

# NORTH HARRIS TRUST

## MINUTE OF MEETING

**TITLE** : The North Harris Trust

**DATE** : 21:08:2017

**TIME** : 7.30pm

**VENUE** : Tigh an Urrais

**Present:** Calum MacKay, Tim Langley, Diana MacLennan, Barbara MacKay, Steve McCombe, Karen MacRae, Gordon Cumming, Robert MacKinnon, Kenny MacLeod, Lorna Wheeler, D J Morrison, David Wake, Daryll Brown

Calum expressed sympathy for the passing of his brother to Kenny MacKay and his family.  
Calum also welcomed Gordon Cumming to the meeting in his new role as Manager of the Trust.

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?
1. Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cathy B Morrison, Kenny MacKay, Donnie MacLeod, Ian MacSween, John Archie MacDonald</li></ul>		
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Minutes were approved by Calum MacKay and seconded by Kenny MacLeod.</li><li>Gordon and Calum will meet with representatives from HHP on 28<sup>th</sup> August to discuss the possibility of housing on NHT land. They would welcome any suggestions of any areas for potential housing from any directors before the meeting. Several possible areas were discussed and these will be suggested to the representatives.</li><li>Gordon will attend the next Trading Company meeting.</li><li>As the Bridges Project has come in within budget so far, Gordon has not asked for payment for the Glean Meavaig road repairs from the army yet. He will review this when all invoices and payments are finalised.</li><li>Steve has sourced an old photo of Hushinish for the new Gateway building.</li></ul>		
3. Staff Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>It has been identified that there is access to the [REDACTED]</li><li>A Chemical Disposal Point has been installed at the depot and will be open to the public tomorrow. It will be available during normal recycling depot hours and at a charge of £3 initially. It is a slot meter payment system that is installed in the Disposal Point at Hushinish.</li><li>As there are three staff members at the recycling depot Steven and Luke can undertake various maintenance jobs throughout the estate.</li><li>[REDACTED]</li><li>It was suggested to hold a barbeque for the John Muir volunteers in September at the Huisinis</li></ul>		

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	<p>Gateway. It was also suggested that local resident, Chirsty MacKinnon, be asked to officially open the building.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gordon has received money from the Community Councils for the Gunnera eradication programme and will publish an advisory article in the De tha Dol again. He is also hoping to set up a Facebook page specifically for the eradication programme.</li> <li>• Gordon also hopes to organise a training course in early October to create a network of qualified operatives around Harris. As the course is costly he plans to sell some of the places to commercial operators but if this is not successful he'll have to cancel the course.</li> <li>• Hannah Baird has completed her summer placement work with the Trust and Gordon has been assured that the Trust will receive a comprehensive report from Glasgow University on her findings.</li> <li>• Gordon gave thanks to Steven and Luke for their hard work around the estate over the past couple of weeks.</li> <li>• Daryll updated the Board on walks numbers this season and informed that the wildlife walks seemed to be most popular.</li> <li>• The timber in the boardwalk of the Eagle Observatory has been repaired recently and Daryll recommends that all the timber is replaced. Repairs have been carried out at the bothy in Scalpay.</li> <li>• The theft of the donation box at the Eagle Observatory has been reported to the police.</li> <li>• Karen will attend a meeting of the Scalpay Playpark committee on Thursday for an update on their progress.</li> <li>• A discussion took place regarding the suggestions received from the CnES Heritage Service regarding the Whaling Station. It seems that the best option currently is to keep the site safe and from further deterioration.</li> <li>• Finance papers were presented.</li> </ul>			
4.	<b>Forward Planning Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gordon proposed to postpone the Forward Planning Day scheduled for September and hold community consultations first. This was discussed and agreed. It was felt that suggestion boxes be placed in the community and meetings held in Tarbert, Scalpay, Scaladale and Hushinish. Gordon will speak to Jane MacIntosh, HIE, to find out the best way to take the outcomes of the meetings forward to the Planning Day.</li> </ul>		
5.	<b>Scalpay Feasibility Study</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gordon spoke to Ian MacCulloch to familiarise himself with the progress of the study to date. The wording of the brief has been prepared but needs to be finalised. [REDACTED]. It was agreed that Gordon will meet with HIE and CnES and then arrange a meeting with a couple of directors to finalise the wording of the brief.</li> </ul>		
6.	<b>Mountain Festival</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daryll has received plenty bookings for the Mountain Festival with some events proving more popular than others. Tide Lines ticket sales have been popular and tickets will need to be produced for sale in local shops. Daryll would appreciate directors help at events during the week.</li> </ul>		

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7.	AOCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There have been several police incidents across the estate in the last couple of weeks including the theft of the donation box and unauthorised quad access through the Bowglas gate. Gordon asked if directors could report any suspicious activity they see.</li> <li>• Gordon asked whether the Board would approve the purchase of a second vehicle as with so many members of staff using the vehicle it is limiting access to outdoor work. A second hand 4x4 was suggested and agreed by the Board.</li> <li>• Approval was asked to extend Leosavay, Govig and Bedersaig Common Grazings to include an apportionment to allow the Govig crofters to build a livestock steading. This was agreed as it helps the Trust achieve their objectives as required by the Upland Habitat Management Plan.</li> </ul>	
8.	Date of Next Meeting	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> September 2017, 7.30pm in Tigh an Urrais	