



Iomairt Ghallaibh & Chataibh
Caithness & Sutherland
ENTERPRISE

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD ON TUESDAY 18 APRIL
2006 IN THE PORTLAND ARMS HOTEL, LYBSTER AT 2 PM**

Present: Willie Calder (Chairman)
Carroll Buxton (Chief Executive)
Sandra McCaughey (Deputy Chief Executive)
Steve Burness
John Campbell
Nicholas Gorton
David Halpin
Ian Richards
Iain Young

In attendance: Carol Gunn
Eann Sinclair
Pauline Abdulla (Minutes)

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Pat Buchanan, Colin Gregory and Alex Murray.

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 08/02/06

The previous minutes were approved.

Proposed: Ian Richards
Seconded: Nicolas Gorton

3 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

4 TOURISM UPDATE

Eann Sinclair gave an update regarding branding and marketing of important parts of the North Highland area to take to the tourist market. Eann mentioned the North West Highland Geopark and Board Members asked him to clarify the nature of the Geopark. Eann then went on to speak about cruise ships which have visited the region and the Chairman felt this was an area of growth potential.

5 ORGANISATIONAL REVIEW

Carroll Buxton gave a presentation on the proposals of the HIE review, in terms of progress so far and future changes to the make-up of HIE.

The Chairman thanked Carroll Buxton for her presentation.

6 FUTURE AUDIT COMMITTEE ARRANGEMENTS

Carroll Buxton informed the Board that the previous audit committees were decommissioned on 1 April 2006 to be replaced by one Network committee. A letter was circulated to Board Members at the meeting regarding nominations for the new audit committee. The Board agreed to nominate Colin Gregory to represent them on the Network Audit Committee. The Board also agreed to delegate responsibility for approval of the 2005/06 accounts to a sub-committee of the Board comprising members of the former audit committee.

7 MONTHLY REPORT

The monthly report had been circulated to the Board Members prior to the meeting and the Board accepted the content and style of the report. Carroll Buxton answered various queries arising from the report.

8 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

This had been circulated to the Board Members prior to the meeting. Carroll Buxton gave an update on any companies highlighted in her report which had not been previously mentioned at the meeting. John Campbell was called upon to update the Board on the TT&TF at Janetstown. The Chief Executive thanked CASE staff for achieving/exceeding targets.

9 CAITHNESS SOCIO-ECONOMIC STRATEGY

Carol Gunn spoke about the strategy for the future of the area in view of decommissioning Dounreay. Discussion followed during which questions from the Board were answered by Carol Gunn and Carroll Buxton.

The Chairman thanked Carol Gunn for her presentation.

10 AOCB

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Date: 13/06/06
Time: 12.30 pm
Venue: Royal Marine Hotel, Brora

The meeting ended at 5 pm.

Pauline Abdulla
19 April 2006