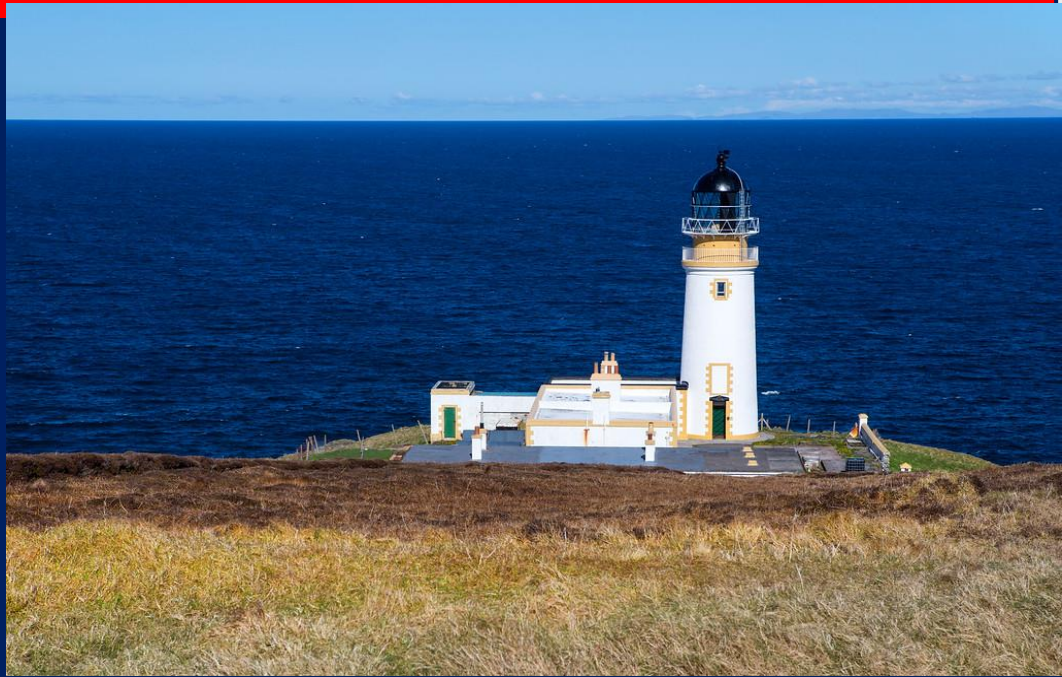


2023-2028



POINT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

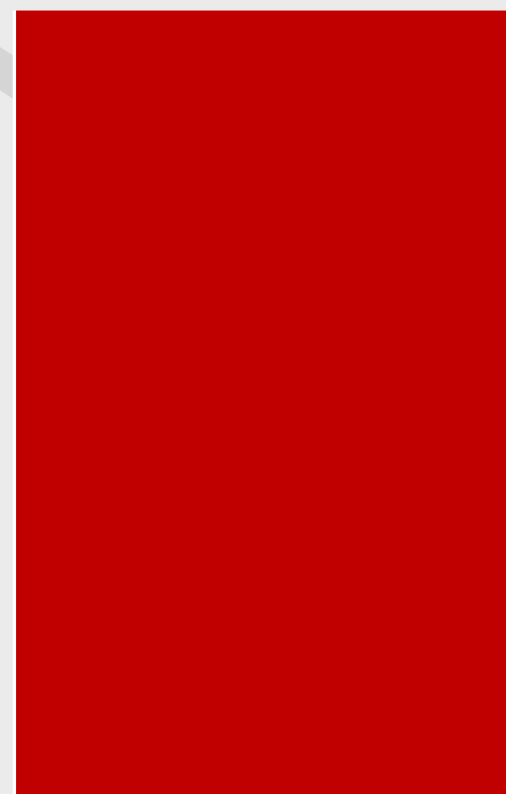


Urras Stòras An Rubha

Scottish Charity No.SC046922
Company Limited by Guarantee. SC420694

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POINT AREA MAP



-EXECUTIVE SUMMARY-

Who we are...

Urras Stòras an Rubha

Urras Stòras An Rubha (USAR) was set up at a public meeting in April 2012. The USAR Board is comprised of 15 directors from the local community, and has a membership of 100. It is a Community Company Limited by Guarantee and is a registered Scottish Charity.

The main purpose of USAR is to develop the former Knock School building as an asset for the local community and to manage the building, in order to facilitate the development of enterprises and activities in line with the outcomes of community consultations.

The refurbishment project was completed, and the building opened as 'Aros An Rubha' in 2022. USAR is the landlord of the building and will ensure that it remains a sustainable, well-maintained community asset, thereby enabling each group operating within Aros An Rubha to concentrate on its own roles and spheres of activity. Urras Stòras an Rubha is essentially an enabling body that will raise its core costs from rental.

In 2021 Urras Stòras An Rubha was tasked by Comhairle nan Eilean Siar to act as the 'Point Area Forum'. The remit and key task of the forum is to formulate and implement this area development plan for Point, which has taken into account the results of previous consultations and appraisals; the current aspirations and priorities of community groups; the availability of community resources; and other local plans/strategies. The forum will also assist CnES with the delivery of the annual local Crown Estate funding, and currently employs a Community Development Officer, supported by these funds.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to enhance community and economic development in the Point area, by supporting activities that will promote social, educational, cultural, environmental, tourism, heritage and health benefits, harnessing local assets and resources for the community, and facilitating sustainability for future generations.



