

Commercial Manager Update – 17th August 2017

Updates

Confirmed bookings:

- Unfortunately, John Maher's exhibition for the National Photography Festival isn't going to be ready in time but this means that we can host the UHI and Community Land Scotland "Community Land Movement in Harris" exhibition as part of the Isle of Harris Mountain Festival. This will include a Gallery exhibition, film production and screening.
- Point and Sandwick have booked a conference in October.
- People Matters have booked a 2-day training event with half hall hire, full catering including B&B at Hotel Hebrides in October.
- One wedding ceremony and one wedding reception confirmed for 2018 and one wedding reception confirmed for 2019.

New Unconfirmed Enquiries:

- National Theatre of Scotland have enquired about a week-long event for a family production called the Rocket Post which will include workshops and other events.
- The Touring Network are interested in a mini gathering in October

Events:

- Christmas and new year events planned with the other businesses include a Family Day on Saturday 2nd, Craft Fair on Saturday 9th, Christmas Ceilidh on Friday 15th, Winter Ales Festival on Friday 22nd, a Christmas Family Film Screening on Saturday 23rd and a Hogmanay Party on Friday 29th.
- Possible community events such as a Christmas Lunch or informal get together

Staffing:

Deborah Coghill has agreed to work two days a week covering additional administration. Thanks to Kyle Mackinnon for joining the team to help us through the weddings and the busy summer season, his hard work and support will be missed when he leaves us at the end of the month. Mark Crichton has now joined our team for a one-year placement supported by HIE and ERDF

Weddings etc.

We have now hosted four weddings which have been very successful and well received. Prices have been increased for the 2018 season however we have more enquiries and a similar number of bookings to this time last year.

Signage: Internal signage still to be finalised.

Environmental Health Inspection: The kitchen will be passed once repairs to the undercounter fridge are complete.

Chemical Waste Disposal: David Macleod Head of Municipal Services has confirmed that the new Chemical Disposal point in Urgha will be available in the next few days.

Waste Collection

CNES have agreed to provide a recycling collection at Talla na Mara once every month. The Machair Kitchen have moved to weekly waste collection.

The Shed A tenant at the shed would like more workshop space. Awaiting comment from grazings committee.

Fire Officer Visit: The fire officer cancelled his visit but is happy with our procedures.

DTAS Conference: September 4th I am speaking at the DTAS conference to provide a "members story" with a question and answers session.