

NORTH HARRIS TRUST

MINUTE OF MEETING

TITLE : The North Harris Trust

DATE : 23:09:2024

TIME : 7.30pm

VENUE : Tigh an Urrais and Zoom

Present: Kirsty Mackay, Michael Hunter, Calum MacKay, D J Morrison, Robert MacKinnon, Paul Russ, Phil Butterfield, David Wake, Fañch Bihan-Gallic, Catriona Marshall, Ian Strachan, Steven Morrison, Stuart King

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?
1.	Apologies <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lena Morrison, Diana MacLennan,		
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none">The minutes were proposed by Stuart King and seconded by Robert MacKinnon.No matters arising.		
3.	Conflicts of Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none">No conflicts of interest to report.		
4.	Staff Reports and Matters Arising Iain Strachan, Maintenance, IS <ul style="list-style-type: none">Nothing in the report required specific board attention and nothing was raised by board members. Fañch Bihan-Gallic, Ranger, FBG <ul style="list-style-type: none">Nothing in the report required specific board attention and nothing was raised by board members. David Wake, Development Officer (DW) <ul style="list-style-type: none">The solar panels at Unit 1 Iomairt an Òbain are dysfunctional and need replacing. The contract does not require the Trust to provide electricity, and the panels technically belong to the Trading Company. Replacement is not necessary and therefore requires a board decision. It is hoped that new panels would last at least as long as the previous ones (around 10 years) and therefore the investment should be worth it. Moreover, the Trust is committed to encouraging green energy in the community. Decision: Replacement of panels approved.The Rural Housing Fund for the Miabhag nam Beann houses comes with standard security in perpetuity. Approval of this clause requires a board decision. Without the funding from RHF the project would not be feasible and providing affordable housing is one of the Trust's priorities.As		

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	<p>the long-term goal is to keep the houses and there are no plans to eventually sell them, the board saw no objection to the clause. Decision: Signing of the contract was approved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steven Morrison pointed out that the cattle grid at Hùisinis is degrading and asked whether we should report it for replacement. DW will raise the question and talk to the crofters. <p>Michael Hunter, Manager (MH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MH would like to have the HHP housing site valued, which requires spending £300. Decision: Sum approved. The solicitors at Anderson Macarthur have apologised for their delayed response time of late and understand that the Trust may wish to instruct other firms on matters which do not relate to crofting. Trust staff have had to spend considerable time chasing responses and there are instances where delays can have a financial impact on the Trust. While using another firm for non-crofting matters may lead to higher legal fees, it is worth noting that these would often be covered by third parties. This should hopefully use less staff time and ensure that the Trust is not disadvantaged during contract negotiations with third parties. The board is happy to proceed with this new approach. HHP has asked for the Trust to assess servitudes around the Old Scalpay School, which will be done whenever possible. CLOH AGM: It would be good to have NHT representatives there. Calum Mackay said he would attend, and so will MH. MH would like other staff members to attend as well. As Linda Armstrong will be standing down from CLOH's board, the board considered that having a Harris representative there was important. It was agreed that MH will stand on behalf of the Trust. MH asked the board whether they were happy to contribute £250 to fireworks. Decision: Approved. 	<p>DW</p> <p>MH</p> <p>MH</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>02/10/2024</p>
5.	<p>Community Consultations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Trust has addressed most of the goals set as part of the community consultation process last year. The dates chosen for this year's consultations are November 12th, 14th, 19th, and 21st. The board needs to decide the location for each date. It was decided as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 Nov = Scalpaigh Community Centre 14 Nov = Hùisinis Gateway 19 Nov = Taigh an Urrais, Tarbert 21 Nov = Scaladale Centre 		
6.	<p>AOCB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None. 		
7.	<p>DONM</p> <p>28 October 2024</p>		