AROS AN RUBHA

Urras Stòras an Rubha will provide a bilingual multi-purpose facility in Aros An Rubha as a vital community hub and resource for locals and tourists, which will offer amenities, meeting space, volunteering, training and employment opportunities.

Foreword

A word from our Chair....

Welcome to the Urras Stòras an Rubha Point Development Plan 2023-2028.

It is my privilege and pleasure as Chair of Urras Stòras an Rubha (USAR) to present this Development Plan for Point.

Urras Stòras an Rubha agreed to act as the 'Area Forum' for Sgìre an Rubha. The Comhairle has endeavored to have representative Area Fora throughout the Western Isles and Urras Stòras an Rubha with broad community representation on its Board is well placed to articulate community aspiration.

This Community Development Plan takes account of numerous community consultations, which have been undertaken in recent years, and it identifies projects which reflect the priorities that were identified by those living in the Sgìre. The plan recognizes the importance of the ongoing commitment in securing funding for community projects by Scottish Government and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, facilitated through our councillors, and the invaluable financial support of Point and Sandwick Trust. We are confident that funders who have supported us in the past will do so again.

We live in difficult and uncertain financial times. However, despite this there is clear evidence of optimism and positive community engagement in Point. A flourishing Youth Club, a wide range of community activities at Tiumpan Head, an award-winning community newspaper, the annual agricultural show, several clubs for over 55's, a thriving football club, are some examples of that community engagement. The establishment of the community hub at Aros An Rubha and a first class community shop and café have also brought a renewed sense of a strong active supportive community.

I commend the Point Development Plan as a means of providing a strategic focus, which will enable Urras Stòras an Rubha as the Area Forum to prioritise and promote projects for the wellbeing of the residents of Point.

**Angus Lamont
(USAR Chair)**

Context

The Outer Hebrides is an island chain, located approximately 43 miles of the northwest coast of Scotland, which forms 130-mile arch from the north to south. The Outer Hebrides accounts for 4% of Scotland's land area but only 0.5% of its population - the lowest population density (9 people per kilometre square) of all the local authorities in Scotland.

Point is a small peninsula joined to the east coast of the Isle-of-Lewis which is the largest island in the Outer Hebrides. Point, also known as the Eye Peninsula, is joined to the rest of the island by a narrow isthmus of golden sands one mile long and barely 100m wide.



According to the latest CnES Socio-Economic update in October 2022, the **population of the Point area is approximately 3231**, inhabiting 14 villages. The Melbost and Braighe area (includes Sandwick and Holm as part of the datazones) shows one of the most significant population increases in the Outer Hebrides over the last decade.

Data Zone	Total Pop.	% under 16	% 16-64	% 65+
Melbost to Braighe	1073	22	60	18
Garrabost	784	16	62	22
Knock to Bayble	784	15	56	29
Sheshader & Tiumpthead	590	13	55	32

The ¹CnES Socio-Economic update in January 2022 contained information about Small Area household estimates as released by the National Records of Scotland in 2021. The average household size in the Outer Hebrides has decreased from 2.05 in 2019 to 2.04 in 2020. Over the period 2010 to 2020 the Outer Hebrides experienced the largest percentage decrease in household size in Scotland at 7.7%. The statistics for the Point area are detailed in the table below.

Data Zone Area	Total dwellings	Occupied dwellings	Vacant dwellings	Long-term empty	Second homes
Melbost to Braighe	511	95%	4%	2%	1%
Garrabost	366	89%	8%	3%	4%
Knock to Bayble	375	90%	8%	3%	2%
Sheshader to Tiumpthead	306	85%	10%	5%	5%

¹CnES Socio Economic Update 44, January 2022 (Melbost to Braighe included Sandwick and Holm areas. Total dwellings for Melbost and Braighe as isolated areas averages at 132)

Consultations

A number of community consultations and engagement events have been undertaken in the Point area over the past thirteen years. Consultation exercises were conducted by Point and Sandwick Community Councils in May **2009** in partnership with Point and Sandwick Trust. A further consultation was carried out for PST between May and August 2012. The consultation activities included **public meetings, a postal questionnaire, an online survey, and meetings with representatives of community groups and consultation with school pupils.** The consultations demonstrated the need for the following: -

1. Addressing outmigration, particularly of young people
2. Improving the sustainability of the local economy and enhancing local income levels
3. Enhancing community engagement, cultural identity and social cohesion
4. Tackling issues of social isolation amongst older people

The wide-ranging 2012 consultation confirmed the ongoing concern for similar issues, with suggestions for: -

❖ tea-rooms
❖ a community shop
❖ a museum/historical centre
❖ a celebration of literary figures
❖ tourist information
❖ guide for historical and archaeological sites
❖ developing Point Historical Society
❖ Assistance with Knock School redevelopment

A public meeting held in **2012** resulted in the coming together of the various community groups which formed Urras Stòras An Rubha and it was decided at this meeting that community ownership of the former Knock school building would be the best option. USAR was tasked to take this forward.

In September **2013** a drop-in event was held at Knock with a specific focus on the plans formulated for the uses of the school and there was strong support for these plans. Later in 2013, a more general questionnaire on the use of Knock School was issued to pupils in Sgoil An Rubha.



