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Geàrr-chunntas Coinneamh UTS – Dimàirt 26.2.19

Mins of SCT Board

Tuesday 26.2.19 SCT Office

7.30pm

1. **An làthair/Present** Sandy Ogilvie (SO), Angus Ross (AR), Dugald Ross (DR), Ian MacDonald (IMcD), Donald MacDonald (DMcD), Roddy Gillies (RG), Sìne Ghilleasbuig (SG); staff Hugh Ross (HR), Angus Murray (AM). **Leisgeulan/Apologies:** Gordon Higgins, Calum MacDonald
2. **Geàrr-chunntas Choinneamh Fhaoilich/Minutes:** The minutes of SCT's board meeting on 29.1.19 were proposed as being accurate by IMcD, which was seconded by RG.
3. **Gnothaichean ag èirigh/Matters Arising:** There were none.
4. **UTS is inbhe charathannais/SCT and charitable status:** HR shared advice from Rory Dutton of Development Trust Association for Scotland regarding SCT seeking charitable status or a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation). Rory had told HR it was commonplace for development trusts to get to a point when seeking charitable status was the next step following several years of delivering projects. DMcD said he supported the move as long as the additional accountancy/auditing costs were covered. It would mean two sets of accounts would have to be submitted to Companies House and OSCR.

AR said he had experience of doing that for a charity already and it was relatively straightforward. AR asked if SCT could afford those costs. HR said that the approximate additional accountancy charges would leave SCT with an annual bill of £3,000. SO asked if the board was content to apply for charitable status. The board agreed.

HR to work on application to OSCR and to separately submit 2017 EGM changes to Articles Association to Companies House.

5. **Taigheadas, Ionad Slàinte & Ionad Ghnìomhachais/Housing, Health & Business Development:**

Funding – Westray Housing Development – There was discussion about involving Westray in Orkney in a possible co-operation/partnership grant bid to the LEADER fund as that community had a similar development.

Crowdfunding – HR recommended SCT produce a Crowdfunding campaign to secure funding for the development and seek support from Staffin’s diaspora, film companies, tour firms etc. The film would be approximately 2.5 minutes long. Hugh Campbell Marketing, Portree, has offered to carry out two days filming in Staffin and two days editing in Portree. HR asked if the board was supportive of the proposal and the directors were. DMcD requested that steps be taken for SCT to retain ownership of any film.

6. **Cidhe/Slipway:** A decision on the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund is imminent. John Porteous’ site plan still needs to be finely tuned, with input from the board, but an invoice had been received from him in December 2018. He had agreed with HR to put a credit note against it until further notice. The board wanted to find out the outcome of the RCGF bid until further work was done. HR said that several months had passed since the work was done by John and asked the board whether SCT should be paying some of that invoice now. It was suggested by IMcD that a percentage should be paid as no contractor should wait for too long.

Action – SCT to pay a portion to John Porteous at the earliest convenience.

7. **Skye Ecomuseum Capital Works**

Leth-allt – The Platform

- DL Mackenzie had now reduced the height barrier in the car park.
- The screws on the platform have now been replaced with longer ones.
- HR has sought a quotation for a gate, crash barrier and fence. All are seen as crucial for safety and all expedience is to be exercised.
- Four eight-seater picnic benches from Harbro are to be delivered shortly for installation in the upper car park.

Paths – Flodigarry and Grealin/Lealt

- Contractors, McGowans, are to start work on the Lealt path on 4th March 2019. The Flodigarry path contract should be completed in mid-March.

Druim nan Linn-tean/Skye Ecomuseum

Interpretation Signage Contracts

- AM said that the Heritage Lottery Fund mentor, Jane Davies, was satisfied with the tendering process.
- SCT project steering group had approved the Interpretation Plan.
- As required, three quotes were sought and received from 1] Epperenti Sculpture 2. Sculpture and Design Ltd ABOC and 3] Glasgow Sculpture Studio
- GSS represented the best value for money. The signage contract was awarded to GSS, with approval from the Heritage Lottery Fund.
- GSS estimate that the physical interpretation will be ready for installation in May, subject to planning permission from Highland Council.

Content for Panels

- The Content deadline is April. Maoilios Caimbeul is currently working on the Gaelic content for five panels while Lucy Harland (Content Consultant) is working on the English for the remainder.
- HLF has asked for more family-friendly features to be incorporated and Lateral North is exploring this concept.
- Gus Wylie's Photos - SG had contacted Gus Wylie a month previously re permission to use his photos. Gus had responded positively and this is to be progressed.

The New Website

- AM had earlier widely shared the website draft prepared by 42 Studios.
- The domain name is as yet undecided.

The Ecomuseum – Miscellaneous

Phase 3 of the Ecomuseum

- DMCD advised that SCT require to put a plan together shortly, for the next phase.
- There is potential for the SCT website to migrate to the Ecomuseum one.

Merchandise

- Themed merchandise [T-shirts, mugs etc] is seen as crucial for income generation.

Donation boxes

- These are being emptied on a regular basis.

Eco Club

- An Eco Club – for Skye children – had already been established at Portree High school and was now looking to start a project related to the Ecomuseum.

'Skye's Iconic Sites'

- Angus had recently attended a meeting with SNH and other agencies regarding the Quiraing and Storr.

Action – Angus to recirculate the draft website once again

AOCB

Exhibition Boards from the 2007 Photo Festival: DR reminded the meeting that he has 8 purpose-built exhibition boards in storage. They are in great shape and had been made for Sùil an t-Solais [The Skye Photography Festival] in 2007.

An Ath Choinneamh/The next Meeting

- Dimàirt/Tuesday, 26.3.19 @ 7.30 @ The Portacabin