

MINUTES – DIRECTOR’S MEETING 11th October 2016

1. Attendance.

Present: Roddy Macdonald (Acting Chairman), Neil Campbell (Secretary), Rhoda MacDonald, Dougie Ferguson, Richard MacLennan, Duncan MacPherson (Commercial Development Manager), Anna Helfrich (Centre & Events Manager and Finlay MacLennan.

2. Apologies: Murdo MacKay, Fiona MacKenzie, Norman Iain Mackay

3. Declaration of Interest: Richard MacLennan AOCB – Mobile Food Trailer

4. Approval of Minutes 20th September 2016

The minutes were approved.

5. Action Points

6. Updates

Financial

Monthly Report for August was presented (see Appendix 1) and duly noted.

Commercial Development Manager’s Report

The Report was duly noted (see Appendix 2).

Works connected to the Gleann Dubhlinn Hydro scheme are almost complete with landscaping progressing well. Damage to the roadside outside the houses to be repaired.

It was noted that some works were still to be done at the junction of the wind turbine access track, including pipe installation and laying a strip of tarmac at the end of the track to prevent stones washing into the road. It was also noted that the ditch alongside part of the access track had silted up about 150m from the roadside. The contractor would be asked to resolve this.

The estimated completion date for the CEC is mid-November. The permanent water supply is required to be connected before the heat store tanks can be filled in the energy shed. The project is due to come in on budget but spending on furniture, fixtures and fittings not included in the contract will need to be delayed until VAT is reclaimed at the end of the project.

The estimated completion date for the HHP houses is 25th October. The Trust have not been informed if the houses have been allocated.

CEM Report

The Report was duly noted (see Appendix 3)

Anna provided a verbal update on the restaurant tenancy negotiations. The tenants have agreed that access to the community half of the hall would not be limited or seasonal. The tenants will be granted use of the area only if it is not required by the community.

The Director's agreed that the additional cost of coin operated laundry equipment could not be justified. The option of metering the machines was suggested.

A local history exhibition on the Harris Raiders was suggested for the future.

7. AOCB

Broadband:

No update this month.

Land Sales Policy:

In Murdo's absence it was decided to defer this matter to the next meeting.

House Plots:

An application for one house site was considered by the allocations committee today, the 11th October 2016.

Mobile Food Trailer:

Richard MacLennan outlined his plans for a mobile food business. The environmental health officer has approved plans: however the landowner's consent is required before a trading license is issued. Planning permission is not required as the unit is mobile. The Trailer would be approximately 18ft and would be licensed to trade throughout Harris, and events elsewhere. The proposal is to serve quality fast food but not compete with current businesses in terms of location and menu (e.g. offering Fish & Chips) The two sites in West Harris identified are the layby at the entrance to Horgabost Campsite and the parking area as you enter West Harris from the North. The trailer would be moved approximately every two to three days and would run on generators until a planned permanent supply at Horgabost was installed.

Richard left the meeting: The Director's agreed that there was a need for additional provision in the summer and also that extending the season would be beneficial. It was agreed that the main customer base for the restaurant at Talla na Mara would be different to that of a takeaway facility and that the restaurant was likely to be at maximum capacity at peak times. The main concern of the Director's was rubbish, however it was noted that in his current business Richard manages a very large amount of rubbish, both from his own customers, local residents and visitors at his own expense and in a very responsible manner. It was agreed to allow the Trust's land to be used by

the business. A letter of consent would be drawn up and Duncan was asked to consider an appropriate rental.

Fank Pen:

Finlay pointed out that the surface of the fank pen behind the Cliff building had not bound well after the construction of the shed and that he was gathering finer material from elsewhere to address this. Duncan agreed to ask the contractors if there was any excess hardcore excess hardcore from Talla na Mara or the Hydro Scheme whether these could be used to make these repairs.

Approval of Talla na Mara Policies:

Bookings Policy, Equal Opportunities Policy, Fire Safety Policy and Health and Safety Policy approved. It was suggested that a “Works Permit System” was also put in place.

8. Date of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 15th November 2016 at 7.30pm in Seilebost School.

Diary Dates for future meetings:

- December 13th 2016