Further consultation exercises were held in February-March **2015**. Drop-in events at Knock were held on two consecutive Saturdays and targeted consultations among community groups and suppliers to the shop were conducted. These groups ranged from parents attending a parent and toddler group to senior citizens groups. Feedback forms were issued, seeking views on design and on the proposed uses of the site. The overwhelming response was very positive.

During early **2018** the community participated in a further exercise to re-design the Knock old school building. The initial design had to be scaled back because of cost, with the result that the design is less ambitious but nevertheless does not compromise on the scope of the project. New services such as a Post Office were also included.

Further consultation, utilising surveys and interviews were undertaken by PST in **2020** to develop their investment priorities for 2020-25 and identify needs in the community. The following needs were highlighted:-

- ❖ **Youth provision and retention**
- ❖ **Unemployment/job creation/business development**
- ❖ **Ageing population (and fuel poverty in particular)**
- ❖ **Social isolation**
- ❖ **Community Hub Facility**
- ❖ **Climate change and environment**
- ❖ **Infrastructure**
- ❖ **Decline in number of Gaelic speakers**
- ❖ **Local walking routes**
- ❖ **Tourism developments**
- ❖ **Affordable housing**
- ❖ **Play parks**
- ❖ **Braighe closure**
- ❖ **Impact of Brexit, and reduction in investment by CnES**
- ❖ **Sports facility provision – all weather football pitch etc.**



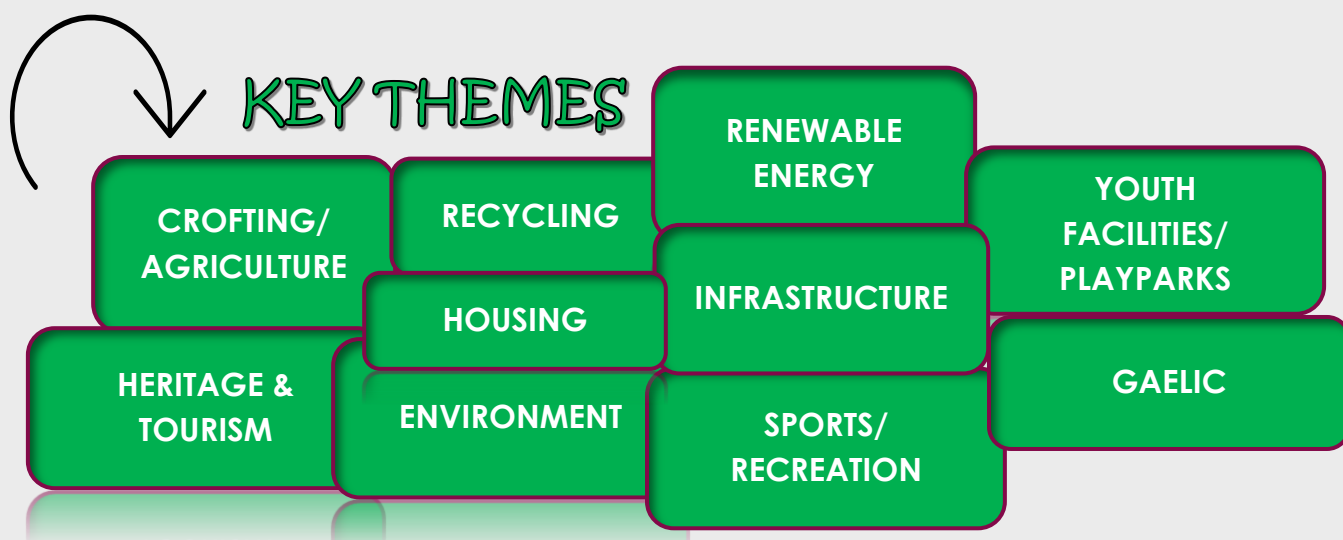
An additional survey consultation with local community groups in Point was undertaken by USAR in **2022**, to identify priorities and needs in the wider Point area. It was identified that there are currently **47 local groups and enterprises** operating in the area covering a range of sectors: -

Community	Point Community Council An Rudhach Community Newspaper Point and Sandwick Development Trust Tiumpthead Community Association Bayble Boat Owners & Pier Users Association Aignish Cemetery Portnaguran Amenities Sheshader Amenities Association Point War Memorial Cnoc Dubh Residents' Association Comunn na Gàidhlig Joanne Fotheringham Memorial Garden Urras Stòras an Rubha Upper Bayble Community Trust Knock & Swordale Community Company
Commercial	Buth an Rubha Café Roo Sheshader Marketplace Roots for Low Impact Living CIC
Culture & Heritage	Comann Eachdraidh an Rubha Point & Sandwick Coastal Community Path Urras Eaglais na h-Aoidhe Garrabost Mill Trust (Gniomach) Taigh Cèilidh an Rubha
Youth	Feis an Rubha Point Youth Club and Youth Café Point Sport and Recreation Committee Point Football Club Sgoil an Rubha Point ABC Club Point2Life Point Parent & Toddler Group 1st Point Scout Group (cubs and beavers)
Seniors	Càirdean Og Allt nan Gall Tiumpthead Young at Heart
Faith	Garrabost Church of Scotland Garrabost Free Church Knock & Point Free Church Continuing
Crofting & Agriculture	Sheshader Grazings Committee Knock & Swordale Grazings Committee Aird Grazings Committee Portvoller Grazings Committee Portnaguran, Newlands & Broker Grazings Committee Upper Bayble Grazings Committee Lower Bayble Grazings Committee Aignish Grazings Committee Shulishader Grazings Committee, Garrabost Grazings Committee Point Agricultural Show

