

Island of Hoy Development Trust Meeting Minutes

REMOTELY VIA ZOOM

OPEN
MEETING

DATE 15/06/2022 TIME 7:30PM

Meeting Called By	Debs Jaques
Minute Secretary	Deanna Johnston
Type of Meeting	Open Board
List of Board Members	Debs Jaques, Christine Bolton, Moira Cossar, Lindsay Hall, Max Collop, Alex Sinclair, Kieran Sinclair
NON BOARD	Liz Davidson, Deanna Johnston, Denize Lace, Andy Trafford, Brian Clegg, Kim Dobrzynski, Andy Dobrzynski
APOLOGIES	Keith Dobney

Topics

1	MINUTES OF LAST MEETING	DEBS
Summary of Discussion	BOARD MEETING The minutes of the April 2022 open board meeting were circulated to the Board prior to the meeting. The minutes were proposed as correct by Moira Cossar, seconded by Max Collop and signed by the Chair.	

2	MATTERS ARISING	ALL
Summary of Discussion	There were no matters arising.	

3	YM	MOIRA
Summary of Discussion	<p>Moira confirmed that the SCIO has a bank account and is also registered with HMRC as an employer in order to take over as employer for Karen Morris. James Alexander is due to come to Hoy and install the new cookers in the kitchen next week.</p> <p>Moira asked for approval to hold a silent auction for items which the SCIO can no longer make use of which consists of old equipment and excess items collected for sales which took place in the past.</p> <p>Moira advised that the draft lease has been prepared and is ready to submit to the IoHDT Board for perusal with its legal team prior to sending over to the SCIO members of YM Empower and its legal team.</p> <p>Regarding insurance, Moira explained that it has been tricky trying to secure a policy due to the fact that the SCIO does not own the building. Representatives from Marsh Commercial have confirmed that they will send some quotes over from insurance companies who are willing to provide cover. Liz requested for a proposed date for which the policy may start so that she can inform the IoHDT insurers in order to avoid dates with possible 'double insurance'. Moira confirmed that she would advise, and that insurance must be in place prior to the open day due to be held on 16/07/22.</p>	

	<p>Debs requested agreement for the silent auction to take place, the Directors present agreed.</p> <p>Moira made reference to the empty bike sheds at the YM, informing the meeting attendees that it transpired that the bike loan from Cycling UK was not in fact for the duration of the project as originally understood. When the bikes were returned for annual maintenance, they were loaned out to other islands on a rotation basis and not returned to Hoy as anticipated. As a result, YM Empower discussed the situation and agreed that it would likely be easier for the SCIO to source funding for replacement bikes than it would be for the IoHDT, and have approached Steve Rhodes for prices for some electric and some non-electric bikes. Additionally, Steve has agreed to publicise the potential new bikes and offered some PR services.</p>
Conclusions	<p>The YM Empower SCIO has its own bank account and is registered with HMRC as an employer. The committee are expecting further progress on the kitchen in the coming days and have agreement to hold a silent auction for the sale of items which are no longer required.</p> <p>A draft lease has now been prepared and will be submitted for perusal in due course, the SCIO is also in the process of obtaining insurance quotes in anticipation of the official open day.</p> <p>Moira confirmed that the SCIO is investigating funding options to replace the bikes which were given back to Cycling UK, Steve Rhodes will obtain some prices and has also offered to assist the SCIO with PR once the new bikes (if sourced) arrive.</p>

4	FINANCE	LIZ
Summary of Discussion	<p>Liz confirmed that the year end accounts are progressing and that the audit is still set to go ahead towards the end of July. Liz advised that all finances are currently within budget as per the budgets which were set at the beginning of the financial year.</p> <p>Liz has previously provided an update on the various project finances to Debs and Moira and advised that further detail around this would be provided in the Directors only meeting afterwards.</p>	
Conclusions	<p>The audit is still on schedule and due to be commenced towards the end of July. All finances and expenditure are within budget as per the budgets which were previously set.</p> <p>Project finances were discussed with Debs and Moira previously.</p>	

5	HEALTH & WELLBEING	DENIZE/MOIRA
Summary of Discussion	<p>Denize informed the meeting attendees that the clubs that she hosts, (Chair Based Exercise and the Barnacle Club), are going very well. Denize hopes to work closely with the Health Centre so that there is some 'social prescribing' taking place and will discuss further upon Iain Cromarty's return.</p> <p>Denize is concerned that there are increasing occurrences of financial hardship on the Island and fears that it will only get worse. A rise in local Covid cases is adding to Denize's pressure as there appears to be fewer pockets of money available to assist those in need. Denize has some ideas which she plans to discuss with Moira around how she can tackle some of the issues and work continues for both Denize and Moira on searching for funding pots. Denize did, however, advise that even organisations previously relied upon to support the project were tightly stretched themselves and it has become increasingly more challenging to obtain support. Moira confirmed that the support was indeed very difficult to access, adding that unless the</p>	

