	TITLE	:	The North Harris Trust		
NORTH HARRIS TRUST	DATE	:	26:02:2024	TIME :	7.30pm
MINUTE OF MEETING	VENUE	:	Tigh an Urrais		

Present: Calum MacKay, Robert MacKinnon, Barbara MacKay, David Wake, Phil Butterfield, Michael Hunter, Paul Russ, Kate Lewis, Fañch Bihan-Gallic, Diana MacLennan, Lena Morrison, Kirsty MacKay

Item		Summary and Action		When?
1.	Apologies	Finlay E MacLeod, Donald MacLeod, Tim Langley, Donald J Morrison		
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising	<ul> <li>Minutes were approved by Barbara MacKay (BM), seconded by Kate Lewis (KL)</li> <li>No matters arising</li> </ul>		
3.	Conflicts of Interest	Michael Hunter (MH) and KL both declared an interest in the Agricultural Park lets.		
4.	AGM Format Discussion	<ul> <li>MH prepared a proposal document for this year's AGM. A timeline for draft accounts and pre-AGM meetings was discussed. Draft Accounts along with a new format Annual Report should be available for members three weeks prior to the AGM. Questions in writing for the Auditor will be invited. It is hoped to hold this year's AGM in the Harris Hotel, MH is awaiting confirmation of availability. The Board agreed to adopt the AGM format proposals.</li> <li>The four directors due to stand down by rotation are, Finlay E MacLeod, Donald MacLeod, Donald J Morrison and Barbara MacKay. It was agreed to hold an Open Day to attract new Directors on the Board.</li> </ul>		
5.	Staff Reports & Matters Arising	<ul> <li>Manager's Report (MH)</li> <li>The Insignis account is operational. MH will prepare a report for the next meeting to show Directors how the account works.</li> <li>Ian Strachan will take up his position as Estate Worker on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March.</li> <li>All staff will undertake First Aid training on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March.</li> </ul>	MH	Next Meeting

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?
	<ul> <li>Two Directors are required for a HR sub-group to progress points raised in the Fair Work First action plan. Kirsty MacKay (KM) volunteered and MH will confirm with Tim Langley (TL) if he is willing to be involved.</li> <li>MH invited Directors comments on the proposed update to the Harris Forum constitution before the next Forum meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> March. Calum (CJM) will be unavailable but asked whether any other Director wished to attend in his place.</li> <li>The croft tenant of the proposed update to the Trust submit a rectification of the boundaries of croft as the original registering party. The Board reaffirmed their decision taken at a previous meeting and will not be submitting a rectification.</li> <li>The Estates Sub-group have discussed that a 100-grain minimum bullet weight should be required on the estate due to the animal welfare concerns arising when using lighter ammunition. This was agreed by the Board.</li> <li>An objection to the WHP mast at Tom Ruisg has been submitted to planning. WHP have requested that the objection.</li> <li>Tarbert in Bloom have requested an annual 40% contribution to grass cutting costs around the village. Other agencies are also being approached. As the Trust were also asked to contribute a one off payment of £1000 for an initial tidy up, Directors felt that, although they were supportive, more information was required before committing funding.</li> <li>The tenants of two crofts in Scalpay have agreed to resume an area of their crofts to provide parking provision but will not cover all costs, therefore MH will investigate further funding options. The Board were supportive as parking in Scalpay was a priority in the outcomes of the Community Consultation. MH will meet with Scalpay Community Consultation. MH will meet with Scalpay Community Consultation. MH will meet with Scalpay Community Council to request planning application on the Trust's behalf as has been done in similar projects with the North Harris Community Cosultation. MH will meet with Scalpay Comm</li></ul>	МН	Before next meeting
	<ul> <li>Development Officer Report (DW)</li> <li>The Board agreed to replace the wind turbine at Urgha Depot with the Trust providing a loan to the Trading Company.</li> <li>A quote of £14,580 including VAT has been received for a seasonal toilet for Meavaig. It was suggested to investigate funding options before committing. It was also suggested that the toilet could be purchased as a Trading Company asset.</li> <li>A request to site a campervan for a few months on one of the hook-up sites has been received. More details were required before agreeing and whether they would be willing to pay a month in advance to secure payment.</li> </ul>	DW DW	Before next meeting

Item		Summary and Action		When?
		<ul> <li>Ranger Report (FBG)</li> <li>NatureScot have approved Ranger funding for the year ahead but, unfortunately, Bòrd na Gaidhlig have withdrawn their funding. Other avenues of funding will be investigated.</li> <li>Community Land Scotland have asked for the right to share a digital copy of the Trust book "A Future for North Harris" on their website. The Board agreed.</li> </ul>		
6.	AOCB	<ul> <li>CJM, BM &amp; MH attended the Bhaltos Trust 25-year anniversary celebration in Uig on Friday night.</li> <li>An approach has been received to lease an area of ground behind Waterstein. The intention was to tidy up the area and plant some trees. The Board felt the Trust staff could keep an eye on the area, contribute to tidying up periodically and plant trees therefore there was no reason to lease to another party.</li> </ul>	NHT staff	
7.	DONM	<ul> <li>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024</li> <li>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April – meeting with Auditor (tbc)</li> <li>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – AGM (tbc)</li> </ul>		