



Minutes of Meeting at The Isle of Mull Hotel

5th May 2008

Present **Mr S Brunton** **Mr B Walsh** **Mr M Ackerley** **Ms J Chauvet**
 Ms G O'Neill **Mr Joe Reade**

Apologies **Mr D Crook**

Minutes of last meeting - amendments – Brendan was elected vice president on April 7th 2008. The food festival was to be followed up by Georgia. Proposed that these were accepted as a true record: proposed by G O'Neill, Seconded by B Walsh

Matters arising from minutes of last meeting – it was decided that there were perhaps two main issues that The Chamber should be concerned with a) the local transport issue – the main lobbying issue; b) the Food initiative in light of the success of the networking event.

Much discussion followed as to how best to bring forward the food initiative. The main topics raised were;

- How to take the network event further
- Distribution of produce and products around the island
- Funding available to set up a cooperative transport scheme with a dedicated coordinator
- The national and local initiatives
- Having a collection point – 'Mull wholesale'
- Collating existing information
- The food Festival and how can that continue
- Branding of Mull produce

It was decided that research needed to be carried out to see where we were with the information that the Chamber has as well as the information that MICT held; to look at the new government proposals and to look into what was being done on a local level.

AP – Jane to speak to MICT and access the information and to carry out research of local and national initiatives.

Georgia to plan a producer map to see where everyone was based.

Sandy to talk to Eric Walton re transport issue.

Calmac – Michael and Sandy have drafted a letter and sent it off with a copy going to Norman Quirk

Expo 07 – the Chamber received a report on this years Expo event. It was noted that numbers would appear to have dropped but it was decided that it was an event that we should attend. To look into better planning of stand, increasing promotional media eg use footage from Springwatch. A meeting with HMI to co-ordinate next years event to be arranged.

Royal Mail – There has been a reorganisation of services which is causing problems with very late mail deliveries and newspapers not arriving in the shops until lunchtime. Sandy continues to communicate with the Royal Mail.

Treasurers Report – an approximate credit amount of £3205.90. Subscriptions in.

AP – M Ackerley to send statements to G O'Neill

G O'Neill to send an invoice to M Ackerley for work done

Secretary's report – Jane and Georgia have met to transfer duties. Jane to take over the admin.

AOB – to look into having Mull and Iona Chamber of Commerce stickers for vehicles; to generate new members.

AP – J Chauvet and G O'Neill

Internet Banking – to see if the Chamber's banking facilities may be updated to include computerised access.

AP – M Ackerley

Transport guide – now available!

Ferry Services Enquiry – report well received. It will help with timetabling and may have have a positive influence in

the future.

CalMac Video – very positively received and is now being shown on the Isle of Mull ferry. Need to ensure it is played frequently, at a sound level that can be heard.

AP – S Srunton to talk to Hugh

Airport Services – Brendon reported on the restricted service at Oban airport due to change of management. The seaplane appears to be doing well.

AP – B Walsh to investigate what the next step for the local airports is

Next Meeting – Isle of Mull Hotel, Monday 2nd June 2008 at 8pm.