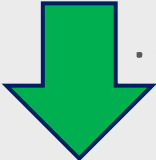
Key Priorities

A brief summary of the key priorities identified by the groups

▪ Recruitment of volunteers
▪ Maintaining and increasing employment in the area
▪ Consolidating and prioritising activities in the Point area
▪ Encouraging and facilitating sporting activities for all ages
▪ Purchasing, refurbishing and maintaining local historic buildings e.g. <i>Garrabost Mill</i> and <i>Eaglais na h-Aoidhe</i> .
▪ Equipping space in Aros An Rubha to hold exhibitions and events, as well as archive storage.
▪ Acquiring additional funding for Aros An Rubha, to implement original shelved works, expand facilities in the hub and working towards having a green energy hub.
▪ Facilitating activities for younger and older people to use the Gaelic language more - encouraging intergenerational activities.
▪ Continued development and improvement of the grazings - to maintain and develop the viability of the common grazings.
▪ Supporting and encouraging recycling of clothes and goods, promoting zero waste and environmentally friendly practices.
▪ Maintaining the play parks and continuing to provide a social space for children and parents.
▪ Maintaining Tiumpán Head Community Centre and keeping it open for all residents/groups.
▪ Delivering the Agricultural show each year and encouraging the future of crofting, agriculture and horticulture on the island.
▪ Improving the infrastructure and facilities at Bayble Pier for both commercial and non-commercial boating activities for all age groups.
▪ Securing additional funding for Point Youth Club and Youth Café to renovate the outdoor area and employ additional youth workers.
▪ Knock and Swordale Community Company to get the turbine built and to invest the income into development opportunities for the 2 villages, the wider Point area and other areas with needs.
▪ Organising meetings, recreational events, classes, training, talks lectures and fundraising activities.
▪ Coastal protection project, new animal handling facility, new housing sites and environmental schemes.
▪ Funding the completion of all sections of the coastal trail offering access to some 40km or more of route. Minimising future maintenance and adopting 'green policies'.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

 ... *objectives we hope to achieve*

1. To improve the local economy, address depopulation, tackle social isolation and support the development of tourism facilities

2. To facilitate and support the creation of employment, training and volunteering opportunities

3. To support the development and provision of facilities at Aros An Rubha that enhance community engagement and cohesion

4. To support local projects that deliver activities contributing to net zero, promoting energy efficiency measures and reducing fuel poverty

5. To support local community groups/enterprises to access funding opportunities and information

6. To support the administration and distribution of the annually allocated Crown Estate funding for the Point area



Working together...

There is a wide variety of groups operating in the Point area and many of the activities/projects are being delivered at a grassroots local level, all of which seek to support and promote social, educational, cultural, heritage, health, the natural environment, tourism and economic benefits. It is critical that USAR supports these organisations and groups, assisting at a local level, but also working in partnership with agencies in the private, public and voluntary sectors across the Outer Hebrides and beyond, to ensure long term delivery of economic benefits for the Point area. Partnership working is critical in facilitating successful community projects, both at a local and national level and sharing information and communication are critical elements of this.



Point and Sandwick Coastal Community Path – Phase 1
(A good example of partnership working between P&SCCP, PST and LEADER)

Links with local plans

The USAR strategic priorities align with the vision of the **Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Corporate Strategy (2017-27)**² 'to have socially and economically thriving communities with a focus on sustaining our quality of life, natural heritage and culture'. Projects such as the development of *Aros an Rubha* and *Urras Eaglais na h-Aoidhe* contribute to this vision, as the community seeks to utilise and maximise the full potential of these local community assets, to provide economic benefits for the area and future generations.

² CnES Corporate Strategy Ambition 2027 – page 4

As indicated in the **Aros an Rubha Business Plan 2022-25**

*'Furthermore, provision of enhanced facilities will bring important social, economic and environmental benefits by helping reduce social isolation, improving the tourism offering and cutting travel by providing services locally. The local shop and café will continue to provide employment opportunities for local people as well as selling local produce for local crofters, crafts and artists. The **Outer Hebrides Local Development Plan (November 2018)** affirms -*

'The dispersed geographic nature of the islands requires a more local approach to retail provision, particularly in the rural areas.



The building refurbishment was completed in July 2022 and in addition to the shop and café, the new community hub will provide accommodation for the building's tenants; archive, storage and distribution space for the community newspaper (The Rudhach); display and storage areas for the Comann Eachdraidh and Urras Eaglais na h-Aoidhe; flexible community space, including an area for hot-desking for homeworkers or the self-employed, electric charging points and additional parking space. USAR has secured funding for one year initially to employ a Development Manager to oversee all aspects of the building.

There is a clear link with the main priorities of the **Outer Hebrides Community Planning Partnership Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017-27**: *'The Outer Hebrides retains and attracts people to ensure a sustainable population; The Outer Hebrides has sustainable economic growth and all our people have access to appropriate employment opportunities; The islands offer attractive opportunities that Improves the quality of life, wellbeing and health of our people'* Current projects in the area such as, **Aros An Rubha, Point and Sandwick Coastal Community Path, Point and Sandwick Trust, Bayble Pier development, Point Agricultural Show, Knock and Swordale Wind Turbine project**, all contribute to these local plans.

