



HORSHADER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



DECEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

Hello and welcome to our last newsletter of 2016

David Wright Retires

After 14 years of leading the Horshader Community Wind Project, David Wright has resigned from his current position as a Director of Risort Power Generation and Horshader Community Development, of which he was a Director and Chairman.

David will be greatly missed and without his unwavering determination Horshader would not be in the privileged position of having a dedicated income stream for the foreseeable future. Both RPG Directors and Horshader Directors and Trust Staff are indebted to David for his enthusiasm and commitment to all activities and hope that he can now enjoy a well-earned retirement.

Polytunnel Produce

We are still growing organic vegetables on your door step.

We will have a selection of vegetables available to accompany your turkey this year. Please visit the polytunnel to see our selection of potatoes, carrots, lettuce, parsnips, brussels sprouts and white turnip or contact the office on 701225 to find out what's available.



**Horshader Christmas Lights switch on event
Friday 2nd December
Raebhat House
6-8pm**

Shuttle bus from Free Church 5.30-6.15pm

**Santa! Presents! Facepaints! Carol singing! Food
and refreshments!
All welcome!**



Round up from the development manager

Oil Bulk Buying Group

We are pleased to announce that the Heating Oil Bulk Buying Pilot Scheme in partnership with Certas Energy, commenced in October this year. Members are topped up every 14 weeks and receive a discount of 4p per litre.

If you would like to join, please contact the office who will assist you with joining the scheme.



External Funding

The current external funding for the Support and Connect Project and the Growing Project comes to an end in March 2017. We hope to be in a position to continue to offer these services beyond the funding

period and will have an update following the AGM.

We are pleased to report that the Growing Project Allotments in Dalmore have been successful in being awarded £10k from Tesco Bags of Help which will be used to help develop the allotment area.

Exercise

The recent community consultation results highlighted the demand for more opportunities for exercise in the community and we are working with various groups and fitness instructors to provide this.

We are pleased to have supported the recent Yoga Sessions in the Old School and are currently in discussions with a local instructor to provide more classes for all abilities in the New Year. The West Side Runners and Fitness Club are also running a Tchoukball class each Friday from 7pm - 8:30pm in the Shawbost School gym. We would be pleased to hear from any instructors who would like to offer further classes in our community.



Loch a' Bhaile

Having met with community representatives in the area and surveyed the community we are now in the process of looking for support towards the costs of carrying out an Environmental and Feasibility Study of the Loch. There will be a public meeting to discuss the way forward once these assessments have been carried out.

Community Fund

We are pleased to report that since the last newsletter we have made 3 bursary awards to local students who are now at university. We wish them well and look forward to seeing them back at home over the Festive period.

We also awarded Shawbost Free Church £20,000 towards the proposed upgrade of the building.

The West Side Runners Group and Shawbost School were provided with a donation of a delightful hamper, to help them with their fund raising activities.

We are also pleased to have an application from the Shawbost Community Council towards the costs of this year's Senior Citizens New Year Lunch which will be held on the **14th of January at 2pm. The Horshader Bus will also be available to the community for that day. Please contact Cllr Ali Maclennan for more information.**

The Community Fund has now been replenished thanks to the recent pay out from RPG. We look forward to working with you in the New Year on your ideas and suggestions for the Horshader Community. Please note the new date for the AGM and members are reminded they can come into the office anytime to discuss Trust business.

Care

Community Consultations and discussions with the community have frequently expressed their wish for local care provision.

The Governments vision is: *'that by 2020 everyone is able to live longer healthier lives at home, or in a homely setting. We will have a healthcare system where we have integrated health and social care, a focus on prevention, anticipation and supported self-management. When hospital treatment is required, and cannot be provided in a community setting, day case treatment will be the norm. Whatever the setting, care will be provided to the highest standards of quality and safety, with the person at the centre of all decisions. There will be a focus on ensuring that people get back into their home or community environment as soon as appropriate, with minimal risk of re-admission'*.

