

500/M/DIR/20100719

22 July 10

WHT Chairman
WHT Secretary
WHT Admin
WHT Directors



MINUTES – DIRECTOR’S MEETING 19 JULY 2010

1. Attendance.

Apologies: Gordon Cumming, Angus Mackay, Richard MacLennan, Robert Macleod.

Attending: Neil Campbell (Secretary), Rhoda Macdonald, Roderick Macdonald, Murdo Mackay (Chairman), Mairi Macleod, Finlay MacLennan, Donald A. Morrison (Administration).

2. Approval of Minutes 15 June 2010.

Minutes unanimously approved.

3. Matters arising.

Review of action plan.

- a) Shootings update, the offer from Russel Hird was accepted
- b) Brown Trout fishing's, the offer from Borve Lodge was accepted
- c) Raffle flyers had been distributed
- d) Ownership of Foreshore, Donald/Murdo to co-ordinate information and submit to Simon
- e) Offer of grid connection has been accepted by West Harris Renewables
- f) The Trust had made a submission against the closure of Shelibost school
- g) The school title did not show a right of pre-emption for the landlord.

4. Trust administration.

a. Prize Draw.

- Board notified that as of 19/07/2010 326 entries have been received, raising a total of £1630.00.

- Board notified that Paypal account has been suspended the Secretary to contact Paypal (AP)

- Board notified that as of 19/07/2010 53 of the 100 paper ticket books have been issued, the remainder to be held for sale during local summer events.

- Agreed to seek a presence at the South Harris Show, North Harris Show, and Golf Club events for the purpose of selling tickets. Volunteers to be sought to attend these events and represent the Trust. (AP)

b. May 2010 Rent

- Board notified that of the £935.85 due as May 2010 rentals, £873.65 has been paid, with £62.20 remaining outstanding.

c. Gleann Dubhlinn Hydro Scheme – Grant applications

Following on from circulation of briefing note at last meeting (Ref. 200/F/PrivateFundersBriefing1); Board notified that within the next month applications will be made to two Trusts for capital grants of £50,000 each. (AP)

5. **Authority to open additional bank accounts.**

Authority unanimously granted for the opening of a second Treasurer's bank account with the Bank of Scotland, Tarbert for the receipt of lottery money.

6. **Proposed forestry scheme.**

The suggestion of a scheme adjacent to the 'coffin road' track was accepted and passed to the grazings committee for comment.

7. **Land for horticulture.**

It was agreed to add this to the next update in De Tha Dol (AP)

8. **Local housing strategy consultation.**

- Local authority housing strategy consultation circulated.

- Agreed that the Trust will make representations for the reintroduction of housing grants and in the event of expansion of housing stock, primary consideration should be given to needs of rural areas.

9. **Financial update.**

Latest financial figures and projections submitted to meeting (Annex A).

10. **Lottery application update.**

- Board briefed on Lottery's requirement that there should be a separate bank account for holding funds received.

- Main payment for Hydro scheme remains on hold, though Board advised that the Lottery are willing to consider immediate part-payment to be put towards salary of Development Officer.

- Resolved that Board will await publication of final Hydro Feasibility Report before proceeding further.

11. **Website/Brochure** No update

12. **Gleann Dubhlinn Hydro scheme.**

- Board advised that contract for provision of Grid connection between Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc and West Harris Renewables Ltd has been received and signed.
- Advised that an advert has been placed in the De Tha Dol in order to recruit individuals willing to serve as directors of West Harris Renewables, with a particular emphasis on those with applicable and relevant expertise.
- Board advised that detailed Hydrological assessment has not yet been finalised. Further progress on hold until report's conclusions are known.

13. **Wind Farm study.**

Board briefed on West Lewis and South Harris Community Wind Turbine Feasibility Study by Atmos Consulting. Discussion of various sites suggested by report. Archaeological and planning implications of various sites considered. Resolved to explore matter in greater detail as a supplement or as an alternative to Hydro project.

14. **Assignment, 3 Scaristavore.**

Assignment of tenancy noted.

15. **13 Seilebost absentee tenant, policy considerations.**

Situation of tenant of 13 SB considered. Resolved that a policy should be drawn up with the aim of encouraging active utilisation of crofts throughout the estate. Chairman to prepare draft policy for consultation. (AP)

16. **Community Land Scotland.**

Update noted

17. **AOCB.**

- a) Draft of article prepared by Community Land Network discussed. Resolved that the Secretary should convey the thanks of the Trust, along with suggested corrections to the article. (AP)
- b) Meeting 20th with Ian Taylor noted
- c) Presentation 17th August by Big Lottery noted
- d) Suitability of a site in West Harris for a wave development noted, the Chair to express our interest and a request for a meeting (AP)
- e) The Chair advised that our solicitor has agreed a higher figure with the Comhairle arising from the roadwork's north of Luskentyre junction
- f) Offshore wind and sea planning public meeting 13th August- noted

Date of next meeting 16 August 2010.