

MINUTES – DIRECTOR’S MEETING on the 5th February 2024 at 6.30pm in Talla na Mara

1. Attendance

Present: Norman MacKay (Chair), Andrew MacDonald, Rhoda MacDonald, Mairi MacKenzie, Finlay MacLennan, Richard MacLennan, George MacLeod, Linda Armstrong (Commercial Manager) and Deborah Coghill (Office Manager)

Also, in attendance was Maggie MacKay from Anderson MacArthur to review the Articles of Association with the Directors. Maggie left the meeting at 7.17pm.

2. Apologies: Neil MacDonald, Roddy MacDonald

3. Declarations of Interest: Mairi MacKenzie re shooting geese and TnM Polycrub.

4. Approval of Minutes: The Minutes of 30 November 2023 and 12 December 2023 were approved along with the decisions taken by email.

5. Matters Arising/Review of Action Points:

Luskentyre Water Pipe: Directors are happy to proceed with the quote received from Duncan MacKay’s subject to an amendment suggested by Scottish Water.

New Trust Bank Account: The Directors approved that a new Bank Account could be set up for the Trust so that we are covered by the FCA protections.

VAT Review: The Directors also agreed that a VAT review could be carried out.

Payroll: The Directors agreed that the payroll could be contracted out to Mann Judd Gordon.

6. Updates:

Financial

March Cash Flow Projections were reviewed.

Commercial Manager’s Report

Plot at 10 Scaristavore: The Directors felt that the Trust was not in a position to offer a plot discount currently, however would convene a meeting of the housing subgroup to review the application.

Wildfowl shooting: (Mairi left at 7:53) Mairi requested to shoot wildfowl on the estate to which the Directors agreed, subject to Grazing/Crofter consent. (Mairi returned at 7:56)

Signatories: It was agreed that Norman Ian and Richard would be added as signatories on the main Trust Bank Account.

PNP: Norman Ian agreed to replace Neil Campbell as a Director of PNP.

Staff Wages: The Directors agreed a 4.2% pay rise, in line with inflation, effective from 1/1/2024, and also to pay staff at a rate of time and a half for occasional overtime. It was also agreed to advertise again for an Administrator post until the end of October.

Insurance: Options for savings were discussed.

Crossroads: The Directors considered a request for funding from Crossroads and agreed to make a one off donation of £1000.

Gift Shop: Approval was given to buy a reception desk for the Gift Shop.

Facilities Update was noted.

7. **Health and Safety:** No issues were reported.

8. **AOCB:** Restriction on use of synthetic fertilisers and pesticides in TnM Polycrub (Mairi left at 8:39) As the polycrub is used by a variety of users, including those with children and pets, the Directors agreed to restrict the use of synthetic fertilisers and pesticides in the Polycrub. (Mairi returned at 8:40).

Weddings: The majority of the Directors agreed to the removal of the marquee frame as soon as possible.

(Finlay left at 8.52pm)

After some discussion, the Directors agreed to that going forward, weddings of no more than 60 guests will be offered at Talla na Mara. Pricing structure to be agreed.

9. **Close:** Meeting finished at 9.16pm

Date of Next Meeting: 16th April 2024

Proposed dates for 2024

21st May

18th June