

**Minutes of IFCI Steering Committee meeting, 11am, 24th January 2008** EENGO Offices,  
Camden St, Dublin2

**Present:**

Pat Neville (Coillte), Declan Little (Woodlands of Ireland); John Jackson (IFA); Monica Muller (sub for Peter Sweetman, Ballinaboy Residents Association); Ruth Mc Grath (VOICE); Sasha Bosbeer (GMIT, acting chair for this meeting); Tony Mannion (Society of Irish Foresters); Caroline Lewis (Friends of the Irish Environment, attending by conference phone); Anja Murray (An Taisce, acting secretary for this meeting).

**Observers:**

Pat Hennesey (IFA); Edurne Gil (VOICE), Mick Keane (Coillte).

Agreed that no attribution in the minutes unless otherwise requested.

**1. Minutes of Last Meeting** – approved with amendments.

**2. Matters arising** - none

**3. Financial Report**

There is an estimated €1500 in IFCI account at present (actual figure not on hand as transferral of address from former treasurer to new treasurer not effected, thus account statements temporarily inaccessible). Previous funding has been fully drawn down. No forthcoming funding, but application still with Forest Service. FS is awaiting outcome of this meeting to consider funding proposal.

**Action:** Ruth, as company secretary, will deal with change of name and address for Bank account, now that Barbara is no longer doing this.

**4. Appointment of Company Officers, Directors, Chairperson, and Secretary**

Pat Neville to become company director in place of previous economic chamber director (proposed: Ruth, seconded Tony M).

**Action:** Environmental chamber requested to consider proposing a Director, from the SG, in the interest of balance, as there are currently 2 directors – one from each of the other chambers. Outcome to be reported back to next SG meeting.

Chair: possibility of Sasha becoming chair discussed, deferred to AOB.

Ruth is to remain as company secretary. Agreed to have rotating minutes secretary (proposed: Caroline, seconded: Anja). There was a sustained objection to proposal that that minute taker must be physically present in meetings. It was agreed that in the interest of continuity and responsibility an actual secretary of the SC is needed (rather than sharing of the task as discussed) though desirable to have maximum sharing of secretarial tasks to lighten work burden on secretary.

**5. Discussions of outcome of meeting in Limerick 8<sup>th</sup> December**

General discussion: It was explained that according to ASI there are 2 tasks at hand: one being the development of the standard, the other being the process by which the standard is developed. The actual standard produced could become irrelevant if not produced according to appropriate process.

Development of the standard needs to move forward in an inclusive manner, with engagement of many people and organisations who are interested in sustainable forestry

**Proposal:** to go from 2 actions listed at bottom of Limerick meeting report:

- flesh out Bonn Proposals;
- organise next meeting

**Action:** Fran Igoe nominated as rep of IFCI to liaise with Bridget Carlin and Aidan Corcoran in fleshing out proposals.

Once finished, we anticipate that the proposal will be widely circulated, including to IFCI, in advance of a facilitated meeting. Recommend that once circulated, it will be most constructive to keep discussion on the proposal to the facilitated meeting.

**Proposal:** to part fund meeting subject to costs being reasonable, and an estimate of the costs be submitted to IFCI first. Costs anticipated to be for room hire, facilitation, tea / coffee (agreed with no sustained objection).

**6. Proceeding with development of standard: Action:** consultation procedures and how to get funding for the process side of standard development will be examined by Pat, Sasha, and Anja.

**7. Development of ground rules:** The next meeting should be facilitated, at which we will specifically tackle ground rules. Telephone attendance at meetings will also be discussed at this meeting. As meeting will be facilitated all need to attend in person as facilitators won't work with teleconferencing. Minimum standard ground rules adopted as those utilised in Limerick meeting.

## **8. Correspondence**

Request from Lana Lehman for IFCI to fill out questionnaire noted. Agreed that it is up to individual SG members to respond.

Website link request – Company secretary to investigate site and link if relevant.

Request made from Brendan Kelly to make membership list available to him, response that we don't deal with him. Same request subsequently came from Ciarán Hughes. The Company Secretary received advice on this from the Office of Data Protection and was informed of obligation to release it and that those to whom we release it to are obliged to not pass it on to others.

**Action:** send list to Ciarán Hughes with request that legal requirement not to pass it on be respected. Company Secretary thanked for dealing with this.

**Action:** Sasha to draft final report to FS on money received and include info from FSC about process being as important as standard

**Action:** Section 5 of these minutes shall be sent to Schia Sinclair, and Sasha will also check with Michael Ewing if he also wants them.

## **7. AOB**

- SC felt that this meeting was very well managed and efficiently chaired and Sasha thanked for that.
- Agreed that Sasha is acting chair as of now and will confirm this role after the adoption of agreed ground rules (this proposal was unanimously agreed by all present: Ruth, Monika, John J, Declan, Pat N, Anja, and indication by Caroline in advance of this decision that she would also agree to this).
- Vacancy on Environmental Chamber noted.
- Gratitude expressed from SC to John Jackson and Barbara Maguire from IFA as both left / leaving.