

# NORTH HARRIS TRUST

## MINUTE OF MEETING

**TITLE** : The North Harris Trust

**DATE** : 23:04:2018

**TIME** : 7.30pm

**VENUE** : Tigh an Urrais

Present: Calum MacKay, Gordon Cumming, Karen MacRae, Diana MacLennan, Tim Langley, Robert MacKinnon, Barbara MacKay, David Wake, Phil Bertin, Donnie MacLeod, Lorna Wheeler, Cathy B Morrison, Kenny MacLeod

Calum wished Kenny MacKay a speedy recovery as he is currently in hospital in Glasgow

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?
1.	<b>Apologies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>D J Morrison, Kenny MacKay, Finlay E MacLeod, Ian MacSween, Daryll Brown</li></ul>		
2.	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Minutes were approved by Calum MacKay and seconded by Robert MacKinnon.</li><li>The JMT volunteers arrive next week and will be working in the Hushinish area on foot path work. It is NHT's turn to provide catering on this visit and it is hoped to organise a barbeque at the Hushinish Gateway at some point during the week.</li></ul>		
3.	<b>Staff Reports</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The cashflow spreadsheet was circulated and discussed. There are a couple of small amendments to be made and the spreadsheet will be recirculated once it has been updated.</li><li>A paper was presented to the Board outlining a proposal for the Trust to establish a Harris Countryside Maintenance Team. The Board approved to investigate funding avenues to determine whether this plan could be possible.</li><li>Gordon has approached the Ardvourlie crofters regarding positioning the shed the Trust was gifted in the Ardvourlie Woodland as a wildlife viewing hide. The Board are happy to proceed if the crofters agree with this proposal.</li><li>[REDACTED]</li><li>BBC Alba intend to come to visit the Scalpay Care Unit properties and the Huisinis Gateway next week to promote the completion of these projects.</li><li>An approach has been received from a local business man to investigate the development of the old Whaling Station site for business purposes. It was agreed to permit him to investigate</li></ul>		

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	<p>further and Karen will pass on the details of her contact at Historic Environment Scotland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Scalpay Community Association have signed and returned the play park lease to Anderson MacArthur.</li> <li>• David met with Wallace Stone Consultancy at the Marig slipway to get an idea of feasibility study costs and discuss ideas for usage.</li> <li>• There is an outstanding issue regarding livestock management at the Huisinis Gateway. It was suggested to adjust the fencing to allow easier handling of livestock for the crofters and this was approved by the Board.</li> <li>• A discussion took place regarding the possibility of a business opportunity at Huisinis Gateway selling drinks and snacks in the summer season. Further investigation is required and any suggestions for developing this are welcome.</li> </ul>		
4.	<p><b>Forward Planning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are a couple of directors yet to fill in the forward planning scoring sheet and once this these have been completed Gordon will be ready to revise the Business Plan.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>		
5.	<p><b>Community Land Trusts Gathering</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be a gathering of the Western Isles Community Land Trusts in the office on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April. Directors are welcome to attend the meeting.</li> </ul>		
6.	<p><b>Rural Tourism Industry Awards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new fund by the Scottish Government, the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund, has been launched and will be administered by VisitScotland with applications submitted by CnES. The Council intends to submit an Outer Hebrides wide application and staff have compiled a list of prospective projects. The list was circulated for discussion.</li> </ul>		
7.	<p><b>Scalpay School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directors had met last week to discuss the Feasibility Study for Scalpay School and felt that more information was required before a decision on the future of the school could be made. Prior to tonight's meeting, Karen and Gordon were able to gather the answers and report these to the board. Following further discussion, the decision was put to a directors vote. Lorna declared an interest at this point and left the room. The outcome of the vote was that the majority of the Board voted not to proceed with the purchase of Scalpay School. Karen will inform the current tenants first thing tomorrow morning.</li> </ul>		
9.	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no one available to attend the Community Land Scotland in Stirling this year but David Cameron has offered to represent NHT.</li> <li>• Aline Estate have approached Gordon to ask permission to set crow traps around the Bowglas area. Permission was granted.</li> <li>• Gordon has received a request from an individual for hare hawking on NHT land. It was felt that there were few hares on the estate therefore permission was not granted.</li> </ul>		

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After the recent Directors election, it was decided to discuss the process for rotation of directors at the next meeting.</li> <li>• There is a planned visit from delegates from the Crown Estate in May which Gordon will host.</li> <li>• Gordon has been approached by Neil at the West Harris Trust to work together on documentation regarding Muirburn practices which can be sent out to Grazings Clerks. The board agreed that this should be done.</li> <li>• Richard Else, who directed The Live Climb, has been in contact with the plan to produce another film in Harris.</li> </ul>		
10.	DONM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2018 – 7.30pm, Tigh an Urrais</b></li> </ul>		