



Date/Time	9 <sup>th</sup> May 2023, 7.00pm
Location	ZOOM (Video Conference)
Attendees	<b>Trust Directors:</b> Rhoda Meek (RM, Chair), Eoghann McGregor (EMG), John Bowler (JB), Martin Finnigan (MF), Elspeth MacKinnon (EMK), Christine Coghill (CC). Jacqui Bennett (JaB) <b>Trust Staff:</b> Phyl Meyer (PM), Kate Bauen (KB, Minutes)
Apologies	
Absent, No Apologies	Donnie Campbell

**1. Welcome & Introductions**

RM welcomed all to the meeting.  
No apologies were received from Donnie Campbell (third meeting in a row).

**2. Declaration of Conflicts**

None declared

**3. Previous Meeting**

**a. Minutes**

The April 2023 minutes were approved.  
Proposed by Martin Finnigan, seconded by John Bowler.

**b. Actions Update and Matters Arising**

Please also see the [Action Tracker](#).

Action #	Action Description	Action Owner	Update
98	Memorandum and Articles update – a meeting with directors and TC Young will be organised to form a working group.	PM	A date has now been agreed to take the work forward. Action Complete
106	PM will speak to Craig Smith regarding how to work more closely with the Misses Nisbet Trust to reduce our expenditure in the SETT area.	PM	No change. Further communications have been attempted but no response.
110	CMAC: Approach Catriona MacLennan regarding report regarding use of loan - as part of the year end finance and update regarding this is required	PM	Communication made – see <a href="#">Section 12 AOB</a> . Action Completed



Action #	Action Description	Action Owner	Update
123	The FSG are requested to look at the topic of a reserve fund to ensure Business Continuity for the Trust – namely, how much that fund should contain and how it would be held in reserve.	FSG	Action completed.
125	Bring proposal for alternative TCDT Recruitment to May 2023 Board Meeting	PM	<a href="#">See Section 6</a> Action completed
126	Meet with John Bottomley regarding the Curam Windfall Application and feedback to the Board.	PM	Discussion took place. Awaiting feedback from Curam Board of Directors. Action Completed.
127	Approach Ross McLennan and Neil MacPhail regarding crossover directorship to TCDT Board.	RM	Discussion took place. Neil MacPhail is proposed to join the TCDT Board. See <a href="#">Section 12. AOCB</a> Action Completed.
128	RM will contact Elaine Hayes and indicate that TCDT are not in a position to finance such a project currently and suggest how we can help her in other ways (e.g. the refillery).	RM	Discussion took place. Action completed.

#### 4. Decisions taken between meetings

- No decisions were taken between meetings.

#### 5. Auditor Progress

PM and MF gave an update on the status of Auditor selection.

The FSG have reviewed the tenders from two auditors and recommends Glasgow based company AAB.

**The Board approved the selection of AAB as auditors, proposed by Rhoda Meek (RM) and seconded by Jacquie Bennet (JaB)**

#### 6. Recruitment & Staffing

PM gave an overview of the pre-read paper on a proposal for alternative methods for staff recruitment and selection.

The Board discussed this, and the following points were raised:

- The principle is an interesting one however it is critical that we ensure as much funding for staff roles as possible going forward.



- Most of the Trust roles are not funded well or are in niche areas. PM raised this with the Scottish Islands Federation Team. Funding core costs is essential, and we need to get this message out to Government.
- The TCDT Board should be included from the early stages of this process.
- Expectations must be set from the advertising stage and good checks and balances put in place.
- The TCDT Board should be involved in any decisions related to the process.

**The Board approved the proposal.**

## **7. Finance Sub Group (FSG) Update**

PM informed the Board that discussion at the FSG meeting included:

- Cashflow projections for T|REL with a safe (worst case scenario) estimation for the TREL tax bill – now that auditors have been appointed the FSG can do further work on this.
- Donations to TCDT
  - a. TREL Board have recently approved £100k - £60k for the Windfall Fund and £40k for TCDT operations & core costs
  - b. This will allow a safe operating period until the tax question is bottomed out
  - c. The £100k will be paid to TCDT when it needs it – the funds are being held back due to the pending Tax payment and insurance costs.
  - d. Till is generating however there is a problem with SCADA

Finances will be much tighter going forward and at some point (within the next few years) a post-turbine TCDT will need to be defined. The FSG have discussed this in terms of the costs to decommission the turbine and the need to have reserves to cover this.

