

IFCI Steering Committee Meeting Sat Aug 28th, 2006 at O'Loughlin's Hotel, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

Present: Tony Mannion, Declan Little (Secretary), Ruth McGrath (Chairman), Tara Ryan, Alistair Pfeifer and Barbara Maguire (Treasurer).

1. Minutes of last meeting

Minutes agreed without amendments.

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Accounts for 2005

The Treasurer presented the audited accounts. Main points: There was a loss of €6,000 approximately in 2005.

Action: Need to look into charitable status for IFCI Ltd. Ruth McGrath will look into this. The accounts were ratified by the Steering Committee.

Proposed: Declan Little **Seconded:** Tony Mannion

4. Correspondence

(a) Anja Murray contacted the Secretary and was subsequently informed that she was seconded to the Environmental chamber at the last SC meeting.

(b) There was a suggestion on natureireland that there was a submission made re the standard by Monica Muller (Rosspport, Co. Mayo) in the past few years. However, there is no record of any submission received from her in the IFCI files.

(c) David Ogg, Control Union sent a letter to IFCI re the certification of IFUT and Tipperary Forestry Services. The SC has no issues with this consultation request.

(d) Brendan Kelly sent an e-mail to natureireland and others re IFCI and LIFE funding.

Action: The Secretary will draft a letter in response outlining that the e-mail sent was mischievous and contained lies. Also Mr Kelly is the only person who has made allegations of wrongdoing by IFCI, which were never substantiated upon investigation. The ODCE have investigated IFCI accounts and found no problem whatsoever. The letter will be circulated to the SC prior to posting it.

5. Public consultation

Printing Draft Standard: Get tenders from Johnswood Press, and two others and get 500 or 1000 copies.

Action: This will be carried out by the Secretariat when employed. Ruth McGrath to investigate hiring a facilitator for consultation process.

George McCarthy will organise a draft PowerPoint presentation for consultation process done and circulate it to SC.

6. Secretarial Support

George and Alistair to look at this in detail. Declan little will look for potential candidates via UCD and the Tree Council of Ireland.

7. Website and draft standard

Edit standard with minor changes to the preamble before putting it on the website. The SC will look at the standard text in the coming fortnight and relay any changes/errors to the Secretary. Also it was agreed to put a few industrial and recreational images on the site.

8. AOB

There were no issues raised.