

## Minutes of the HCDT Board Meeting on 29 November 2018

**Present:** Flora MacLeod; Alisdair Wiseman; Jimina MacLeod; Mary Maclean and Alan Murray (Development Officer).

**Apologies:** Domhnall MacLeod

**Venue:** Raebhat House.

### Housekeeping

- **Previous Board Meeting minutes:** Flora signed the previous Board Meeting minutes and added them to the Minute Book.

### Actions from previous meetings

- **Development Plan:** The Board agreed to reconvene to discuss the Development Plan and business related to it in the New Year.
- **Hebridean Tree Ark Project & Polycrub allotments:** Alan confirmed David Murdo is happy to join a future Board Meeting to discuss the trees and allotments. This meeting will be separate from the usual Board Meetings. It will also tie in with budgets for 2019.
- **Bank accounts:** Alan informed the Board that applications for new bank accounts are underway. The first new account, with Charity Aid Foundation (CAF) bank is now ready for a deposit. The Board approved Alan to deposit £80k into this new account. Alan will proceed with this. The next two accounts, with Clydesdale Bank and Royal Bank of Scotland are in the account opening approval process. Triodos Bank is the next bank Alan will apply to for a new account. Once set up, this will be four new bank accounts. One additional account will be needed to total five new accounts, and not have more than the guaranteed £85k in any individual one. Alan will do more research into finding a suitable fifth new account. Alan will continue with the new bank accounts in between other work.
- **Community/Youth Space:** The Board discussed potential improvements to the former shop and café. These include paint, folding chairs, a TV, sound system and projector.
- **Formal invitation to Sharon Macleod:** Flora informed the board that she has formally invited Sharon to attend Board Meetings when possible, in order to provide a young person's perspective.
- **New directors:** Jimina and Alan informed the board of a couple of people within South Shawbost who they have asked to become directors. Those invited will get back to us when they have decided.
- **Turbine:** Alan had recently updated the Board by email on some recent news from SSE. Community Energy Scotland managed to get a response from SSE regarding their plans to bring us back to full generation. The response was that SSE wish to have ABB carry out another STATCOM repair and in the meantime the trial of the new solution is happening at a facility in Cumbernauld. Jimina suggested that Alan request a meeting with SSE, Community Energy Scotland, the HCD directors and himself in order to have a direct discussion about the situation. Alan will try to arrange this.
- **Dalmore water connection:** Alan received a response from Malcom Maciver who will be carrying out the site survey that Scottish Water require in order to proceed with our application for a new water connection at the Dalmore polycrubs. Malcolm mentioned that he made representations to both Alasdair Allan (MSP) and Angus Macneil (MP) regarding Scottish Water's bureaucracy holding up development and suggested we should do the same.
- **Governing Document:** Alisdair indicated that a new Governing Document has been drafted. Alan will arrange for hard copies to be sent out to all the Directors. The new elements in the document are highlighted in pink. These are the areas that require review and approval by the Board. Once the Board is happy with the content, the community will

need to be consulted about the new elements before new bye-laws can be enacted. The new elements will be discussed at a future meeting.

### **Other Business**

- **Budgets for 2019:** Alisdair asked the Board if they had a chance to look over the most recent set of management accounts and informed them that HCD is currently operating at a deficit which is unsustainable in the long term. The Board agreed that budgets for 2019 is an area which requires a separate meeting. A meeting was set to discuss budgets for 2019 on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 7:00pm.
- **Xmas Party 2018:** The final arrangements for the Xmas party, including final supplies and an overall schedule for the day, were decided.
- **Shawbost School Parent Teacher Council:** Jimina informed the Board that HCD usually contribute a Delights Xmas hamper for the end of year concert. Alan will ensure this is arranged and sent along.
- **Heb Alpha grant:** The Board denied the £12k grant that Heb Alpha applied for but agreed to matching Tolsta Community Development's £2,000 contribution.
- **Development funding:** Alan informed the Board that, being mostly focussed on operational matters since starting, he has not yet been able to pursue funding yet. The Board confirmed they understood. Funding is something that will be investigated in the new year.
- **HCD membership:** Alisdair made the Board aware that new members of the HCD trust must be brought to the Board for approval and each new member must pay a fee of £1.
- **AGM:** He also added that when setting a date for the next AGM, 21 days' notice is required to be given by letter to all members and associates of the trust. This letter should contain the time, place and nature of business of the AGM. Alan and Jordan will ensure this is taken care of once the Board have decided on a date for the AGM.

**Next meeting:** Monday 17th December 2018, 7.00pm, Raebhat House.

The Board of the Horshader Community Development Trust