



# Island of Hoy Development Trust

## OPEN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Held at The Shore, YM, Longhope and via Zoom on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024

MEETING CALLED BY: Deborah Jaques

MINUTE SECRETARY: Nicola Budge

### In Attendance

BOARD MEMBERS: Deborah Jaques, Brian Clegg, Moira Cossar, Keith Dobney, Lindsay Hall, Alexander Sinclair, Kieran Sinclair, Scott Johnston

STAFF: Nicola Budge, Elizabeth Davidson,

GUESTS: Deanna Johnston

APOLOGIES: Max Collop, Andrew Dobrzynski, Aisling Phillips

MEETING OPENED: 19.32

### Topics

#### 1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING presented by

The open board meeting minutes from April were adopted as accurate by the board. Proposed by Lindsay Hall, Seconded by Kieran Sinclair.

#### 2. MATTERS ARISING presented by All

There were no matters arising to be addressed.

#### 3. YM presented by Moira Cossar

Moira advised the board that the fridge is back at the YM after being over in Kirkwall to be fixed by Sinclair Bain. It has been cleaned out and switched on and seems to be maintaining temperature. Brian advised that a second quote had been obtained for the roof cowl repair following a chase from the insurance company as Groats were having difficulty sourcing a replacement. As a large portion of the cost is the mobilisation of scaffolding etc he has asked for a

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revision to include the replacement of the other cowl at the same time. He agreed to speak to Richard about the job. Moira confirmed the hall floor looks fine and mentioned that per the agreement between IoHDT and YME, YME are responsible for minor repairs. The fire door hinge needs to be replaced and the hall door to the toilets has split, she requested confirmation that she should remind Richard of these jobs. It was discussed that IoHDT should be responsible for any repairs to the fabric of the building and that a procurement process of at least two quotes per job should be instigated, though the difficulties in getting contractors out was noted. The Feasibility study continues to progress, a design for the under drawing of the hall ceiling has been received and Allan Reid has calculated the structural strength of the roof. Brian has requested quotes for solar panels with the plan to apply to CARES before the August deadline. Brian declared his interest as he was tasked with the feasibility study before he became a director of the trust. It was noted that when Moira retires another director will need to take over as YM Rep.

*Action Item: Brian to contact Richard re YM roof repair*

### 4. FINANCE presented by Elizabeth Davidson

Liz advised the board that there were no changes to the figures she has circulated in readiness for the Finance Meeting in July. She asked Board Members to return their Register of Directors Interests Forms as soon as they could and confirmed that as far as she is aware the Audit Timetable is still on schedule as arranged with Scholes.

### 5. HEALTH & WELLBEING presented by Moira Cossar

Moira advised the board that Denize is leaving at the end of July, she took the opportunity to thank Denize for all her hard work and highlighted the amount of effort and projects Denize has managed in her time in role. The community benefit of these and the difference made for the island were noted. Denize thanked Moira for her words and support as her line manager and thanked the board for supporting her in making the role her own and allowing her to mould it to meet the needs she found. She also mentioned the many messages of thanks and good wishes she has received from members of the community and hopes that whoever takes over the role is able to maintain it so it doesn't become a referral based service like others have. Lindsay mentioned that he is aware the

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other islands look at Hoys Wellbeing Coordinator as a model for the role. Denize has asked John Foulis who works for Advocacy Orkney to help the new WBC. All items from the Community Larder will be distributed by the end of the weekend. Moira confirmed she is happy to assist the new WBC with Clinical supervision and training initially. Debs and Moira clarified the plan for the Wellbeing project going forward as it can no longer be administered by VAO, a new SCIO will be set up, who will then deal with funding and support of the WBCs and it is hoped that the Integrated Joint board (board in Orkney legally responsible for the delivery of a services within health and social care) will also provide funding. The closing date for applications is this Friday.

### 6. CNI presented by Deborah Jaques

Debs advised the board that Aisling has sent apologies for the meeting, but that Brian and Liz had both attended a meeting with reps from OIC, HIE and ScotGov regarding the CNI capital grants this year. Both agreed that it was constructive discussion and the capital funding this year will be structured differently to last year when each CNI island was given £160k to deal with in house. This year each island will receive £50k with the remaining pot of £1M to be administered by the local authorities with each island competing with their ideas to get the funding. It was also noted that the scope of the funding had been broadened and was much more focussed on reducing carbon rather than sustainability. And looks to be aimed at a five-year strategy. Liz had pointed out at the meeting the difficulties in cash flowing large projects which was acknowledged by the meeting stakeholders. Debs confirmed that the grant offer letter for the £50k had arrived today and that the CNI Steering Group had had a productive meeting discussing possible projects. She also advised the board that Aisling intends to do more community engagement this year. The board discussed additional support for Aisling and it was confirmed there is the capacity for an extra 7 hours for a CNI support officer within existing funding, this has not been advertised separately as it may be something the new CDO would like to take on as before.

