

NORTH HARRIS TRUST

MINUTE OF MEETING

TITLE : The North Harris Trust

DATE : 10:06:2024

TIME : 7.30pm

VENUE : Tigh an Urrais

Present: Michael Hunter, Kirsty MacKay, Calum MacKay, Barbara MacKay, D J Morrison, Stuart King, Diana MacLennan, Paul Russ, Fa'ich Bihan Gallic, Phil Butterfield, David Wake, Catriona Marshall, Ian Strachan, Steven Morrison, Kate Lewis

Kirsty MacKay, Chair, welcomed Steven Morrison to his first Directors meeting.

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?
1.	Presentation from Tarbert in Bloom <ul style="list-style-type: none">Jocelyn and Tania from Tarbert in Bloom gave a history of the project and progress to date. Land ownership continues to be an issue, but some funding and donations have been received. It is hoped to continue and develop the project.Kirsty thanked the ladies for the update and they left the meeting at this point.		
2.	Apologies <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lena Morrison, Robert MacKinnon		
3.	Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none">Minutes were approved by Barbara MacKay and seconded by Catriona Marshall.No matters arising.		
4.	Conflicts of Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none">No conflicts of interest.		
5.	Quarterly Sub Committee Reports <p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Paul confirmed that finances were on budget for core spend.The Finance sub-committee will continue to monitor finances on the Insignis platform to ensure the best return. <p>HR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A budget request for up to £3000 was considered and approved for engaging AAB Consultancy to explore ways to improve organisational structure.The Fairwork First Policy was presented to the Board and it was agreed to adopt the policy. <p>Estate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">██████████ have submitted a Notification of Suspected Breach of Duty for the tenant of ██████████ and the Crofting Commission are investigating.		

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	<p>Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A revised site plan for the 2 self-build plots in Ardvourlie was discussed with CnES Planning and further revisions are required to alleviate CnES Roads Department access concerns. The Ardvourlie common grazings shareholders have been informed. • A spreadsheet showing the current cost breakdown for the Meavaig Housing Project was presented and possible cost saving measures were discussed. It was discussed how at the community consultations the community continually requested that the NHT build more affordable housing. It was agreed to ringfence a further £150k from general project funds to this project. • David has a scheduled call with the Rural Housing Fund next week in relation to funding. Directors will be updated after the call. 	David	After RHF call
6.	<p>Staff Reports and Matters Arising</p> <p>Staff Reports were circulated and tabled.</p> <p>Matters Arising from Staff Reports:</p> <p>Manager – Michael Hunter (MH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is progressing on the Resumption of the Iomairt an Obain and Sunnyhill sites. It was proposed that NHT could transfer the land to HDL but there would be the inclusion of a burden in the Title. This would allow for forced NHT purchase of the sites at their original price if they were not developed within 10 years. HDL were agreeable to this condition. • MH has a meeting with SSEN regarding a proposed sub-station at the Monan car park. • Planning Permission has been submitted for the siting of a food trailer on Ardhasaig Common Grazings at Ceann an Ora. NHT and Ardhasaig CG have given consent and an agreement will be drafted. • The maintenance contract with FES is working well so far. <p>Development Officer – David Wake (DW)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An approach has been made by individuals who wish to develop bike trails at Ardvourlie. Liability concerns were raised and DW will speak to the Planning Department. <p>Ranger – Fañch Bihan-Gallic (FBG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FBG has been putting together a cruise package to create a clearer offer of Ranger services. • FBG has been in contact with a Development Officer at North Ronaldsay Trust, Orkney, to discuss their approach to cruise ship visitors. <p>Estate Worker – Ian Strachan (IS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Growing Project at the Tarbert polycrub is going well. • IS has been busy gunnera spraying across the estate and in other areas of Harris. • NHT has received funding towards a hired van which will be available for staff use during the next couple of months. 	DW	

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7.	Draft Bye-law Revision for Discussion and Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MH presented the proposed changes to the bye-laws to the Board. The changes were discussed and approved by the Board. This will be an agenda item at next year's AGM for Members' comment. 		
7.	AOCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calum will not be able to attend the next Harris Forum meeting and invited any interested director to attend in his absence. MH will circulate the link for the ScotGov consultation on crofting reform to directors. 	MH	ASAP
8.	DONM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 19th August 2024. 7.30pm @ Tigh an Urrais and Zoom. 		