

Minute/Note of Meeting

TITLE : Urras Stòras An Rubha

DATE : 24 July 2023

TIME : 7.00 pm

VENUE : Aros An Rubha

Present: A Lamont (Chair); DM Macdonald (Vice Chair); CM Dunn (Secretary); N Mackenzie (Treasurer); M Bruce; TR Clark; J Meah; Z Stewart.

Apologies: E Chaplin; DJ Macsween; Cllr N McDonald; Cllr F Stewart.

Item	Summary and Action	Who?	When?
1	Welcome The chair welcomed Joanne Meah, representing Point Youth Club to her first meeting of the Board. .		
2	Minute of meeting of 17 February 2022 The minute of meeting of 2 March 2023 was approved.		
3	Matters Arising Item 1 Additional slats with the words Shop Café Museum are now available for inclusion on for the free-standing sign. D Smith is consulting with O' Mac Construction regarding an installation date. Item 5 The written report on Health and Safety, commissioned by Point Community Council as part of their resilience planning, had not yet been received.	D Smith C Dunn	Immediate Immediate
4	Declaration of Interests None declared.		
5	Board Membership The following were noted/agreed in respect of board membership: - Matt Bruce now represents the Rudhach on the Board. - There were continuing vacancies on the Board for representatives from Tiumpthead Community Association and Point Community Council. If there were no nominations from these groups in the near future, it was decided to contact Point Community Council after their forthcoming election and Tiumpthead Community Council closer to the AGM. - For one of the vacancies in Board Membership, it was moved by A Lamont and seconded by Z Stewart, that GK Macdonald, previously representing the Rudhach, would be invited to re-join the Board.	C Dunn C Dunn	Immediate Immediate
6	Website It was noted that the updated website was now live and had been launched by Judy Macdonald at she-online . The updating work had been done by Judy in conjunction with D Matheson, CDO. The CDO has now uploaded all up-to-date USAR related documents to the site and can add to and update the website with new information as required.	All	
7	Aros An Rubha The following were discussed and noted: Extension The plans for the extension to the building had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The		

		extension, funded by Point and Sandwich Trust, would mainly give additional accommodation for PST, as well as a laundrette and an office for the Hub Development Manager. The planning application has been submitted. The process of purchasing land adjacent to the building to allow for parking and re-siting of the Buth An Rubha store was at an advanced stage. • Energy Hub D Smith (TIG) is in discussion with the CARES office regarding the final payment of the CARES grant. D Smith also reported that the final snagging inspections had been carried out and made good and that the retention had been released, and that an outstanding defect relating to the solar panels had been reported and would be attended to by Barnies.	DJ Macsween	Ongoing
			D Smith N Mackenzie	Ongoing
8	Management of the Building	• Hub Development Manager The board welcomed the appointment of Baiba Reinfelde as Hub Development Manager, with a start date of 31 July. The key role of D Matheson, CDO, in the organisation of administrative matters relating to the appointment were gratefully acknowledged. Members' attention was drawn to information, including an induction plan, about the HDM post in the CDO's report. • Leases Draft leases had been received from J Gillies and some revisions, mainly to do with rentals, have been submitted for the final documents. • Room charges Room bookings can be made through the website, and payment can be submitted online.	All C Dunn DJ Macsween All	Immediate Immediate Immediate
9	Development Officer's Report	Report The report from D Matheson had been circulated with the meeting agenda. As well as the Hub Development Manager post and the website information, (items 8 and 6 above), the following were noted: • Completion of the Point Development Plan, available on the USAR website. • Issue of the latest e-bulletin. • Meetings with various community groups. • Updating of USAR employment policies. • Updating the Aros an Rubha Business Plan. • Crown estate Funding – Item 10 below.	All	Immediate

10	Crown Estate Funding	The process followed by USAR in its role as the Point Area Forum was detailed in the CDO's report. It was noted that all the groups that had applied had been granted funding, with Crown Estate Funding being supplemented. in whole or in part. to 2 groups by PST. It was noted that, because of the needs identified in the immediate Point area, it had not been possible to provide assistance to the Western Isles wide project applications. The decision taken by the sub-group which assessed the application, subsequently agreed by Board members by email, was approved and homologated, moved by T Clark and seconded by Z Stewart. It was noted that another round of Crown Estate Funding was imminent.	All	April
9	Reports from constituent groups	The following were noted: Point Agricultural Society - A very successful show, with record takings, was held on 8 July. Comann Eachdraidh – The Emigration exhibition is in place and will be on show until October. The Shielings Exhibition will be held over next spring and summer. Other projects in hand relate to a Prof Derick Thomson Reading Room at UHI, the MacGeoch collection of photographs and the migration to Portnalong from Aird, Broker, Portnaguran and Portvoller in 1923-24.		
10	Financial Matters	It was noted that the current balance was £134,294, with £102, 800 relating to the Energy Hub including EV chargers.	N Mackenzie	Ongoing
10	Any Other Business	It was noted that the application to CnES under their Cost of Living Support fund heading had been successful. The application, in conjunction with the Comann Eachdraidh, aims to offer a warm space with lunch and a focus-based activity. It will enable the CE to glean information from local people in order to retain historical records about the local area, for the future, and offer a social space for people to reminisce and provide information on the existing photographic archive held by the CE.	B Reinfelde C Dunn	November
11	Next Meeting	To be arranged.		