



MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
OF  
THE NORTH HARRIS TRUST

MONDAY 24<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2014

7.30PM – HARRIS HOTEL, TARBERT

1. Apologies: Kenny MacLeod

Present: Calum MacKay, Cathy B Morrison, Kenny MacKay, Tim Langley, Ian MacSween, John A MacDonald, Mick Blunt, Donald J Morrison, Steve McCombe, Sheila Roderick, Donald J Cunningham, Alistair MacLeod, Matt Watts, Mark Lazzeri, David Wake, Karen MacRae, Diana MacLennan, Calum MacDonald, Sammy MacLeod, Robert MacKinnon, Hans Zeller, Edith Zeller, Ronnie Morrison, Jean Mills, John M Morrison, Kenny MacLean, Hector Murray, Calum MacAulay, Ann-Marie Hewitt, Margaret Hewitt, Christina Piazza, Donald A MacSween, Roddy Ferguson, P Myers, Richard Barrett, Duncan J MacLeod, Murdo F MacLeod, Alistair MacDonald, Margaret MacLennan, Karen MacDonald, John N Morrison, Kenny Morrison, Hugh Morrison, John Morrison, Jenny Kane, Chrissie MacLeod, Mairi MacDonald, Donnie MacLennan, Darren Cole, Christopher Griffiths, Roddy MacLeod, David Prentice, Mike Briggs, Peggy Briggs.

2. The minutes of the previous AGM were proposed by Kenny MacKay and seconded by Richard Barrett to be a true account of that meeting.

### **3. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman, Calum J Mackay, welcomed everyone to the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the North Harris Trust. A copy of the previous minute and the 11<sup>th</sup> annual report was distributed to everyone in attendance.

The Chairman's Report was circulated in the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Report

### **4. Staff Reports**

Staff reports were circulated in the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Report and individual members of staff gave brief updates.

### **5. APPROVAL OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS**

Calum MacDonald, CIB Services, gave a brief financial report and informed that the Trust accounts looked healthy. The audited accounts were approved.

### **6. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS**

CIB Services to be retained as auditors.

### **7. CONFIRMATION OF DIRECTORS**

Confirmation of directors approved.

## **9. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**

Concerns were raised regarding the proposed Co-op development and the Trust's intention to sell animal feed. It was felt that a lack of transparency was shown by the Trust.

Mr Calum MacKay, chairman, clarified the Trust's position and informed members that the Trust had been approached by the Co-op requesting land in North Harris and had been asked for confidentiality in the matter.

A question was asked as to whether local shopkeepers would receive a compensation package from North Harris Trust if their businesses did not survive due to the Co-op opening a shop in Tarbert. It was answered that talks with the Co-op had not progressed past initial discussion.

The meeting was asked to indicate by a show of hands if the Trust should continue to talk to the co-op and no hands were raised in favour. Following this the Chairman committed the Trust to carry out a public ballot on the matter.

An anonymous letter received from a local pensioner praising the service from local shops was read out by an attendee.

A local trader explained his position regarding the selling of animal feed and expressed his wish to continue to do so. The Chairman suggested that this matter could be resolved quickly by both parties meeting to discuss as soon as possible.

The Chairman then read out a letter received from a local crofter in support of continued supply of feed by Tarbert Stores.

A letter was also received from a local businessman, prior to the AGM, complaining about the impact the Trust's guided walks have had on his business. Calum MacKay responded by asking the individual to come into the office to discuss the matter further but he did not receive any response. The individual concerned raised his issues at the meeting and was invited to meet with Matt Watts to discuss the matter further.

A view that the Trust should be playing the major role in progressing the Harris Marina Project was also expressed by an individual. It was clarified that officer time within the Trust is limited due to other demands but the Trust will continue to support the project.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm