

NORTH HARRIS TRUST

MINUTE OF MEETING

TITLE : The North Harris Trust

DATE : 28:04:2014

VENUE : Tigh an Urrais

TIME : 7.30pm

Present: Calum MacKay, Barbara MacKay, Karen MacRae, David Wake, Diana MacLennan, Steve McCombe, Alistair MacLeod, Matt Watts, Mark Lazzeri, Donald J Cunningham, Ian MacSween, David Wake, Kenny MacKay, Tim Langley, CB Morrison,

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?
1. Apologies	Kenny MacLeod, Sheila Roderick, Mick Blunt, DJ Morrison		
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Minutes were approved by Barbara MacKay and seconded by Tim Langley.<u>Amhuinnsuidhe Cairn</u>: Alistair and Calum will meet with Jim Crawford and John Murdo Morrison to discuss the completion and outstanding finance for repairs.	Alistair/Calum	
3. Staff Reports	<p><u>Matters arising from Staff Reports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A discussion took place regarding whether it would be beneficial to ring fence any income from land sales to build up reserves for future projects. This has been done in the past and Alistair will check with ██████████, BoS, and CIB Services as to whether this option is feasible.Alistair met with West Harris Trust to discuss the response from BT regarding broadband provision. Further questions were raised and Alistair will draft a combined response to BT.Steve mentioned the poor telephone service in Hushinish and that there were concerns from local residents regarding the build up of sand on the approach road to the houses. It was felt that the Trust should approach local councillors and the Technical Services department to seek a solution to the problem. Diana will write a letter on behalf of the Trust.David raised concerns about the cost and return of the Scalpay wind turbine and will investigate a smaller option before committing to the project.David met with Ross-shire Engineering to discuss the Buna Hydro Project and was informed that costs were higher than originally anticipated. The financier is still keen to proceed and David will continue discussions.Mark is still awaiting a quote from the contractors interested in undertaking the Moliginish fencing project. He will contact them regarding the quote.A discussion took place regarding the need to upgrade the Cravadale footpath and whether there was funding available to do so. As funding seems to be limited at the moment, Matt suggested the possibility of organising some volunteers who would be able to work on the	Alistair Diana David Mark Matt	

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?	
	<p>Gleann Leosaid path and will try to arrange this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a good turnout at the common grazings mapping meeting with local crofters and the Crofting Commission. The Commission have taken away the maps and will return them to the Trust when they have made the amendments. • About 100 people attended the Trail West Ceilidh and next year's format will be discussed at a later date. • Matt attended the Mountain Leader course last week and felt it was beneficial. He will complete the remainder of the course next year. • It was discussed as to whether there was a need for staff to have chainsaw certificates and it was decided that it was not necessary. 			
4.	Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A monthly finance report was circulated. Alistair has circulated a spreadsheet to all staff for updating with information relevant to them. This information should be available at the next board meeting. • Steve mentioned that there has not been an increase in rent in the Trust's rental properties for a considerable time and no increase for the office flats. Alistair will check with HHP on what their procedure for rent increase is and will report back. It was felt that the Trust should follow the same procedure as HHP. 	Alistair	
5.	Scalpay Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ann-Marie informed the board of Scalpay progress to date on the Marina Project. Trust representatives on the Marina group felt that the time that meeting were held (2pm) was not suitable for them to attend. Ann-Marie will convey this at the next meeting. • The draft lease for Scalpay School has been received from Anderson MacArthur. Ann-Marie and Alistair will initially review the lease before returning to CNEs to finalise. It was suggested to include that the building be made wind and watertight before committing to the lease. • The Care Unit lease will also be reviewed. 	Ann-Marie/ Alistair	
6.	Land Manager Post	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark has accepted a new post on the mainland and will finish work with the Trust on Friday 16th May. Calum thanked him for his work with the Trust for the past two and a half years and wished him well with his new employment. 		
7.	AOCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The annual Community Land Scotland Conference will take place in Sabhal Mòr Ostaig on the 6th & 7th of June. Two Trust representatives are invited to attend and should inform Diana by 1st May. 		
8.	Date of Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 9th June 2014, Tigh an Urrais, 7.30pm 		