



MINUTES – DIRECTOR’S MEETING 20 September 2010

1. Attendance.

Apologies: Angus Mackay

Attending: Neil Campbell (Secretary), Rhoda Macdonald, Roderick Macdonald, Murdo Mackay (Chairman), Robert Macleod Richard Maclellan, Mairi Macleod, Gordon Cumming and Finlay Maclellan.

2. Approval of Minutes 16th August 2010.

Minutes unanimously approved.

3. Matters arising.

Review of action plan.

- a) Interim Land Policy, the Chair updated directors on the Crofting Reform Bill and the implications for the Trust
- b) Friends of West Harris, newsletter to be sent when Paypal account re-opened
- c) The Trust has joined DTAS
- d) The Trust has submitted an application for registration as a Rural Housing Body
- e) Proposed house sites at Lusentyre may require re-positioning due to gradient from road, site visit arranged for the 23rd September.

4. Trust administration.

- a) Two dispositions signed over the month 7L & 1B
- b) Three tenant’s rents outstanding, directors agreed to contact
- c) 591 entries to date for prize draw
- d) Agreed to contact web designer to price a ‘news page’

5. Financial update.

Latest financial figures and projections submitted to meeting, Trust continuing to generate a surplus £2,468 for year to date (Annex A).

6. Lottery application update.

- Request for additional grant following reduction in CES grant refused

7. Website/Brochure

- Paypal not yet restored awaiting OSCR accreditation

8. Gleann Dubhlinn Hydro scheme.

- Final Report received from Fairhurst slight reduction in projected income due to lower than projected water flows.
- Meeting held with co-op bank for commercial loan
- Hoped to issue invitation to tenders by 30th September
- SSE grant application to be considered on the 27th September

9. Draft Press Release

Members reviewed the draft article for the Scottish Islands Explorer and agreed to issue a press release when the planning application for the house sites was submitted

10) South Harris Renewables

Bobby & Neil nominated as members of the steering group, it was agreed to keep under review the option of an additional turbine on the West Side

11) Community Land Network

It was agreed that Donald would attend the formation AGM

12) Helicopter Landing

It was agreed to grant consent

13) Brown Forbes Trust

It was agreed to investigate further

14) Horgabost Broadband Connection

It was agreed to submit an application to Leader for a grant to support a CONCOM mast to serve Horgabost (nine houses)

15) SRDP Applications

It was agreed to meet with Mick Blunt and discuss the option of him completing SRDP applications on behalf of Horgabost/Seilebost, Borve & Scaristavore townships. The Trust would if necessary lend townships funds to complete the applications

16) Lottery Logo

It was noted that all publicity material should carry the Lottery Logo

17) DTAS Knowledge & Skills Application

Directors were advised that CES are planning a study trip to hydro schemes and that they will submit an application to DTAS

18) Machinery Ring

It was agreed to request further information and suggest a meeting of all townships as a first step. (AP)

19) Co-op Day 9th October Stornoway

No representation from West Harris, CES would represent the Trust

20) AOCB

a) TIG AGM

It was agreed that Neil & Bobby would attend the AGM

b) Fundraiser Jamie at Home

Members were advised that Rhoda C, Kathleen & Morag were organising a fundraising Jamie at Home party

c) Allocations Policy

It was agreed to arrange a meeting to discuss this and to ask Derek Logie from the Rural Housing Scotland to attend and if possible our solicitor and a representative from TIG. Secretary to distribute draft policy to members. (AP)

Date of next meeting 20 October 2010.