

Assynt Development Trust Limited**Minutes Board Meeting 4:00pm Monday 21st June 2021**

Present: Willie Jack, Nigel Goldie, Marianne Hutchison, Boyd Alexander In Attendance: Ewen McLachlan, Adam Pellant Apologies: Sarah-Ann MacLeod Conflicts of interest None	Action
Strategy meeting pre-board meeting review	Agreed
1. Minutes of Board meeting of 29th April 2021 All agreed that the minutes are an accurate record of proceedings Proposed NG Seconded BA	Agreed
2. Matters arising (not addressed elsewhere on the agenda)	
3. Climate Action <p>a) Update MH & EM Climate action – no progress yet on another meeting. AP suggested that a local electric car owner might be interested in discussing how to go about this. Glasgow FoE are holding a Highland wide divestment meeting on 23rd</p> <p>b) Beach Cleans</p> <p>The million-mile beach clean was very successful with over 300kg of waste collected in Assynt. Most was deposited in the harbour skip, good to dispose of it but bad not to recycle. There were good levels of engagement with people happy to have a choice as to which beach to clean, although it is more difficult to collect waste from remote beaches. It was thought that possibly the harbour boat may be useful and maybe some of the creelers or Loch Duart boats. It was suggested that Lochinver foreshore could be done next.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
4. Finance & Business <p>a) Accounts 2019/20 No date yet for accounts. Follow up required.</p> <p>b) Finance reports for January to May 2021 Reports from Edwin were presented and they show a £778 shortfall for the year</p> <p>c) Assynt Resilience Group WJ reported on the CRF which ended on the 31st May 2021 approximately £5000 of the £9000 grant has been spent and if there is nothing more allowed by HIE this will result in a repayment of the balance. The final evaluation report is due by 30th June.</p> <p>Discussions have started within the HIE sponsored Sutherland Resilience Group on a ScotGov funded CRF 2. NG outlined discussions that he and WJ had with Helen Houston this morning. It seems likely that ADT will take the lead and submit a partnership application for the North west. WJ explained that one issue that has arisen is the closure of the drop in centre on Main Street, Lochinver; it appears that the building could belong to Highland Council however it was leased by the NHS. WJ and MH will investigate ownership and reasons for closure. Other ideas for CRF 2 include an e-rickshaw for the Assynt Centre to give those with mobility issues the opportunity for trips to the village.</p> <p>d) New website Now up and running at https://www.assyntdevelopmenttrust.org</p> <p>e) Louis Gouveia Fund The board agreed to offer the applicant a grant of £225 as requested.</p>	<p>WJ</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>Noted WJ</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>WJ, MH</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Agreed</p>