	<p>organisation attempting to access it was setting up a specific service, there was no support available.</p> <p>Liz commended Denize's efforts and informed her of the general support for the clubs from those who attend. Christine asked if transport was an issue and whether or not it was provided. Denize confirmed that in some cases transport could be an issue but it is difficult attempting to source a driver. Denize lost sound connection and was unable to add further detail. Debs confirmed that if there is a driver available, the electric vehicle could be used, Debs also suggested approaching the Haey Hope Club as it would be within the clubs' remit to provide transport to such activities.</p>
Conclusions	<p>Denize advised that the 2 clubs that she has set up are going steadily, general encouragement was offered towards Denize's efforts.</p> <p>Denize confirmed that supporting those in financial need and sourcing the support facilities are proving more difficult as organisations which she previously relied on are becoming overwhelmed themselves.</p> <p>Transport to and from Denize's clubs was discussed and it was decided that further consideration and discussion could go into this in the hope that more people can then access the services and benefit from them.</p>

6	BUSES	DEBS
Summary of Discussion	<p>Debs advised the meeting attendees that the service is short on drivers. The green bus is becoming increasingly unreliable and more costly to maintain and the blue bus requires some repairs and due to workload at the Garage, are taking longer than anticipated. Debs confirmed that acquiring a new bus is fast becoming a priority. Debs did inform the meeting attendees that a new fund for Community Transports for a 100% funded all-electric vehicle has recently been advertised with a view to launching in July. Debs has expressed an interest on behalf of the IoHDT. Consideration would then need to be given to logistics around this regarding charge points etc. for which Brian has been preliminarily engaged.</p> <p>Lindsay raised an issue regarding the disparity which is felt by a resident in Hoy around the lack of provision of Community Transport to that area of the Island. Debs advised that this issue is in hand and will be moved forward with the combined efforts of Debs as Chair and Kim as CDO.</p>	
Conclusions	<p>The Community Bus service is currently short on drivers. The green bus appears to be decreasing in reliability, and the blue bus is awaiting repairs and maintenance during a busy period for the garage. There is possible funding available for an electric bus for Community Transports which Debs is further investigating.</p> <p>Lindsay advised of an issue which has been raised by a Hoy resident, Debs confirmed that this is in hand and that Debs and Kim would be addressing it in due course.</p>	

7	REFLEX	DEBS/BRIAN
Summary of Discussion	<p>Debs confirmed that the project is just about to conclude and that a final handover is set to take place shortly.</p>	

	Liz requested that all parties involved ensure that CES sign off correctly and that it is recorded on file exactly what the project was and that it has now finished. Debs added that CES wish to come to Hoy and conduct an 'end of project interview'. Debs will keep the Board updated.
Conclusions	The project will now come to a close and CES intend to come to Hoy to conduct an 'end of project interview'. Liz requested that all involved ensure that CES sign the project off correctly.

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WIND TURBINE

BRIAN

Summary of Discussion	<p>Brian advised that the advantage of the energy crisis from the perspective of managing a wind turbine is that the market prices for the sale of generated electricity are much higher than they have been previously. The current agreement sees HEL exporting energy at 12.8p per unit having previously been averaging 4.7p per unit. Along with other community energy generators, another auction took place in order to achieve the best forward selling price per unit once the current agreement ceases in March 2023. Octopus Energy were the winning bidder and settled at almost 17p per unit, Brian added that the turbine was working well.</p> <p>Brian identified 3 turbines locally which were sold and are now owned by a pension fund; Hatston, Rennibister and Flotta. The organisation is approaching turbine owners with a view to purchasing more turbines, Brian will report back as and when the situation develops.</p> <p>Liz enquired as to whether or not Brian thought HEL might be in a position to complete a transfer of funds to the IoHDT this year, Brian confirmed that this would be confirmed very soon.</p> <p>Max confirmed to the meeting attendees that the new cable which was laid in the Pentland Firth relatively recently has been deemed irreparable, adding that HEL are completely dependent on the temporary cable until the issue is resolved with a new cable.</p>
Conclusions	<p>The current agreement sees HEL export energy at 12.8p per unit. As of April 2023, a new agreement which has been reached with Octopus Energy will see HEL exporting energy at almost 17p per unit.</p> <p>Pension fund owners are looking to purchase more turbines in Orkney having already purchased 3, Brian will keep the Board updated.</p> <p>Brian is soon to confirm whether or not HEL are in a position to transfer funds to the IoHDT this year.</p> <p>The Pentland Firth cable has been deemed irreparable.</p>

