

## **MINUTES – DIRECTOR’S MEETING 18<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2014**

### **1. Attendance.**

Present: Neil Campbell (Secretary and acting Chair), Finlay Maclellan, Rhoda Macdonald, Norman Iain Mackay, Neil Macdonald, Roddy Macdonald, Duncan Macpherson (Commercial Development Manager) and Linda Green (Administrator).

Apologies: Richard Maclellan, Dougie Ferguson, Murdo Mackay and Fiona Mackenzie.

### **2. Approval of Minutes 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014**

The minutes were unanimously approved.

### **3. Review of Action Points**

#### **- Design of Luskentyre water and electricity supply**

It is hoped that a surveyor will arrive tonight (21/01/14) in order to price the work to be carried out on the electricity supply at Luskentyre.

#### **- SGRPID Estate Records**

Records have now been received for Scaristavore, Borge, Seilebost and Horgabost.

#### **- Tackle BT on Broadband Provision**

Murdo, Duncan and Alastair MacLeod (North Harris Trust) have compiled a list of questions to be submitted to BT and Stuart Robertson (HIE).

### **4. Updates**

#### **Financial**

The report was noted, see appendix 1.

### **Commercial Development Managers Report**

The Report was noted, see appendix 2. The following updates were given at the meeting:

#### ***Glen Dubhlinn Hydro Scheme***

Duncan received an outline proposal on a financing scheme just before the meeting so had not yet had time to read it. Once read, Duncan will send a summary to directors.

#### ***Rubha Romagaidh – Wind turbine***

Duncan has been in contact with Jura Development Trust about the possibility of borrowing their wind monitoring equipment to measure potential wind generation at the Rubha Romagaidh site. It is estimated that it will cost between £400 and £500 to calibrate the equipment and transport from Jura. The information generated from the use of the equipment will be helpful when sourcing finance for the project.

## **5. AOCB**

### ***Lottery Grant Allocation***

It was discussed at the director's meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2013 that any remaining Lottery grant would be allocated to the purchase of Seilebost School. This was amended to the purchase and redevelopment of Seilebost School.

### ***Additional Outcome for Lottery***

The case officer working on the funding application for Rubha Romagaidh has suggested that an additional outcome would strengthen the application. The directors agreed to add the following outcome to the application.

“The community of West Harris work together to develop a community enterprise centre that will contribute to the sustainability of the community”

### ***Scaristavore Dyke***

Part of the dyke running through Scaristavore had been removed from one croft and taken to another for rebuilding linked to a new house, causing some expressions of concern by community members. Anderson Macarthur are looking into the legal position but are fairly confident that dykes belong to the landlord with tenants having an obligation to maintain them, but having no right to dispose of any parts of them.

It was decided that Duncan would write to both parties asking that no further dyke sections be removed but that they would not be asked to reinstate the dyke in question, as both had acted in good faith. All tenants will also be informed in writing of the legal position at a later date in order to preserve the dykes on the estate. It was also decided that the Trust would look into possible sources of funding with a view to bringing dilapidated sections back into good condition to preserve it for the future.

### ***SRDP Consultation***

To be revisited next month.

### ***CNES Land Use Consultation***

CNES are currently reviewing their crofting/land use policy and as such have asked that the community land sector contributes to the development of this policy. Directors were asked if they had any suggestions. One that came up was that of coastal erosion/protection. This will be revisited next month when directors have had time to think of any further issues.

### ***DTAS (Development Trusts Association Scotland)***

DTAS have advised that they have a fund that offers small grants to development trusts that would like to send one or more of their directors/staff on a ‘fact finding’ visit to other development trusts.

### ***Website***

It was suggested that the trusts' website could be updated with information about the area being added. It was decided that other community websites should be researched and report back next month.

### **Diary Dates for future meetings:**

- March 18<sup>th</sup>
- April 15<sup>th</sup>
- May 13<sup>th</sup>
- June 17<sup>th</sup>
- Aug 19<sup>th</sup>
- Sept 16<sup>th</sup>
- Oct 21<sup>st</sup>
- Nov 18<sup>th</sup>
- Dec 16<sup>th</sup>