

# NORTH HARRIS TRUST

## MINUTE OF MEETING

**TITLE** : The North Harris Trust

**DATE** : 23:08:21

**TIME** : 7.30pm

**VENUE** : Tigh an Urrais and Zoom

- Present: Michael Hunter, Calum MacKay, Barbara MacKay, Robert MacKinnon, Phil Butterfield, Donnie MacLeod, D J Morrison, Diana MacLennan, Kate Lewis, Tim Langley, David Wake

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?
1.	<b>Apologies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Finlay MacLeod, Donald MacLeod, Phil Bertin, Kirsty MacKay, Paul Russ</li></ul>		
2.	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minutes were approved by Donnie MacLeod and seconded by Barbara MacKay</li></ul>		
3.	<b>Staff Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Michael has been in discussions with the Bank of Scotland regarding a beneficial way in holding capital in reserve. He is awaiting a response.</li><li>• It was decided that there was no current requirement for an overdraft facility. The overdraft can be reinstated in the future if needed.</li><li>• Positive feedback has been received about the Harris Warden Service. The wardens have suggested collating frequently asked questions into an information panel to improve visitor information.</li><li>• Clara's contract is coming to an end and she will be moving on in the next few weeks. John's contract is also due to end in October. Further funding has not been secured yet and a discussion took place regarding the best way to proceed with the Ranger Service. It was suggested that possibilities for John's future at the Trust be discussed with him.</li><li>• Michael suggested liaising with the Harris Development Officer in identifying and progressing housing sites. Michael will submit a request.</li><li>• It was decided to terminate the Friends of North Harris Trust programme as it has fulfilled its purpose and numbers are dwindling annually. A tab for donations in support of the Trust will remain on the website.</li><li>• A report from a member of the public was received regarding deer carcasses being dumped on Trust land. It was identified that ACE were the party that had dumped the carcasses and Michael contacted Innes about the matter. An assurance was given that the remains would be buried and that it would not happen again. Michael would like a condition in the lease that ACE ensure that carcasses are disposed of in a proper manner. Michael is meeting with Innes next week and will discuss the matter.</li></ul>	Michael Michael	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The owners of Belmont on the Main Street have asked for permission to use the area in front of their property for amenity purposes. They do not wish to purchase the area but Michael will prepare a Memorandum of Understanding. This was agreed.</li> <li>Progress is being made on the Distillery Bond project at Urgha.</li> <li>D J Morrison inquired whether there was any update on the Scottish Water site at Urgha. Michael will follow up.</li> <li>The Trust is now enrolled directly with Volunteer Scotland rather than through HVS due to a change in legislation around third-party information sharing.</li> <li>The Rangers have been working with the Youth Group, undertaking beach cleans, installing waymarkers and shore watch. The Group will meet again in September.</li> <li>David has received the engineer's report for the Urgha Gun Club area and will circulate to any directors if wished.</li> <li>Huisinis Gateway remains busy and with Kate logging campervan numbers David could compare campers and takings. It was discovered that people are only paying the suggested donation 48% of the time. It is proposed to collect payment next year.</li> <li>Urgha Depot remains operating on reduced hours with no update on skips from CnES. Sales continue to grow with the product range diversifying.</li> <li>Alasdair MacLeod is awaiting costings from the contractors for the Meavaig Housing Project.</li> </ul>	Michael		
4.	<b>NHCC Funding Request</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was agreed to donate the shortfall of £1275.92 to the North Harris Community Council for improvements to the Helipad. It was suggested to advise them of the WIDT small grant scheme for further funding and to suggest approaching the landlord, Bays of Harris, for a donation.</li> </ul>		
5.	<b>Piers, Jetties &amp; Slipways</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CnES informed Calum and Michael that various piers, jetties and slipways across the estate are in Trust ownership. Michael has queried this with the Harbour Master and is awaiting a response.</li> <li>CnES were approached by an individual to purchase the West Side Pier, which they believe is in Trust ownership. The Board discussed the matter and felt that the pier should remain in community ownership as the pier is widely used by locals and visitors.</li> <li>A further meeting with CnES and the Harbour Master is to take place and hopefully more information will be available for the next meeting.</li> </ul>		
5.	<b>AOCB</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unfortunately, Phil Bertin has tendered his resignation as Director for the Tarbert area due to work and other commitments. It was decided to advertise the vacancy rather than wait until the AGM for a replacement.</li> </ul>		
6.	<b>DONM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>27<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Note: subsequently postponed to Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021.</li> </ul>		