The Community Wealth Building in the Outer Hebrides Report (March 2021) states: -

Out of the many localities that CLES has worked with, the Outer Hebrides has one of the most fertile contexts in which the deepening and scaling of community wealth building could be achieved. We believe that a reorientation of economic development strategy, underpinned by a community wealth building approach, would afford the Outer Hebrides an opportunity to forge a sustainable, prosperous and self-sufficient future. Reaching this future involves building on the traditions in the area; working to support and scale the activity that is already demonstrative of community wealth building.

The coast, landscape and heritage in the Point area has much to offer as a place on the map of the Outer Hebrides and it is imperative that we aspire to maximise these assets and opportunities. According to **the CnES Local Development Plan**, *'The landscapes of the Outer Hebrides are a valuable resource for our island communities, shaping the distinctiveness and identity of place, the cultural heritage and the quality of people's everyday lives. Encompassing some of Scotland's most scenic images, they are a unique asset and offer a competitive advantage in an international market place. As a critical element of the 'tourism product' they underpin a growth industry for the islands and the contribution they make to the wider economy is increasingly recognised and valued.*



Our Local Councillors say...

As your local councillors for the Sgìre an Rubha Ward, we are wholly supportive of the *Point Area Development Plan* and the priority projects highlighted within it.

Over the past few years, we have engaged with, and fully supported, all our local institutions, clubs, and representative organisations. In particular, we have and will continue to assist groups to access Comhairle nan Eilean Siar funding streams.

Specifically, we have supported several projects through the annual *Crown Estate Funding*, administered by the Comhairle. The following local projects received support from this fund:-

Redevelopment of Knock School (Aros an Rubha)
Point Agricultural Society (New Building Aird School)
Roots for Low Impact Living (Old Bayble Post Office/Shop)
Point Youth Club and café (Knock Hall)
Urras Eaglais na h-Aoidhe
Garrabost Mill
Bayble Pier Users Group

We share the many aspirations of the community, as outlined in the various community consultations undertaken over the years, and as set out in this development plan. These include: -

- ***Renewable/green energy solutions***
- ***Supporting the continued development of the expanding tourism sector***
- ***Helping the elderly and vulnerable***
- ***Addressing fuel poverty, through workable solutions***
- ***Positive experiences for young people, now and for their future***
- ***Economic initiatives that are in harmony, sustainable and complementary to our local environment.***
- ***Supporting language, culture and heritage initiatives.***

We are always available to the local community, seeking to act as an effective interface between local organisations and the Comhairle, and wish to support the aims of this Development Plan for the long-term benefit of the Point area.

Cllr. Norrie T. MacDonald
Cllr. Finlay Stewart



Point and Sandwick Trust

The aspirations of USAR also fit with the governing founding principle of the **Point and Sandwick Trust (Community Development Plan 2020-2025)** *‘to promote the social, educational, cultural and environmental well-being of the people of the Western Isles.*

Point and Sandwick Trust is a community-owned wind farm that exists as an asset to generate significant revenue for community projects over the 25-year life span of the turbines. PST funds community groups and organisations in both the Point and Sandwick areas and across the Western Isles. The windfarm itself is a wholly owned asset for PST, but the purpose of the charity has a far wider remit than disbursing grants – *‘We have a very strong community development role, and a lot of the projects in the community have their genesis or have had cash from PST in the last six years’.*

There are seven main aims and objectives identified in the PST five-year development plan:

- **Promoting community development, including rural regeneration, following principles of sustainable development.**
- **Providing assistance to people who are disadvantaged by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial or other disadvantage**
- **Promoting education, including all forms of training for work and life skills**
- **Advancing the arts, culture and heritage, including support for the Gaelic arts and the protection of buildings and sites of architectural or historic importance**
- **Providing and supporting recreational activities for the community, especially for disadvantaged or vulnerable groups, such as young people or the disabled**
- **Protecting and enhancing the natural heritage and environment**
- **Through the relief of poverty in such ways as may be thought fit**

It is clear from the consultation that the seven charitable aims of PST are still valid today, and therefore the Board will continue to focus on investing in these broad areas. The seven charitable aims align well with the common themes that have emerged out of the consultation, as well as the specific projects that have been identified.

European Community Energy Delegates at Beinn Ghrideag wind farm in October 2022 (Credit SandiePhotos)



The five priority areas are: **older people (including fuel poverty); young people; social isolation; community hub; and economic development.** These themes, and the commitments already made by PST for the next five years, fit well with both the National Outcomes for Scotland, and those identified recently at a local level by CnES, which stated the local priorities as:

- A “Community Wealth Recovery” that builds on the concepts of localism, community capacity and resilience and that positively prioritises local supply chains and local procurement.
- A “Green Recovery” that maximises the Outer Hebrides unrivalled renewable resources; that aspires to achieve Net Zero Carbon by 2035 and that ensures a robust set of climate change mitigations and adaptations.
- A “Digital Recovery” that ensures high speed digital infrastructure to every domestic property and every business premises by 2022 and uses that infrastructure to stimulate new business opportunity.

PST’s five-year plan will focus on investing in capital projects in the Point and Sandwick area and will start making revenue grants available for voluntary organisations in the Point and Sandwick area. Applications for funding are open to all voluntary groups or community organisations, and project specific partnerships that meet the objectives set out in the Trusts’ governing documents.