About a year ago, I attended a meeting in Barvas Hall where initial discussions were taking place about setting up the Western Isles Integration Joint Board and the impacts this would have on communities etc. Since then the Rural Lewis

Locality Planning Group has been set up and the purpose of the group is to consider how best to improve health and social care services within Rural Lewis. Our local Councillor is also on this group and he is aware of our communities wishes.

In response to a recent request from Ron Culley (Chief Officer) to all community groups and trusts in Rural Lewis, I have provided him with a report based on our community engagement and expressing our willingness to work in partnership with agencies to deliver this outcome in our community.

All the best for 2017.

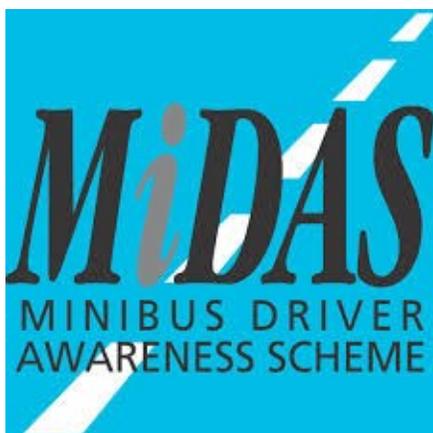
Annual General Meeting

The AGM will take place on Thursday 2nd February 2017 at 7pm.



Director vacancies: There will be several vacancies for directors on the HCD board in February when half of the directors stand down. Please consider joining the board or nominating someone who you think can represent the Horshader community. Training is available. Why not get involved and help us make a difference for everyone living in the Horshader area. Any questions/enquiries can be made to Angela or any of the directors and nomination forms are available from the office and will also be posted out ahead of the AGM.

The Shop: Plans for the shop are on hold until after the February AGM when it is hoped new directors will have joined the board. The financial investment required for a shop is considerable and needs to be sustainable. We shall consider this matter further at our first board meeting in March.



MiDAS training

Thank you to those members of the community who have come forward to say that they would like to participate in the (MiDAS) Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme.

We are keen to have a larger pool of volunteers and would therefore encourage anyone aged over 21 who is interested in participating to get in touch with the office. Training will be organised in January 2017.

Dates for your diary

Monday 5th December: Deadline for returning the slip for fuel poverty preference

Wednesday 21st December: Horshader office closes for Christmas

4th January 2017: Office re-opens

14th January: Senior Citizens New Year Lunch, 2pm

Thursday 2nd February: AGM, 7pm, Raebhat House

HANDYMAN SERVICE

Some small handyman jobs will be free of charge for OAPS until March 2017.

Examples include:

- Picture hanging
- De-icing paths
- Taking in peats/coal/logs
- Taking out/in bins
- Changing light bulbs

Contact the office to enquire

This service receives funding from the Scottish Government until March 2017

Community Spins on the minibus



Resulting from feedback from the community consultation, we organised two community spins over the last couple of months. Our first spin was in October to the Ness area. First stop was at Comunn Eachdraidh Nis where everyone enjoyed the museum and archive and had some lovely soup and cake in the café. Then we went along to Cross Stores and the Charity Shop with a stop off at Borve Pottery en route home.



In November, we took a full bus of passengers to the Ravenspoint Centre in Kershader, South Lochs. The staff provided a lovely lunch along with home baking, teas and coffees. Everyone then had a browse of the Pairc Historical Society museum and archive and did a spot of shopping in the community shop.



There will not be a spin during the month of December but we welcome ideas on where to go for our January, February and March spins. Remember the bus is available for community use. Contact Donna in the office to check out it's availability.



<https://www.facebook.com/HorshaderCommunityDevelopment/>



Stornoway Painters have been busy giving Raebhat House a much needed lick of paint. You will all have seen the big difference this has made to the building and the surrounding buildings.

On behalf of the Directors and Staff of Horshader Community Development we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

A LOOK BACK AT 2016 AT HORSHADER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



ALL WELCOME!



Horshader Grow Your Own
Christmas Cookery Demonstration
With Paul Morby, Hebridean Brownie Co.
Tuesday 6th December 2016
7pm, Ionad na Seann Sgoil, Shawbost