There will be less cash paid in to and available for Windfall Funding and expectations should be managed accordingly.

## **8. Windfall Applications**

### **a. Tiree Agricultural Show**

CSI 23 005: Request for £2092 toward IZorbs as the main event, (91% of the total costs).

The Board approved a Windfall donation of £1046 (46% of total costs).

CSI 23 006: Request for £1000 toward the purchase of two marquis (91% of the total costs).

The Board approved a Windfall donation of £500 (45% of total costs).

### **b. Tiree High School**

SETT 23 006: Request for £309.30 travel costs (23 pupils and two teachers) to allow S1 and S2 pupils to attend the Junior Dance. (100% of the travel costs).

SETT 23 007: Sky Up Academy Studios on Tour: Request for £184 travel costs (16 pupils and two teachers) to attend the event in Oban (100% of costs).

The Board discussed these applications, and the following points were raised:

- Travel costs between two school related events should be covered by Argyll and Bute Council as Tiree's Schools are satellites.



- The requests are for teachers travel costs in addition to pupils.
- Expectations and mindset, in relation to what is Argyll and Bute Council responsibility and what should come from the Windfall fund needs to be managed. This needs to be taken up by the Community Council and Parent Council.

The Board approved both applications on the proviso that the Community Council are approached and asked to take up the topic with Argyll and Bute Council on a political level.

The topic will also be addressed with the Parent Council and school directly. **ACTION PM**

#### **c. Curam – Outreach Worker Salary**

CSI 23\_004: PM contacted John Bottomley regarding feedback on the application as per April Board Meeting. John indicate he would contact the Curam Board and feed back to the TCDT Board. No further feedback as yet.

#### **d. TMF Sponsorship Proposal.**

The TMF organisers have requested a TCDT sponsorship deal of £12k over a 4 years period. PM and RM gave an overview of the background and windfall history with respect to the Tìree Music Festival.

The Board discussed this at length and took a vote on the request.

The request was unanimously rejected. PM will follow up with TMF organizers. **ACTION PM**

### **9. Funding Updates**

No further updates on existing applications – see the Trust Activities Report.

### **10. Working Group (WG) Reports**

See section [7. FSG Update](#).

No other working groups have met.

### **11. Reports**

#### **a. Finance/ Budget/ Cashflow Report**

The report was circulated to the TCDT Board as pre-read.

Key points discussed:

- Housing projects are not covered in the Cashflow
- A reserve must be held for the BU Project at approximately £60k which cannot be done until after the TREL donation is made and leaves little wiggle room for other things.
- MF indicated that the only money we can assume is available is the money we have in our hands, and no reliance can be placed on pay out of any owed sums from either Curam or CMAC in the short term.
- Value for money for the community is the key driver in considering what is funded going forward.



**b. Trust Activities Report**

No questions raised.

- The Board expressed thanks to Emmie Martin and Fiona Armstrong for the excellent work on the first stage of the Cruas Project.
- The toilet at the TCDT office is now a public, accessible toilet.
- The Visitor Map has been updated and is now available from TCDT office.

**12. AOCB**

**a. CMAC Loan**

An update from Catriona MacLennan came in late today indicating that CMAC will not make any repayment of the loan due.

All documentation related to the loan shall be collected in one place and circulated to the Board and a meeting with TC Young will be arranged as soon as this is done to discuss options.

**ACTION PM**

**b. Director Appointments**

EMG is now eligible to be appointed a TCDT Elected Director.

Neil MacPhail was approved to join the TCDT Board. RM will inform him.

**ACTION RM**

**13. DONM**

Trust Board - Tuesday 13th June 2023 at 7pm by Zoom.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 9.40 pm.