

MINUTES – DIRECTOR’S MEETING 26th APRIL 2017

1. **Attendance:**

Present: Murdo Mackay (Chairman), Neil Campbell (Secretary), George Macleod, Roddy Macdonald, Dougie Ferguson, Norman Iain Mackay, Rhoda Macdonald, Finlay MacIennan, Neil Macdonald, Anna Helfrich (Centre and Events Manager) and Linda Armstrong (Office Manager).

Apologies: Richard MacIennan

2. **Declaration of Interest:**

3. **Approval of Minutes 21st March 2017**

This item has been removed due to for confidentiality reasons. Once the need for confidentiality is passed, this will be reinstated.

The minutes were approved.

4. **Review of Action Points**

- **Talla na Mara official opening** - A request has been made to the office of The Princess Royal. A decision is expected in late July.
- **Soundproofing (Talla na Mara)** – The business unit tenants have asked that the work in remedying the soundproofing between units 2 and 3 wait until the end of the season, preferably the last week in October. One tenant will have to move out to allow the works to proceed. It is expected that the remedial works will take one week to complete. Anna to contact Ron.
- **Projector Training** – It was agreed that training would take place for directors and volunteers in the use of sound, light and projector equipment once all equipment has been purchased.
- **The Cliff access road** – Kenny Carrier has been asked to quote to resurface the road. Anna to get a comparison quote.
- **BT Compensation** – Directors agreed to accept compensation of £245.16 for delays in installing a phone line to Talla na Mara.
This item has been removed due to for confidentiality reasons. Once the need for confidentiality is passed, this will be reinstated.
- **AGM Date** – Accounts have not yet been received so unable to set a date for the AGM. 2016 AGM held on 9th September.

5. **Financial**

Monthly WHT report for March (Appendix 1) and quarterly report for WHRL (appendix 2) were distributed prior to the meeting and were duly noted.

Talla na Mara fixtures and fittings - There are approximately £11,000 worth of fixtures and fittings remaining to be purchased, with only £3,000 left in the budget. It was agreed, that if necessary, £10,000 could be taken from core admin to fund the purchase.

Turbine Report

The report was duly noted (see Appendix 3).

- **Hydro** - Angus West was on site today and fitted parts sent by Matthew Fletcher, Renewables First which should allow the hydro to run automatically.
- **Horgabost Wind Turbine:** The turbine head is to be removed and sent back to Xant for repairs which are expected to take a minimum of two months to complete.

Centre and Events Manager's Report

The report was duly noted (see Appendix 4).

- **Signage** – Anna was surprised to learn of the high cost of planning permission required for road side signs for Talla na Mara. It was suggested that she look into permitted developments, which allow a landowner to position signs on their own land if they adhere to certain rules. It was also suggested, that if planning permission is required, business unit tenants be asked to contribute towards the cost.
- **Campervan Waste Disposal Enclosure** - Quote of £1000 received to fence in the waste disposal, bins and water. Dougie volunteered to provide labour, if no immediate deadline for the work.
- **Land for Growing Vegetables** - A number of requests have been received for land close to Talla na Mara, to be used for growing vegetables. It was agreed to offer plots below Talla na Mara.
- **Talla na Mara Bin Collection** - At present, Talla na Mara only receives a fortnightly bin collection, despite other businesses in the area getting a weekly collection. Anna to draft a letter to CnES making a case for weekly collections.

Development Officer's Report

The report was duly noted (see Appendix 5).

- **Niseaboist Signage** - Potential wording of 'Due to environmental damage at this site, patrons are asked to use designated campsites' was suggested. Lisa to contact Peter Caldwell at SNH for advice.

6. Health and Safety

There was no update.

7. AOCB

Pontoon: It will be June before the pontoon is installed. The moorings are to be inspected prior to installation.

Royal Bank of Scotland Account: Permission was granted for Linda to apply for an RBS account.

CLS Survey/General Discussion New Directors: A survey has been received requesting information on the age and gender of board directors. It has highlighted the fact that the Trust could do better in attracting younger members of the community and also more females. It was agreed that new directors would be encouraged to stand for election at the next AGM.

Cockle Pickers: A member of the community has contacted the Trust, concerned that a cockle picker has been frequently driving their vehicle on Seilebost beach whilst cockle picking. It was agreed to make contact with the individual, and ask that they no longer drive off the road as this is a road traffic offence.

It was also agreed to look into licensing of the cockle fishery. Duncan MacInnes, Western Isles Fisheries to be asked for input.

This item has been removed due to for confidentiality reasons. Once the need for confidentiality is passed, this will be reinstated.

8. **Brainstorming**

A new section in the agenda, to encourage discussion on potential future projects for the Trust.

- Housing
- Updated business plan

9. **Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 23rd May 2017 at 7.30pm at Talla na Mara.

Diary Dates for future meetings:

- June 20th
- August 15th
- September 19th
- October 10th
- November 14th
- December 12th