Additionally, Point and Sandwick Trust (PST) have officially launched a new Energy Support service to help those most vulnerable in their area. This new venture has been designed specifically in response to the cost of living and energy crisis and will help local people to identify relevant support available to them to ensure warmer homes this winter.

The Energy Support Unit (ESU) began taking calls and referrals in December 2022 and is operated as a partnership, financed by community wind farm PST and delivered by Muirneag Consulting. The service will include delivery of the newly announced Fuel Hardship Fund, dedicated to helping the most vulnerable households in the immediate area manage their electricity bills through the winter. In addition, the service will assess key drivers of fuel poverty in the area and make recommendations to local and national government as well as signpost people to relevant services to help with rising energy costs.



SWOT ANALYSIS

S STRENGTHS	W WEAKNESSES	O OPPORTUNITIES	T THREATS
• Active groups for all ages • Vibrant community • Accessible for local amenities • Tiumpan Head Lighthouse • Aros An Rubha Community Hub • Point and Sandwich Trust • Eaglais na h-Aoidhe • Comann Eachdraidh • Sgoil an Rubha • Bùth an Rubha • Café Roo • Bayble Pier facilities • The Point Agricultural Show • Ionad Stoodie & Recreational Sports facilities • The Rudhach • Electric charging points • Garrabost Mill • Community Coastal Path • Local SMEs • The Old Shop Bayble	• Unemployment • Cost of living • Need for more volunteers • Community infrastructure • Ageing population • Insufficient community spaces • Lack of paths/walkways • Low level of local funding • Braighe closures • Groups working independently and lack of cohesion	• Aros An Rubha Community Hub facilities • Community coastal path • Tourism • Bùth an Rubha • Café Roo • Crown Estate funding • Electric charging points and electric bike hire • Eaglais na h-Aoidhe • Garrabost Mill • Recruitment of volunteers • The Point Agricultural Show • Bayble Pier Facilities • Active groups for all ages • Annual Crown Estate Funding	• Rising cost of living • Fuel poverty • Lack of employment opportunities • Lack of affordable housing • Lack of social housing • Ageing population • Climate change • Reduction in public transport • Community infrastructure • Lack of local funding • Braighe closures • Holiday homes

Priority Projects.... Going Forward

The priority projects for the Point area are listed in the table below under the following categories:

- *Social, Heritage and Tourism*
- *Youth, Older People, Sport and Recreation*
- *Economic*
- *Environment*

PROJECT/GROUP	ACTIONS/OUTCOMES	SUCCESS MEASURE/INDICATOR	COMPLETED (DATE)
SOCIAL, HERITAGE AND TOURISM			
Urras Stòras an Rubha/Aros an Rubha	Provide office accommodation	Organisations operational in office space	January 2023
	Employ a manager for the day-to-day running of the building	Manager appointed	
	Provide storage space and distribution space for the Rudhach	Rudhach archives stored	December 2022
	Provide exhibition and storage facilities for the Comann Eachdraidh	Exhibition events advertised and held. Archives stored	December 2022
	Provide display space for Urras Eaglais na h-Aoidhe	UI church boards on display at Aros	
	Provide flexible community space	Community events delivered and office space utilised	Ongoing
	Provide additional parking and electric vehicle charge points	Parking spaces and EV charging points installed and available	
	Securing existing jobs and creating employment opportunities	Staff appointed	
	Raise funding to meet the aspirations for Aros An Rubha to become a green energy hub and move towards becoming 90% grid free by producing and consuming much of its own power via cutting edge heat pumps and solar panels.	Heat pumps and solar panels installed	

	Raise funding to implement elements of the original plans that had to be shelved to bring the project in on budget.	Additional storage space, external parking, Launderette installed	
	Acquire additional funding to allow expansion of facilities.	Funding secured	
	Assist in the delivery of the annual Crown Estate Funding Programme.	Funding allocated to local groups	
Point and Sandwick Coastal Community Path	Source funding for and develop trail around and through the districts of Point and Sandwick (offering access to 40km or more of route) that will complement the Hebridean Way.	Coastal trail complete	Shuilishader to Flesherin section completed 2022
	Link the districts with Stornoway likely to increase economic opportunity through tourism, locals and visitors alike.	Paths installed and linked with Stornoway	
	Source funding to employ a part-time Co-ordinator/Ranger for e-bike and trail.	Co-ordinator/Ranger in post	
	Support the wider active travel programme, health improvement and wider strategies for economic and social development and for eco cultural tourism and marine coastal tourism.	Coastal path complete	
Bayble Pier Project	Improve the infrastructure of the basin in line with <u>the work undertaken on the pontoons</u>		
	-Strengthening the concrete foundations with additional concrete	Foundations cemented	July 2022
	-Excavation of silt and seaweed that has built up in the basin, reducing access to and from the site	Site cleared	July 2022
	-Protection of the basin entrance and parking, which are subject to tidal surges	Protection measures installed	July 2022
	-Installation of tubular down pipes for attachment by pontoons	Pipes installed	

