had attended the meeting of the Land & Sea Forum.

All present agreed that more information about the implications of becoming a marine park is needed before any decision can be made about supporting the scheme.

RENEWABLE ENERGY FORUM: There have been very few meetings of the forum and all but the first few meetings have been poorly attended. As it is a sub committee of the Community Council, <John> will email the CC to ask about the future of the forum.

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PRESIDENT: Sandy has been invited to attend another meeting to progress the Local Transport Strategy on 28th February.

WEBSITE: Sandy reported that the contact page on the website was not functioning <Georgia> will remedy this.

SECRETARY: <Georgia> will compile a list of board members due for re-election at the AGM

TREASURER: No report in Tom's absence

AOCB:

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 6th March 2006

