

NORTH HARRIS TRUST

MINUTE OF MEETING

TITLE : The North Harris Trust

DATE : 16.01.17

TIME : 7.30pm

VENUE : Tigh an Urrais

Present: Calum MacKay, Barbara MacKay, Karen MacRae, Alistair MacLeod, Ian MacSween ,Kenny MacKay, David Wake, Lorna Wheeler, Steve McCombe
Tim Langley, Gordon Cumming, John Archie MacDonald, Robert MacKinnon

CJ Mackay opened the meeting by conveying the sympathies of the Board and Staff to the family of the late Donald MacLennan, Govig who passed away last week. Donald was involved in the original steering group before the purchase of the estate and the formation of NHT and he will be sadly missed in the North Harris Community.

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?
1. Apologies	CB Morrison, Diana MacLennan, DJ Cunningham, Kenny MacLeod & Donnie MacLeod		
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Alistair informed the group that negotiations are ongoing with EE as to the 4G coverage that will be available to homes along the Hushinish road after the installation of the two proposed new masts.Calum and Alistair attended a meeting of Western Isle Community Land Scotland Groups in Galson on 17th November. This was a successful event and it was agreed the NHT would host the next event which is scheduled for late February.		
3. Hushinish Gateway	<ul style="list-style-type: none">David informed the group that if commercial activity takes place at the site then the project will have to pay VAT. The options around this are to operate the facility with an honesty box and not charge people which would mean we wouldn't need to pay VAT. The other option is to operate the campervan site commercially and pay VAT on that part of the project alone which would equate to approx £8000 of VAT charges. The main NHT Board will need to sign off on this decision and it was agreed to go with the first option and have the site run entirely on a donation basis.Two companies responded to the tender, [REDACTED]. Both came in over the £270,000 budget. [REDACTED] and David presented a set of savings that have been identified to bring the price in line with the budget, these were approved by the board. Additional costs which were not included in the tender such as the electricity connection to the campsite were discussed and the board approved an additional £14,000 of NHT funding to cover these costs.It was agreed that temporary toilet facilities would need to be put in place for the summer season down at Husinish for visitors. It was suggested the CNES be approached to see if they would offer some financial assistance towards this.		

Item		Summary and Action	Who?	When?
4.	Staff Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DW explained the proposed replacement of the turbine at Urgha by Hadrian Electrical and will report back with to the board with their full proposal. Alistair is meeting with Iain MacCulloch (HIE) on 17th Jan to discuss the feasibility study of Scalpay School. Gordon is going to meet Roddy MacMinn (SNH) to discuss the implications of us accepting the funding from the Agri-Environment Climate Scheme- Moorland Management Grant. Karen has received an answer from Anderson Mac and the [REDACTED] Further guidance will be sought as to the next step. 		
5.	Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A financial report was presented. 		
6.	AGM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AGM will be held in the Tarbert Community Centre on Monday 20th February at 7:30pm. 	Alistair	By next meeting
7.	Date of Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 27th February 2017 		