	-For health and safety purposes, installing navigation lights at the entrance of the shoreline for guidance into the basin -Installing security cameras to deter misuse of the facilities	Lights installed Cameras installed	
	Improve access to the facilities and safer means of access for younger, older and disabled users of the facilities by means of the newly created stair to be installed. Improving access to boats by building metal steps down to the pontoons.	Stairs installed and more people utilising the facilities due to better accessibility	July 2022
	Clearance of the area, improvement by landscaping the area and linking with the public parking area and laying loose chippings for more parking.	Area cleared and improved parking facilities available	
	Add more pontoons	Pontoons installed and in use	
	Source funding to construct a slipway	Funding secured and slipway constructed	
Eaglais na h-Aoidhe	Repair the two Georgian mausoleums	Mausoleums restored	
	Develop an Interpretation Centre 'The Gateway' outwith the graveyard as a 'Welcome to Point'. Eaglais na h-Aoidhe has an integral place in the development of tourism on Point and The Gateway would welcome and introduce people to the whole area.	Funding secured and 'The Gateway' building development complete and in use	
	Develop the western chapel in order to preserve the two nationally significant graveslabs from further weathering.	Western Chapel development work complete	
	Source funding to analyse archaeological material, which was removed during major coastal protection work in 2015	Funding secured and archaeological material analysed	
	Continue to provide an on-going programme of community engagement - open days, annual Colm Cille Lectures, fund raising ceilidhs and school visits.	Ongoing programme of events held	Ongoing

	Continue to develop merchandise to sell through various outlets, and publishing books to raise funds.	Merchandise and books produced and sold	Ongoing
	Continue to encourage visitors by circulating flyers, providing free leaflets and engaging with the WITGA.	Flyers and leaflets printed and distributed. Training given to WITGA members as requested	
Garrabost Mill Trust: Gniomhach	Secure funding to upgrade the mill as an historical heritage site	Funding secured	
	Develop the mill as a working site integral to the social history of Point	Mill renovations and development complete	
	Secure funding to secure other potential historic sites at Claypark	Funding secured	
Comann Eachdraidh an Rubha	To equip Aros An Rubha and make an attractive exhibition and events base.	Event space complete and advertised for public use	January 2023
	To attract more volunteers for the work of the society	Volunteers employed	Ongoing
	To continue to mount thematic exhibitions – One of these “Air a’ Mhointich” is currently being researched and aims to open in August 2022. Another on emigration is planned for 2023.	Air a’Mhointich exhibition open Emigration exhibition open	
	To work towards establishing a permanent tribute to the life and work of Prof Derick Thomson	Prof Derick Thomson tribute completed and available for viewing	
	To seek funding for a temporary post to catalogue and digitise our archive.	Funding obtained and digitiser post secured	
Comunn na Gàidhlig	Continue offering a wide range of activities for children in the area to allow them to use their Gaelic more often and in more informal environments.	Local activities delivered	Ongoing
	Increase work in the community and creation of projects to bring the older and younger generations together.	Intergenerational projects delivered	

Point Agricultural Society	Build the shed for the annual show	Shed complete for use	
	Deliver and host the annual show	Annual show delivered	Ongoing
Taigh Cèilidh an Rubha	Continue to provide Gaelic activities in the community, which are open to learners. Obtain space in Aros An Rubha to have these meetings.	Monthly meetings resume and space in Aros An Rubha secured for these	Ongoing
Portnaguran Amenities	The village marks its 200-year anniversary as a settlement in 2024 and the committee will deliver activities surrounding that.	A variety of commemoration activities delivered	
Point Community Council	To assist with the paths included in the Point Paths Project.	Paths projects supported	
	Developing the Emergency access on the Braighe	Plans complete for Emergency Access project	
	Works to improve Playparks and in particular the one at Seaview, Knock and Shulishader.	Playpark improvements complete	
	Speed restrictions and calming measures in the villages.	Speed restrictions implemented	
	Works to improve existing paths to make them accessible and usable.	Path developments complete in various areas	Ongoing
	Cost of Living/Covid/Emergency Resilience Plan for Point	Resilience Plan complete	
	Consolidating activities of Point into a table of priorities.	Priorities Plan complete and projects categorised	
The Joanne Fotheringham Memorial Garden	Undertaking work within the garden to both restore and enhance it including improving the picnic area and the disabled access	Improved access to garden and enhanced picnic area installed	
HHP & CnES	Build 4 houses as part of the Social Housing Improvement Plan	House buildings complete and occupied	

CnES	Road maintenance	Road surfaces improved and ditches cleaned	Ongoing
CnES	Councillors requesting reduction of speed measures at Seaview to Claypark	Reduced speed limit set and implemented	
CnES	Continue to support the annual delivery of the Crown Estate funding	Funding secured by local groups	Ongoing
YOUTH, OLDER PEOPLE, SPORT AND RECREATION			
Point Youth Club and Youth Café	Secure ongoing running costs	Funding obtained	Ongoing
	Secure funding for renovation of outdoor areas, including Astro turf and carpark	Astro Turf installed and renewed carpark facilities	
	Secure funding and organise mechanism to employ youth workers, particularly for S1 – S6 Youth Café	Host organisation arranged and Youth Workers employed and operational.	
	To provide a regular youth club and youth café and activities, training and volunteer opportunities for young people in the area.	Youth club and café available weekly and training and volunteering opportunities delivered	Ongoing
Point Football Club/Point Sport and Recreation Association	Construct a catering kitchen at Ionad Stoodie	New kitchen installed	
	Provide poly tunnels and land for growing food	Poly tunnels installed and operational	
	Provide an all-weather pitch for small teamwork	All weather pitch installed and operational	
	Continue to encourage all age levels to take part in sport, by organising and managing teams to participate in competitive local competitions	Local competitions organised	Ongoing
	Provide good quality outdoor and indoor facilities for the local community	Funding secured and facilities improved	Ongoing
Cnoc Dubh Residents Association	Maintain the playpark equipment and site	Playpark maintained and operational	Ongoing
Cairdean og Allt nan Gall	Continue to promote the wellbeing of people aged 60 and over, by organising meetings, recreational events, classes, training, talks, lectures and fundraising activities	Activities and trips organised Funding secured.	Ongoing