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LEGACY PROJECT

BRIAN

Summary of Discussion	<p>Brian informed the meeting attendees that despite the application having been made several months ago, with 4 signed Trustees and a further 4 in waiting, as well as Ivan chasing OSCR for an update, there has been no real communication back regarding the new SCIO. Additionally, once the process is complete, it may take a while to open a new bank account. Brian expressed concern that due to this delay it may become increasingly difficult to source equipment for the project at reasonable prices at a time when the community is already finding it difficult to afford their cost of living. As previously agreed,</p>
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	<p>Brian wishes to purchase the equipment sooner so that it reaches Hoy for a reasonable fixed price rather than having to wait for the SCIO to be set up. To achieve this, HEL will be the organisation to purchase the equipment. Once completed, rather than transfer a cash asset to the SCIO, HEL would transfer the equipment across as a capital asset. Brian confirmed that there was a majority agreement from the IoHDT Board, although not a unanimous one, and should any other Directors wish to view the information again, Brian would forward it to them. In the coming weeks, the 4 prospective SCIO Trustees and HEL Board would investigate options around sourcing equipment.</p>
Conclusions	<p>Brian advised that the creation of the SCIO is taking longer than originally expected. The plan will therefore be for HEL to purchase the equipment and transfer it across as a capital asset once the SCIO is formalised. This will assist in securing a better price for the equipment. In the coming weeks, the new SCIO Trustees along with HEL will investigate options around sourcing the equipment.</p>

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CORRESPONDENCE

ALL

Summary of Discussion

Debs confirmed that North Walls School have applied for funding via the Community Fund, this will be discussed and decided upon during a Directors only meeting afterwards.
Debs has received correspondence from the West of Orkney Wind Farm organisation who have asked if any representatives from the IoHDT would like to participate in a 'community panel'.

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AOB

ALL

Summary of Discussion

Debs previously approached Brian and Max to ask if they wish to represent HEL and the IoHDT on the West of Orkney Wind Farm Community Panel. Max confirmed that the project consists of installing a 2GW wind farm, provisionally floating around 20 miles from the west of Orkney, to include 2 export cables, one of which will reach the grid on mainland Scotland with other one reaching Flotta in order to operate a hydrogen conversion plant. The project would see the underground cable arrive in Rackwick or Braebister, and come down the Island to Lyness, across to Fara and then on to Flotta. Max expressed that it may cause significant disruption on an unprecedented level for Hoy, confirming that the project would be 'several times greater for a much longer period' than the previously installed SSE replacement cable project, adding that it is essential that Hoy has strong representation. It is currently unknown what, if any, community benefit will be proposed however, Max confirmed that this will be pursued. Finally, Max informed the meeting attendees that an inaugural meeting is set to take place on 29/06/22, and expressed his desire for a united front with the Community Council and newly elected Councillor. Lindsay advised that the Council is heavily involved and all associated individuals within the Council are currently in deep discussions around the project.

Brian advised that he will attempt to reach out to Denize separately due to her technical issues during the meeting, but advised that he would endeavor to assist in transporting those with transport difficulties to the YM clubs as and when he can whilst using the electric vehicle for transport associated with the turbine.

	<p>Andy Dobrzynski has expressed an interest in joining the Board of Directors, discussion and decision is set to take place at the Directors only meeting afterwards.</p> <p>Debs formally introduced Kim Dobrzynski as Community Development Officer to the meeting attendees, and invited Kim to provide an update if desired. Kim confirmed that her initial tasks within the role had been fact finding and sourcing information to provide context on the various projects which are currently on-going. A meeting is scheduled to pick things up with the Longhope Playpark, and a donation has been offered with a possibility of further fund raising from another individual on the Island. Debs confirmed that 'CDO' would be added to the monthly meeting agenda which would give Kim the opportunity to provide an update on the role if she so wishes.</p>
Conclusions	<p>Max offered a brief description of the West of Orkney Wind Farm and its potential impact that it might have on Hoy. Max went on to advise that Hoy must be represented at the inaugural meeting set for 29/06/2022 and throughout, and hopes to have a united front with the Community Council and the Councillor on any related matters, to include potential ideas around community benefit for Hoy.</p> <p>Andy Dobrzynski has expressed an interest in joining the IoHDT Board of Directors.</p> <p>Kim was formally introduced as the new Community Development Officer. It was agreed to add Kim on to the Board meeting agenda to give Kim an opportunity to update the meeting attendees on the various projects for which Kim will be involved with as CDO.</p>
Action Items	<p>Add CDO update to the monthly meeting agenda.</p>

The meeting closed at:

Date of next meeting: 13.07.22

Written by: Deanna Johnston
Minute Secretary

Proposed for adoption by: **MAX COLLOP** Seconded by: **KIERAN SINCLAIR**

Signed
(Chair)

S. D. Jaques