

## **COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGER UPDATE – 13<sup>th</sup> August 2015**

***This item has been removed for confidentiality but will be restored when confidentiality is no longer required.***

### *Scarista Wind turbine*

A formal contract for FIT payments from SSE is expected next week which will then allow payment of accrued income. This will be in the region of £50,000. SIS have agreed not to take capital repayments until the end of September.

### *Horgabost Wind Turbine*

Planning permission has been granted for the Xant turbine. A formal proposal on installation and operation is expected from Xant and other investors by the end of August.

### *Pairc Niseaboist- Community Building*

The water main was finally moved on 5<sup>th</sup> August and rock drilling and blasting is now underway on site. This should be completed by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August, allowing foundations to be laid the following week. The steel is close to the end of the fabrication process.

It is proposed to install a campervan toilet waste facility as an extra to the site after Malcolm Maciver advised that this would not impact negatively on the septic tank system. Directors will be asked to make a decision on this at the board meeting.

### *Pairc Niseaboist- HHP Housing*

HHP and Rural Design are progressing the detailed design of the 6 housing units with a potential start in January. An article will be placed in De Tha Dol next week asking for expressions of interest in shared equity housing.

### *Pairc Niseaboist Community Energy Project*

The Low Carbon Infrastructure Transition Programme (LCITP) has awarded grant for the study into using surplus energy from the wind turbine for a mini district heating system and battery storage which is being progressed by Smarter Grid Solutions. Hebrides Metocean are carrying out a seabed survey for a potential site for Albatern's wave energy device and Hebridean Marine Services have installed a Waverider buoy to measure waves. Requests for legal and financial advice are currently out to tender.

LCITP & HIE will fund a trip to Glasgow for me on 7-8<sup>th</sup> September to attend a workshop on applying for capital funding from the Local Energy Challenge Fund (LECF) and to meet with representatives of the Renewable Energy Investment Fund (REIF) and the Green Investment Bank (GIB) along with David Campbell of Albatern. LECF will open to applications in the autumn for spend from April 2016 and is the most likely source of funding for any technologies at Pairc Niseaboist identified during the current feasibility study process. Loan finance from REIF and GIB is likely to be a component of the funding package for the wave energy device.

### *Plot sales*

The loan agreement with CnES is now in place for the development of the Luskentyre plots. The linked agreement with the 1<sup>st</sup> self-builder is expected to be settled shortly allowing the Trust to pay for the grid connection works and contract for the installation of the water main.

Several expressions of interest have been made in moving to Harris in the last few weeks but no valid formal applications have been received.

*Horgabost Pontoon*

The pontoon has been repaired and reinstalled.

Duncan MacPherson

13/08/2015