<p>f) HIE Monthly reports and financial claims Reports presented from Adam & Ewen to HIE for April & May 2021</p> <p>g) Loo at The Light Draft agreement with Assynt Crofters Trust for the transfer of the Loo at The Light. The coin operated lock has been removed and it has been replaced by a normal door handle & latch. The board agreed with the draft agreement as presented. WJ to liaise with ACT.</p> <p>h) Assynt rocks outside old Visitor Centre An email has been received from Rachael Hawkins asking if ADT wish to take / buy the rocks from outside Delilah's / the old Visitor Centre. The board agreed there was no action to be taken.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>Noted</p>
<p>5. Development</p> <p>a) The Mission freehold acquisition Completion took place on May 11th and the total fees payable of £4,833 were: Energy Performance Certificate £876 Highland Council £2,024 MacLeod & MacCallum £1,933</p> <p>b) The Glebe Land, Lochinver Completion took place on 30th March and the fees payable were: MacLeod & MacCallum £2,640</p> <p>An application for funds to pay for further site investigations was made to the Rural Housing Fund and the Trust has just heard that the application has been successful. A meeting will be held with CHT on 25th to plan the site investigations.</p> <p>Chris Goodman has produced his scoping footpath report for ADT/ the Glebe steering group and this is attached. The cost was £360. The board agreed that it was an excellent report but that it should be published in context with other information about the project when further information is available about potential house sites which will be identified through the site investigations.</p> <p>No further meetings have been planned for the Steering Group until the site investigations have been carried out.</p> <p>c) Cludgie Waste Project The finance for Phase 1 has now been completed with ADT receiving £7,350 in fees from AL Update AP for Phase 2. AP advised that AL have completed all the financial transactions for Phase 1. AP advised that a Scottish Water contractor had raised concerns through SW's Glasgow office about Phase 1, their concern was possible recontamination from the soil/waste to fresh water and the network. A byelaw form needs to be completed and submitted with detailed drawings and specifications. Martin Anderson has informed AP that non return valves are installed but will put the taps out of use just now until the bye law issue has been resolved.</p> <p>Phase 2 AP advised that a 24 hr contactless payment system has been added to the works schedule at a cost of an extra £5,000 this was decided upon and funded by Visit Scotland. AP is still waiting for RTIF for the sign off of the grant applications; every time changes are made there is a long process from ADT to RTIF to VS to AL etc. This wasn't helped by RTIF producing incorrect figures that delayed the process. BA asked if there was a target date for opening and AP advised it could be within three months. EM advised that AL are seeing a significant increase in income with overnight parking of campervans per night with a recommended donation.</p> <p>d) Crown Estate Scotland WJ, EM and AP met CES's Partnership Manager Tom Mallow and Phil Tomalin and Pablo Mascerenhas from HC on 18th May to discuss how CES, HC and ADT could pursue development opportunities at Lochinver harbour. A draft 'Straw Man'/ heads of terms proposal was attached for discussion and the Board agreed to submit this to HC and CES.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>WJ</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>AP</p> <p>Agreed WJ</p>

<p>e) Achmelvich Project An Expression of Interest (EOI) was made to round 4 of the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund on May 18th. Another EOI has just been submitted for the match funding for the project to the Highland Coastal Communities (strategic projects) Fund. After the 18th May meeting above, Phil Tomalin from HC intimated that a Community Asset transfer from HC to ADT may be the most likely way to pursue an Achmelvich project. AP advised that match funding is now in place (£3,500 Highland Council and £1,500 Assynt Community Council) to add to the approx. £4,400 design budget from RTIF (it is actually a percentage of the total spend). The design work needs to start quite quickly and a tender brief needs to be drafted which can then be sent out to prospective consultants. The work includes design of the car park and toilets and business planning. NG feels that we need to make a more informed decision about the progression of this project WJ advised that the design works are intended to provide more certainty to allow a more informed decision. BA asked who was on the steering group from Achmelvich and WJ advised - Ray Mackay, Sarah Anne Macleod, Durrant Macleod and Adam Pellant</p> <p>f) Green Recovery Fund – NatureScot An application was submitted to the SG’s Green Recovery Fund to include toilet provision at Assynt’s tourism hot spots – we recently heard that the application was unsuccessful.</p> <p>g) Highland Council Roads investment Sutherland County Committee 1st March 2021 minutes</p>	<p>Noted WJ/ AP/ EM</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
<p>6. Culag Park Update</p> <p>a) Mower: The mower main belt broke and after a delay caused by the wrong belt being sent by the distributors, it should be up and running again. It has been agreed that the mower will be booked into Frank Nicols in Dingwall for a service when the grass is under control!</p> <p>b) Kissing Gates: Duncan and Clarke from Assynt Upkeep have adapted the three gates to ensure they close automatically. The cost for all three gates was £286 and AU have been asked to consider something similar for the metal gate by The Mission</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
<p>7. Discover Assynt Update</p> <p>a) Adapt & Thrive: An application has been made to A&T to expand Discover Assynt into a NXNW tourism format which links with HIE’s support. The development of the application was assisted by Victoria Pearce of Community Enterprise.</p>	<p>EM</p>
<p>8. AOB</p> <p>a) Inchnadamph Lodge has been put up for sale by Chris Rix and a group led by the GeoPark made contact with ADT just before this meeting to see if the Trust could be the Assynt organisation best suited to take forward a community purchase. To be discussed at next meeting.</p> <p>b) EM advised that he had been asked if ADT might be able to help the Rockstop with their car park funding application. It was felt that this could well move to Scourie Rocks in due course so the work could be of limited benefit.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
<p>9. Proposed date of next meeting Monday 23rd August 2021</p>	