### 7. BUSES presented by Deborah Jaques

Debs advised the board that the CTGS grant had been awarded by OIC for this year. This had to be split over two applications as CTGS has a ceiling of £10K so the additional runs to Hoy on a Tuesday and Friday were applied for separately.

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It was noted that people are using the new service frequently but that new ideas for

revenue need to be discussed and that everything should be considered to meet the needs identified with the buses. The Electric bus is still in Inverness waiting to be fixed. The Blue Bus is being nursed along and the White Diesel is running well just now. The age of drivers is becoming an issue however few people have the Category D entitlement on their licenses and it is over £1K to train a driver to the D1 level, but training is not available in Orkney. Debs, Brian and Max are due to attend a community transport meeting in Kirkwall on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Debs updated the board on the CES knowledge network they agreed to submit an expression of interest for, she had recently heard back from CES that they had their 10 groups selected but were happy to take IoHDT as an 11<sup>th</sup>, they are currently shuffling budgets and would then send a new appendix to the IoHDT – CES agreement. Debs has asked to discuss what this network will involve to bring the information back to the board and is waiting to hear back from CES.

### 8. WIND TURBINE presented by Brian Clegg

Brian advised the board that the turbine is running well. Last month was low on wind as shown in his report at the beginning of the month. As Export prices are still falling HEL have secured another PPA agreement which will take us to the end of March 2027 which means we are in a position to know what income we will have to the end of the bank loan. Brian also updated the board following his meeting with Enercon to discuss their plans for the E44 turbines after Y20. The existing EPK Contract for years 1-12 was adjusted by Enercon last year to create an EPK for years 13-20. They intend to do the same for years 21+ and are in the process of finalising a draft document which will include indicative pricing etc. Brian is also due to meet with one of the Dutch companies that have been identified as a possibility for maintenance and refurbishment of the turbine in July. He noted that one of these companies has taken over the care of the Flotta turbine which has sat broken for many months and has recently been operational again which bodes well. It looks positive that our turbine will continue to be operational past Y20 and we are working towards the decision made following his presentation to the board earlier in the year where it was discussed that IoHDT want to refurbish the turbine without borrowing money. HEL are currently investigating information regarding insurance of older turbines – that once a turbine has passed the stated design life from the manufacturer the

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turbine will be uninsurable until it has been assessed by an independent person who will determine the viable life left. Brian also advised that a request for variation of

the current planning permission has been submitted to extend the permission for 5 years from the date of commissioning which will effectively give an extension of 7.5 years and that fees taken by OIC so this is now being processed.

### 9. LEGACY PROJECT presented by Brian Clegg

IoHDT passed the Legacy Project to Hoy Energy Matters for management, installation and maintenance. Brian advised the board that applications for the Phase 1 expansion had closed and that there were more applications registered than systems available. HEM have funding to install about 12 systems, the households involved have been made aware that the funding may run out before their install takes place, these are due to begin next week. The properties have been surveyed and energy usage data collected. This information has been anonymised and sent to a panel in Kirkwall, who, working with a scoring matrix based on impact on energy usage, occupancy and energy types have graded the applications in order of priority. The board discussed again how difficult revenue funding is to find for projects. Keith asked about the possibility of commercialising the system and selling to other islands however the investment in employment time and funding make this unlikely as HEM cannot source the £12K required at the moment to install all of the equipment already purchased.

### 10. Correspondence presented by ALL

There was no correspondence to discuss.

### 11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS presented by ALL

- ACTION ITEMS

The Action items list was discussed at the meeting and is annexed to the minutes

- HIE HOY VIDEO AND LEAFLET

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Debs advised the board that the video HIE had made for the Island has been signed off and that she had circulated the leaflet to them via email to look over before it goes public.

MEETING CLOSED AT: 21.10

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Finance Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024

WRITTEN BY: Nicola Budge  
Minute Secretary

PROPOSED FOR ADOPTION BY:

*Keith Dobney*

SECONDED BY:

*Alex Sinclair*

Signed  
(Chair)

*S. D. Jacques*