

MINUTES – DIRECTOR’S MEETING 24th May 2016

1. **Attendance.**

Present: Murdo Mackay (Chairman), Neil Campbell (Secretary), Dougie Ferguson, Roddy Macdonald, Rhoda MacDonald, Norman Iain Mackay, Finlay MacLennan, Neil Macdonald, Duncan MacPherson (Commercial Development Manager), Anna Helfrich (Centre & Events Manager)

2. **Apologies:** Fiona Mackenzie, Richard MacLennan and Deborah Coghill (Administrator).

3. **Declaration of Interest:** There were No Declarations of Interest

4. **Approval of Minutes of 19th April 2016**

The minutes were approved.

5. **Matters Arising:** It was agreed that the AGM should be postponed until 19th August to include community welcome to the new centre.

6. **Review of Action Points**

It was agreed that a meeting to discuss the Flensburg students’ findings would be arranged for the 7th June.

7. **Updates**

Financial

A monthly report for the West Harris Trust was shown (see Appendix 1). It was agreed that in 2017 the Talla na Mara hook-ups would open for the full season and Seilebost hook-ups would open mid-May due to poor uptake in April.

Commercial Development Manager’s Report

The Report was noted (see Appendix 2).

Pairc Niseaboist – Community Building – The completion date has been moved to the middle of July, however following the boards site visit it was agreed that this was optimistic. It was noted that valuations of £250,000 a month would be required to completed budgeted works within this timescale.

HHP - Dougie reported that works are estimated two weeks ahead of schedule. Work has started on the second pair of houses. Duncan has a meeting on the 25th May to discuss broadband provision.

Pairc Niseaboist Power - Neil Campbell and Roddy MacLennan have agreed to be directors of the new company.

New community Land owners – Keose Glebe have their formal handover on 28th May and Pairc Trust on 18th June.

CEC Manager's Report

The Report was noted (see Appendix 3).

Brand Development - The board approved costs within the CEC budget.

TIG funding for energy saving measures - Anna also reported that she had registered an interest and would apply for £750 for both the Old School and the Centre.

8. AOCB

Broadband – The ConCom connectivity has been tested by a potential tenant and will not be adequate for complex data downloads. Also, ConCom will only commit repairing failed connections within three days. The potential tenant at the Centre has had to withdraw for these reasons. The failure to secure the four jobs the tenant would have generated will be reported to those overseeing the broadband delivery project.

CLS Conference - Friday 27th and Saturday 28th May. Duncan encouraged board members to sign up to attend if possible.

Land Sales Policy – Murdo has written a draft policy to be circulated to directors for comment before going out to the community. The Council have a meeting with the Crofting Commission on the 6th June, Murdo to update.

Harris Draff Group – The board discussed the Draff Group's request for funding for a trailer to distribute draff to cattle producers as feed. The board agreed to give a donation of £100.

Clay Pigeon shooting – A resident has asked if the Trust would consider reinstating a shoot on the machair at Seilebost. It was thought that this site would not be suitable. The Stocleit quarry was suggested as an alternative.

9. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 21st June 2016 at 7.30pm in Seilebost School.

Diary Dates for future meetings:

- June 21st
- August 16th
- September 13th
- October 11th
- November 15th
- December 13th