Jan 2024 Board Meeting Minutes



Date/Time	16 <sup>th</sup> January 2024				
Location	ZOOM (Video Conference)				
Attendees	<b>Trust Directors</b> : Rhoda Meek (RM, Chair), Christine Coghill (CC), Jacqui Bennett (JaB), Ronnie Baird (RB), Matthew MacDowell (MMD), Fiona Malcolm (FM), Martin Finnigan (MF), Neil MacPhail (NMP), John Bowler (JB) Trust Staff: Phyl Meyer (PM). Inge Armstrong (IA – minutes), Morven MacArthur (MMA)				
Absent, Apologies	Absent, No Apologies				

#### 1. Welcome & Introductions

RM welcomed all to the meeting.

#### 2. Declaration of Conflicts

None declared.

## 3. Previous Meeting

#### a. Minutes

The December 2023 minutes were approved:

External minutes approval proposed by FM and seconded by JaB

Internal minutes approval proposed by JaB and seconded by MMD

## b. December Actions Update and Matters Arising

159: A response has been received from Calmac and their tech department commented that their system is not capable, but hopefully it will be put into place with future development. We are disappointed that it has not been included as we had raised it at the consultation.

RM has had contact with Calmac, and a meeting will be put into place with RM and PM.

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160: The proposal is to ask PM/KB to look into the viability of purchasing the house (Kirkapol) and how to manage this proposal - Viewings will be arranged at Kirkapol

## 4. Actions taken since December Board meeting.

None

## 5. Windfall Fund update and Tilley Legacy fund plan

MF has circulated a draft paper to CC, RM and Anne McDonald regarding the windfall fund and the Tilley Legacy fund plan, once comments have been received from FSG, a plan will be circulated to the Board for information.

MF commented that as Tilley is not currently working, we have to be careful of how we spend the funds we have. The projects we currently have are the fuel station, harbours, and business units etc, is in itself a legacy, but if we want to extend the legacy beyond that, is to build up the fund that sets in perpetuity, and the interest earned on the income is used for other grants

MF to circulate and discussions via email, and recommendations at the February board meeting.

## 6. Funding

Application was submitted yesterday by Mary-Ann for the Gaelic project, there have been no future updates on funding which were submitted in December.

## 7. Working Group Reports

#### a. FSG

No updates

#### b. Housing

No further updates, there is progress being done in background. We have submitted the application to the pre-planning department at the council for the modular build project we have been looking at, this will allow us to approach the funder that we have had favourable response from the council. Kate's identified a number of potential lenders for us to talk to.

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## c. Gaelic Working group

Board has been requested to make a group policy decision for bi-lingual or Gaelic only signage on Trust related signage, etc. this is a resolution that needs to be carried over to the subsidiaries.

#### Board agreed to the resolution.

The resolution will be cascaded down through the other subsidiaries.

The working group has reviewed the papers, the Board to revert to PM by Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup> January with comments and agreement in principle to the work plan.

#### d. Childcare

Christine, Morven, Brodie and Phyl are to have a pre meeting ahead of the council meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> January, Wendy Brownlee (Director of Education) is coming to the island for solution focused meeting regarding childcare. The school has not been invited to the meeting by the council, as its strategic meeting and not an operational meeting.

## 8. Staff Reports

#### a. Trust Activities Report

Tilley not currently operational and is under maintenance (the fault requires a specialist team), will not be working until at least end of February or beginning of March.

Fuel station – the Bùth a' Bhaile are taking over the staffing of the fuel station from the 17<sup>th</sup> January, this is 3-month trial period. They will fall under our insurance when they are on the forecourt. Appreciation to Elaine and her staff for taking over the staffing, etc.

IsleDevelop has taken over all the listings from DiscoverTiree.

## b. Business Units

There have been two firm applications for the business units. The plan is for to be a bit more explicit about what the expected rent cost is, and what the expected service charges are likely to be, etc. The units are looking to now be completed in March.

Another round of advertising needs to be published on Facebay regarding the application, etc.

ACTION 162: PM/BS

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**ACTION 163: PM/LMA** 

#### 9. AOCB

## a. Subsidiary Director Recruitment

Recommendations are needed for directors for the subsidiaries, especially for TCEL. Being more transparent about what the commitment is being a subsidiary director, how many meetings to attend, what is involved etc. A post on FaceBay may be an option of "a day in the life of a subsidiary director".

If we are going to do an article on each of the subsidiaries, it might be nice for community members to actually hear from someone who is on each of those boards, what it is like being on that board, and why it is important. When we publish in the newsletter, it is just anonymous/from the Trust and not from a particular person, it would benefit for personalising i.e. actual name who is personally involved.

MF has offered to do the first post.

Subsidiaries minutes to be published on the website

## b. CMAC loan update

As discussed by board, RM to contact K.

#### c. Vet Practice project

The vet practice project has been in the community business plan and Morven has taken the project over and looking at grants/funding, etc. HIE are interested in the project, they know that there are other similar communities to ours facing this exact problem, and they want to support us with it. They just have not been able to throw some free consultancy at it just yet. We are looking at the feasibility work that we might otherwise have received from HIE, and how we could go about doing it ourselves? So that we can put a case to a funder, on what would be the impact on Tiree crofter economy, if we could not replace the vet. Current vets are only to be in place until at mid/late 2027.

Morven is putting a working group together to take this forward, if any directors would like to be part of the working group to contact Morven.

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## d. Community Development Plan Progress Update

RM and PM have agreed to report back on the Development Plan to the community. Essentially celebrating what we have achieved so far, giving them an update on where we are and the things that they may have not heard about since they saw the plan, and wondering what we have been up to, where we've got to, and these are the things that are still to come. It would worth us as a board sitting down and taking stock of that Development Plan, what if we achieved so far, which parts do we need to look at and just an overall review to report back on. It was suggested the board comes together on a Saturday in February to review this. Dates to be submitted to the board.

#### e. CRUAS feedback

Where there is a request for funds, there are two options, i.e. funds for food and for larger funds for larger purchases i.e. white goods failure, etc. PM makes the decision on how the funds are allocated, etc. under the hardship scheme.

### The board have approved.

#### f. GYM - CIC

GYM has applied for a CIC – community interest company – they have asked that the asset lock to be the Trust. There is no liability on the trust in the event that the gym is unable to trade.

## The board have approved.

#### **10.DONM**

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7pm in person or by zoom.

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## 11. Action Tracker

Action #	Meeting Date	Action Description	Action Owner	Deadline	Status
150	Aug-23	The Housing Working Group to compile a paper on options for property lettings and management with recommendations for the TCDT Board to consider.	PM	12-Sep-23	Ongoing
156	Sep-23	Prepare a public statement regarding use of the minibus based on the text agreed by the Board and keeping the wording close to the Trusts Charitable Objectives. This will be circulated to the Board for approval.	PM	11-Oct-23	Ongoing
158	Nov-23	Update on the progress on the Health and Safety policies	КВ	16-Jan-24	completed
159	Dec-23	Write to Calmac re all persons to have a booked camping pitch prior to arrival on the island, for them to put a note on their system, etc.	PM	16-Jan-24	Completed
160	Dec-23	The proposal is to ask PM/KB to look into the viability of purchasing the house (Kirkapol) and how to manage this proposal.	PM/KB	12-Jan-24	ongoing
161	Dec-23	All directors to supply a photo and short biography which will be then used to in the next newsletter.	IA	12-Jan-24	ongoing