

NORTH HARRIS TRUST

**MINUTE OF MEETING**

**TITLE** : The North Harris Trust

**DATE** : 28:10:2013

**VENUE** : Tigh an Urrais

**TIME** : 7.30pm

Present: Calum MacKay, Tim Langley, Karen MacRae, Barbara MacKay, Kenny MacKay, Diana MacLennan, Steve McCombe, Alistair MacLeod, Mark Lazzeri, Sheila Roderick, Donald J Cunningham, DJ Morrison, Ian MacSween, David Wake

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?
1.	<b>Apologies</b> Kenny MacLeod, CB Morrison, John A MacDonald, Mick Blunt, Matt Watts		
2.	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting &amp; Matters Arising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Minutes of the previous meeting were approved by Tim Langley and seconded by Calum MacKay.</li><li><u>NHTC</u>: David asked if all directors had received minutes from the last Trading Company meeting, some directors thought they hadn't received them but will double check.</li><li><u>Broadband</u>: Alistair has been in contact with West Harris Trust, to arrange a meeting to discuss concerns about fibre optic broadband provision. A meeting will take place in the near future. He has also contacted the BT project manager, surveyor and HIE, who stressed that no one will lose broadband service, but that the service should be enhanced.</li><li><u>Scalpay Update</u>: It is hoped that the transfer will happen at the end of November. The Offer of Grant from the Scottish Land Fund has been accepted and the post of Development Officer has been advertised. A number of application packs have been requested and sent out.</li><li><u>FilmG</u>: it was felt that it was not feasible, time wise, to enter a film in this year's competition, but it will be considered earlier next year.</li></ul>		
3.	<b>Staff Reports</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><u>Matters arising from Staff Reports</u> CIB Services, have been in the office for an initial briefing about what is required from Sage training. Alistair spoke to CIB today and they will contact the office with a training date. Mark clarified the reason for issuing members of the Stalking Club with Authorised Vehicle Permits after concerns were raised regarding the need for displaying a permit. It was felt that this was a good idea in the interest of safety, to keep the Trust and other members of the public aware of what is happening.</li></ul>		

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?
	<p>David informed the Board of what stage he is at with negotiations for the Buna Hydro Scheme. With 90% of the funding for the Business Units having been awarded, David now awaits a decision from CNES as to whether a funding application for 5% has been successful.</p> <p>It was agreed that secured donation boxes be put in place at parking areas where campervans regularly park. David has sourced suitable donation boxes and will further investigate prices before purchasing.</p> <p>It had been suggested that the crofting supplies could be stored at the Urgha Depot for the Lewis Crofters for when required by the community. It was felt that this was a good idea, but David will check with Tarbert Stores whether they intend to stock such materials as it is not intended to interfere with their trade.</p>		
4.	<p><b>Scalpay Care Unit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After an interest being registered with CNES for the Scalpay Care Unit, they have requested that a business plan be submitted by 20<sup>th</sup> December 2013. It has been indicated that the Scalpay Community Association are also interested in the property. It was decided to ask CNES for an extension to the deadline for submission until the Scalpay transfer has taken place and a community consultation carried out.</li> </ul>		
5.	<p><b>Monan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>David informed the Board about progress in the Monan project to date. Windflow Technology have expressed an interest in a joint venture project with the Trust and David is awaiting a business plan from them. The terms would be that NHT would have a 10% investment of profit along with an annual ground rent. As there are to be some changes in the route taken and the end date of project, a variation would have to be made to the existing lease. Alistair will clarify this with Anderson MacArthur.</li> </ul>	Alistair	29/10/13
6.	<p><b>Honorary Membership</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr Akkerman has been very supportive of the Trust over the years and it was suggest that he be made an Honorary Member. A couple of other suggestions were made of people who should be considered for Honorary Membership. Future discussion will take place regarding these memberships.</li> </ul>		
7.	<p><b>Commercial Stalking</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With an increase in commercial stalking requests, Mark had previously circulated a paper asking the Board to consider purchasing a second hand quad bike. A discussion took place regarding the advantages and disadvantages of a quad, with concerns raised about the effect on the land. The Board agreed that Mark should source and purchase a quad and that he would monitor any effect on paths and land.</li> </ul>	Mark	
8.	<p><b>Old Croileagan Building</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Future plans for the Croileagan building were discussed with a number of parties having already expressed an interest in its use. It was felt that it would be more effective if it could be a multi use building, incorporating some of the interested groups. Potential funding for</li> </ul>		

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	improvements and car parking will also be investigated	Alistair	
9.	<b>AOCB</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A letter had been received from Scalpay Community Council requesting a donation from the Trust for their bonfire &amp; firework display. It was agreed to donate the sum of £100 for the event.</li> <li>• Due to his work schedule, Kenny MacLeod is having difficulty attending meetings. He has left a note of his availability in the office and this will be considered when the date of next meeting is set.</li> <li>• Alistair has had an email from the project manager of the Distillery asking if the Trust would consider reducing the costs per unit for the water supplied. As the terms were agreed and signed three years ago it was decided to proceed on the original, previously agreed terms.</li> <li>• There has, once again, been an issue with sheep in the village of Tarbert. This had been discussed at a Trust meeting earlier this year. <b>(04/03/13 - The issue of sheep in the village of Tarbert should be resolved in the coming weeks. The crofter is awaiting workmen to repair fencing in the area where the sheep are getting in and when completed should resolve the problem.)</b> The issue has not been resolved and Alistair has spoken to a couple of the crofters concerned to try to find a resolution. Alistair and Mark will continue to liaise with the crofters.</li> <li>• Alistair suggested sourcing a tweed runner for the table in the Boardroom and Calum suggested that the Beartas tweed would be appropriate.</li> </ul>	Alistair/Mark	
10.	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30pm, Tigh an Urrais</b></li> </ul>		