

NORTH HARRIS TRUST

MINUTE OF MEETING

TITLE : The North Harris Trust

DATE : 07:12:2015

TIME : 7.30pm

VENUE : Tigh an Urrais

Present: Calum MacKay, Tim Langley, Alistair MacLeod, Diana MacLennan, Ann-Marie Hewitt, Barbara MacKay, Steve McCombe, Kenny MacKay, Donald J Cunningham, Matt Watts, D J Morrison

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?
1. Apologies	Kenny MacLeod, Sheila Roderick, Cathy B Morrison, Ian MacSween, Karen MacRae, David Wake, John A MacDonald, Gordon Cumming		
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Minutes were approved by Kenny MacKay and seconded by Steve McCombe<u>Donnie MacKay</u>: Calum has spoken to Donnie MacKay and Donnie has specified that he is grateful for the thought but he does not want a gift of appreciation. He informed Calum that he enjoyed his involvement with the Trust and hopes to be involved in some capacity in the future.<u>Mountain Festival</u>: provisional dates of 3rd – 10th September have been set for next year's Mountain Festival.<u>Litter</u>: Steve was thanked for picking up the litter which had been collected at Hushinish by the JMT work party.<u>Foreshore</u>: Alistair is awaiting a response from Maggie MacKay regarding the acquisition of the foreshore.<u>SNH Ranger Funding</u>: there has been no decision yet regarding funding for the Ranger post from SNH.		
3. Staff Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none">After David meeting with the MP, Angus Brendan MacNeil, SSE have reduced the admin fee charge for the grid connection to £720 as a good will gesture.David had asked for board approval for £100 donation requested by CES to help with legal fees in objection to the government's proposed withdrawal of EIS tax relief on community energy schemes. Clarification is required before committing to donate.Calum wished Matt well on his new post in England and expressed the Trust's gratitude for Matt's commitment while working for the Trust. He also thanked Ann-Marie for her work as Scalpay Development Officer and wished her well in her new job in Stornoway.Matt had circulated a report on visitor number findings from the people counters on the Scalpay lighthouse path. The findings made interesting reading.A letter of thanks has been received from the Scaladale Centre for the Trust's co-operation		

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	<p>throughout the year. The Centre hope that links with the Trust can be strengthened in the years ahead.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was decided to submit a combined LEADER application for Ranger & Mountain Festival funding. • Alistair and Calum met with HIE and CnES regarding the Scalpay School site. They seem supportive and advocated a feasibility study. They suggested applying to the Capital Grant Scheme for funding and Ann-Marie will clarify the terms and conditions of the scheme before progressing. Alistair will contact Iain MacCulloch at HIE for an update on progress. • Ann-Marie has written to the Scalpay Community Council regarding the Care Unit. Hotel Hebrides have the lease at the moment but it was felt that social housing would be beneficial in the community. Ann-Marie will pursue costings for improvements and then CnES can be approached regarding a purchase price. • Ann-Marie is completing an end of grant report. • Gordon is awaiting tender prices from various contractors for the bridge improvements. • The soft play area in the Croileagan building is now open and the two groups using the building are delighted with the result. 			
4.	Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As both Matt and Ann-Marie are leaving at the end of the year, it was decided that David will remain in a 6 month half time contract. An internal discussion regarding workload allocation will take place amongst staff and Alistair will report back to Calum and Tim. 		
5.	HISEZ Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The company health check by HISEZ was discussed and it was felt that it was a reasonably good report overall but some questions were raised regarding specific recommendations in the report. It was decided to invite the HISEZ representatives to a meeting to discuss further. 		
6.	AOCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A ballot will be held for the retiring directors and advertised in the next De tha Dol? • Events newspaper has requested information on the Trust's activities in the past year. Alistair will send them this year's newsletters which contain all the information required. • Alistair will attend a meeting with HHP and CnES on Friday to discuss the sheep problem at the houses at Ceann an Ora. Barbara mentioned that there is also a very strong sewage smell in that area. • Calum will write a letter to Pairc Trust to congratulate them on taking ownership of the estate. • The AGM will be held on Monday 22nd February 2016. 		
7.	Date of Next Meeting	Monday 1st February 2016, 7.30pm in Tigh an Urrais		