

NORTH HARRIS TRUST

MINUTE OF MEETING

TITLE : The North Harris Trust

DATE : 27:02:17

TIME : 7.30pm

VENUE : Tigh an Urrais

Present: Calum MacKay, Tim Langley, Alistair MacLeod, Diana MacLennan, Barbara MacKay, Kenny MacKay, Cathy B Morrison, Karen MacRae, Gordon Cumming, Robert MacKinnon, Kenny MacLeod, Donnie MacLeod, Ian MacSween, Steve McCombe, D J Morrison

Calum opened the meeting by expressing condolences to Donald J Cunningham’s partner, brothers and sisters and the family on his sad passing. DJ was a much respected director of the Trust and his contributions at meetings were very appropriate.

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?
1.	Apologies		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daryll Brown, David Wake, Lorna Wheeler, John A MacDonald 		
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes were approved by Barbara MacKay and seconded by Robert MacKinnon <u>Outer Hebrides Community Asset Event</u>: NHT are hosting the next event and it will be held in the Harris Hotel on Thursday 9th March. Alistair and Calum will attend. <u>Scalpay School</u>: Alistair met with Ian MacCulloch to discuss the feasibility study and has completed the brief. They will meet again this Wednesday (1st March) to finalise the brief. <u>Land Management</u>: Gordon met with Roddy McMinn to discuss future funding. It is hopeful that Scot Gov will announce funding imminently due to the deadline being on Friday 3rd March. Gordon had pencilled in a helicopter deer count for next week but this will be funding dependent. 		
3.	Appointment of Office Bearers		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calum was re-elected by the Board as Chairman and Cathy Bell as Vice Chair. They are both willing to continue in their positions. 		
4.	Review of Annual Report		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Scalpay Care Unit</u>: Title for the Care Unit now belongs to NHT. Approval for the sum of £100000 has been received from the Rural Housing Fund and Karen has submitted the Leader Application to CnES. Planning Permission has been applied for and the technical services department are investigating parking issues. <u>Hushinsh Gateway</u>: O'Mac have been awarded the contract for the project and it is hoped that 		

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	<p>work will start in March. Steve asked whether anyone knew of any old photos of Hushinish so that they could be included in the interpretation panels. A discussion took place regarding other items which could also be included.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Office Computer Network</u>: Following on from David Massey's report it was decided to upgrade the office computer network. This will ensure that there will be an up to date secure working environment in place in the office. Danny Richardson of DMRIT has given a costing for the work based on David Massey's report and has agreed to undertake the contract. • <u>Eilean Glas Lighthouse</u>: Theo Ford Sagers has written asking for a letter of support from the Board to supplement a funding application to improve facilities at the Lighthouse. It was decided to write a letter in support of the improvements. • <u>Forward Planning Day</u>: The Board felt that the last forward planning day had been a success and that another one should be arranged. A couple of suggestions for facilitators were made and Alistair will follow this up and let the Board know what the most suitable date would be. 	Gordon			
5.	AOCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Community Development Fund Committee met recently to discuss a number of applications and felt that one received for the Harris House Comfort Fund was more appropriate as Board decision. The Board felt that this application for resident's activities should be supported and donated the full amount requested. • A letter was received from some pupils in Sir E Scott School requesting a donation from NHT for attending a trip to Edinburgh, which will be part funded by Comunn na Gaidhlig. It was decided to donate £300 towards the trip and to try to encourage the participating pupils to become involved in Trust activities • A funding request was also received from Gavin Woods for starting up an after school music group. It was felt that this was more appropriate for the Community Development Fund and Mr Woods will be sent an application form. • Gordon presented a paper on some points he needed agreement on in relation to the Stalking Club. Things have worked well and a good effort was made to take the allocated numbers. This year it was agreed that members should book the number of hinds they are taking and which beat they will be on well in advance. Gordon felt it would be beneficial for himself and Daryll to become members of the Stalking Club and it was agreed that there would be no conflict of interest, with them as individuals, becoming members although they are NHT staff. Both the Harris Stalking Club and ACE will continue to work together in order to cull the hard to reach areas of the estate. It was agreed to offer surplus stags to neighbouring estates if the HSC were unable to take them. Gordon asked for approval for a price review of £80 per stag for club members rather than the £175 previously charged. This was agreed. Gordon has been approached by Borge Lodge Estate for game shooting on NHT land. This had been discussed previously with another estate and it was agreed to stick to the decision of not leasing game shooting. 			
11.	Date of Next Meeting	Monday 17 th April 2017, 7.30pm in Tigh an Urrais			