Point Parent and Toddler Group	To continue to provide a social space for children and parents, and to organise specific celebration occasions and events	Weekly meeting organised and events delivered	Ongoing
Tiumpanhead Community Association	Keep the community centre open in good repair and available for the community to use	Community centre operational and available	Ongoing
Tiumpanhead Young at Heart Club	Continue to provide and organise activities and coach trips for the older residents of the area	Activities and trips arranged	Ongoing
Feis an Rubha	Ensure volunteers are in place to ensure continuation of the annual Feis week	Volunteers in appointed	Ongoing
Ist Point Scout Group (Cubs and Beavers)	Continue to deliver a weekly varied programme developing skills for life	Weekly programme delivered	Ongoing
	Recruit leaders in order to continue and expand to a 'Squirrels' group	Leader in place and Squirrels group setup	
	Ensure money is maintained for hall hire	Finance in place	Ongoing
Sheshader Amenities Association	Continue to provide and promote local amenities: maintain the playpark, polycrub, road safety, community hub, health and environment	Local amenities maintained and available	Ongoing
ECONOMIC			
Knock and Swordale Community Company	To build a wind turbine on the common grazing belonging to the two villages, on the moor at Beinn Thulabaigh near the Pentland Road junction (west of Marybank)	Wind Turbine installed near Pentland Road junction	
	To invest the income from the turbine in development opportunities in the two villages, the wider Point area and other areas with needs.	Development projects delivered	
	To develop a coastal protection scheme on Swordale beach	Coastal Protection Scheme operational	

	Source funding to help build the turbine and reduce loan payments and leave more income for development projects	Funding secured	
Point and Sandwich Development Trust	Deliver grant funding and investment in the local communities	Projects funded and jobs created and sustained	Ongoing
	Increase membership from 400 to 745	New members appointed	
	Set up Energy Support Unit	Support Unit set-up and operational	December 2022
Bùth an Rubha/Café Roo	Continue to provide a retail service to the community and create employment opportunities locally	Additional staff employed	Ongoing
	Increase the number of covers for the café	More people using the café resulting in profits increase	
	Provide a Post Office within the shop	Post Office operational	
Old Shop Bayble	Continue to work with local Point producers and craft makers to showcase their products and to extend that network	Local products supplied to shop and sold	
	To reinstate the public toilets at Bayble Beach as a local amenity for the whole area	Bayble Beach public toilets refurbished and reinstated	
	Continue to employ volunteers	Volunteers employed	Ongoing
Upper Bayble Community Trust CIC	Develop Wind Farm to benefit local residents	Wind Farm complete and investment delivered locally	
ENVIRONMENT			
Upper Bayble Common Grazings	Continue to develop and improve the grazings, and access local government funds to do this	Grazings improved and funding secured.	Ongoing
Roots for Low Impact Living CIC	Apply for funding to build a polytunnel by Bayble Playpark to enable people near the New Street Scheme to grow more plants, salad food, trees etc	Funding obtained	

	Employ 2 Project Officer's to get the Polyunnel growing started and to support outdoor learning and play around the playpark area	Project Officer's employed Polyunnel secured and in place	
	Continue supporting the recycling of second-hand clothes and goods	Supply and sale of recycled products	
	Setting up unpackaged zero waste food	Sale of unpackaged food	
	Continue to promote environmentally friendly practices	All products sold are environmentally friendly and promote zero waste	
	Promotion of the local craft community development of historically significant reserves.	Crafts supplied and available for sale	
The Bayble Donkeys	Welcome 2 rare-breed Miranda donkeys to Bayble	Donkeys settled	
	Encourage regenerative and/or conservation grazing, including rush, thatched grass, gorse and gunnera management, as well as grazing to increase biodiversity, as seen in projects in similar bioregions in Wales and Ireland, as well as in England and New Zealand	Biodiversity increased	
	Promoting low-input, low-tech solutions, e.g., by supporting traditional local practices such as community seaweed gathering for crofting	Traditional local practices supported	
	Provide educational/therapeutic benefit through engagement with schools, local groups and members of the community	Educational activities delivered	
	Contribute to Point as a destination for visitors, providing sustainable tourism opportunities and highlighting other local amenities	Tourism opportunities delivered	
TBC	Employ skilled workers and purchase equipment - tipper pick-up truck, a versatile mini-digger, a cherry-picker, some strimming/mowing equipment etc, to undertake digging ditches, clearing and maintaining verges and roadsides, gunnera eradication etc.	Workers employed, equipment purchased and landscape improved significantly	

References

CnES Socio Economic Update 44, January 2022

CnES Corporate Strategy Ambition 2027 – page 4

Community Wealth Building in the Outer Hebrides – March 2021

Aros an Rubha Business Plan 2022-25

Point and Sandwick Trust (Community Development Plan 2020-2025)

Outer Hebrides Community Planning Partnership Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017-27

CnES Outer Hebrides Local Development Plan November 2018

Point Path Project Report, Alasdair Nicolson & Tony Robson, February 2022

Urras Stòras an Rubha
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