

NORTH HARRIS TRUST

MINUTE OF MEETING

TITLE : The North Harris Trust

DATE : 12:12:2022

TIME : 7.30pm

VENUE : Tigh an Urrais and Zoom

Present: Michael Hunter, Calum MacKay, Barbara MacKay, D J Morrison, Diana MacLennan, Robert MacKinnon, John Macdonald, Donald MacLeod, Kirsty MacKay, Lena Morrison, Paul Russ, Kate Lewis, Fañch Bihan Gallic

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?
1.	Apologies <ul style="list-style-type: none">Finlay MacLeod, Phil Butterfield, David Wake		
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none">Minutes were approved by Robert MacKinnon and seconded by Barbara MacKay.Katherine Rodgers has been appointed as the NHT Marketing Assistant and will start in post on 20th February. Kathryn will be in post until the 24th July 2023. She will be in Harris for the week of 20th February, and it was suggested to hold a Board meeting when she is here to allow her to attend and meet directors and staff in person.		
3.	Conflicts of Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none">No conflicts of interest were declared.		
4.	Community Consultation Feedback Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none">Community Consultation meetings were held in 4 areas in the estate with Scalpay being the best attended and Tarbert having the poorest turnout. Calum thanked directors and staff for attending the meetings.Michael presented a paper he had compiled of the points raised at each meeting and directors discussed and categorised each point following the Strategic Plan objectives. Staff will collate the outcomes and circulate the document amongst directors.Kate had received a suggestion of the Trust creating a community larder for locals to use for food produce storage/preparation. John suggested that the kitchen in the Tarbert CC could be used for this purpose as it is available for daily and hourly hire.It was suggested that the Trust website be used to market and promote local produce. This idea will be passed on to Kathryn to undertake in her role as Marketing Assistant.A discussion took place regarding the best way to provide housing for young people either on the island or wishing to return. Various options were discussed. Although the money for the sale of Quayside Cottages is ringfenced for housing, it would still require funding from outside	Staff	Before next board meeting

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	<p>agencies to complete a build. Calum suggested that the area previously considered for housing at Ardvoirie be revisited to possibly incorporate business space. The topic of housing is an ongoing discussion and open to ideas and suggestions.</p>			
5.	<p>Annual Strategic Plan Progress Appraisal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Strategic Plan was discussed, progress on objectives scored by the board and it was identified that progress on housing provision and supporting local business objectives are lagging behind the generally good progress for all other objectives. 		
6.	<p>Staff Reports and Matters Arising</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An application has been submitted to the Community Health & Wellbeing Fund for the West Tarbert Growing Project. Fañch continues to investigate funding avenues for continuation of the Ranger post via BnaG. The tree planting is going well with over 5000 trees planted to date. Fañch attended a meeting with various community groups to discuss the potential creation of a Western Isles Climate Action Hub. The hope is to have a project laid out by March 2023 so that the hub can be created by the end of the year. A meeting was held in Talla na Mara to reflect and give feedback on the Warden Service which Fañch attended. It was felt that there was very positive feedback from the community and an expectation that the Warden Service should continue in 2023. Fañch also attended a meeting regarding increased numbers of cruise ships visiting the Western Isles. The potential benefit for the local economy was discussed. It was suggested that NHT consider developing an Environmental Policy. It was agreed to appoint Mann Judd as auditors for NHT and NHTC as there were no cheaper options. John Fyall of Rural and Highland has had discussions with SSEN on behalf of NHT in relation to the overhead line at Ardhasaig. He advises that withholding consent for voluntary wayleaves is no longer going to be of benefit to NHT as SSEN are proceeding with compulsory servitude applications. The Board agreed that NHT should consent to voluntary wayleaves as long as the Ardhasaig crofters are understanding and in agreement. Good progress towards the allocated hind cull target is being made by Amhuinnsuidhe Castle, if time remains in the season, they shall be allocated up to a further 40 hinds from Huiseabhal beat. Three out of season stags were taken from the Caolas beat under the General Authorisation. Lena raised concerns regarding hinds and calves being taken as this was not an historic practice in North Harris. Michael explained the reasoning behind it. Michael has received advice from Maggie at Anderson Macarthur regarding the house site on croft 2 Ardhasaig. Maggie stated that the Trust could still be liable for the next 20 years if the house is passed to the incoming tenant without compensation to the previous tenant, or successors. She recommends that we contact the previous tenant and determine whether they wish to seek compensation in the first instance. The Board agreed to proceed on Maggie's advice. A meeting between HHP and Tarbert Common Grazings shareholders was held in relation to the planned housing at Scott Road. The grazings shareholders have all subsequently 		

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	<p>confirmed that that they are content to proceed with a resumption and sale of approximately 3 acres of their grazings. Crofting compensation is proposed at £12,000.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richard Williams (JMT) is proposing a visit on Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th January. It was agreed to hold the next Board meeting on the 23rd to allow Richard to attend. • The office heat pump has been replaced and the electrician is now completing the work. • It is planned to update the office printer after a visit from Highland Office Equipment which should slightly reduce costs. • Foreshore ownership has finally been completed and transferred. 			
7.	AOCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No business to be discussed. 		
8.	DONM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 23rd January 2023 		