

## Development Officer Update – 27th June 2017

### Seilebost School

We have received 2 bids for the design work to be completed. Porteous Architecture and LDN Architecture. Both submissions have been circulated.

We have had 2 enquiries for space at the school in the past couple of weeks. CL was looking for space for catering/cookery school. I suggested that he should apply when space is advertised when renovation is underway. Hebridean Design Company need a bit of extra space for storage and possible production with one of their machines as. Could we look to rent them the canteen side of the school for 3 months short term? The heating isn't working in the school, an engineer from Barnies will be down next week in Harris and will come and have a look at this.

On Wednesday we had a visit to the centre from the Big Lottery Fund, she had a visit to the school and we discussed funding options. Not the kind of project that they would be looking to fund.

### Rural Housing

I have sent mini briefs to Highland Small Communities Housing and Rural Housing for them to provide me with a quote for a feasibility study. I already have a quote from TIG for this. I'll need 3 quotes for the funding application. SSE has also sent information to connection team at SSE for quote for moving the electricity poles at the potential site at Horgabost.

### Signage at Niseaboist Beach & Community Pathways

A funding application was submitted last week for a small amount of funding to upgrade the path down to Niseaboist Beach. I was in touch with the Archaeologist at the council and he thinks it might be beneficial to the Trust if we arranged a meeting. He would like to show me the Sites and Monuments Record for West Harris in order to consider the wider historic environment. He also recommends that I meet the manager of the Comhairle Heritage Service. He will be able to advise of funding possibilities for signage etc.

### VHF System & Generator

The VHF test should have been completed by the time we have our meeting to ensure it works. The radios will then be kept in the comms cupboard and be distributed in the event of severe weather.

The generator is now in the shed, feel free to have a look at it. I have contacted Ian Ross at Barnies who will arrange for it to be wired into the system. The plan is it would be manually switched on if the power went off. A switching programme was suggested so we know what needs to be switched off and on when the power goes off. When it is connected an engineer from Dieselec Thistle will come to commission it.

### Woodland Trust Tree Pack

The pack that was due to arrive in November can be changed to arrive in March instead. I will re-submit the original application in September. The Woodland Trust agreed that the winter environment here might not be the best to plant the saplings.

Lisa MacDonald

Development Officer

21<sup>st</sup> June 2017