

Assynt Development Trust Limited

Minutes of Board Meeting Wednesday 24th June 2020, 2.00pm via Zoom

Present

Willie Jack (WJ), Marianne Hutchison (MH), Sarah Ann MacLeod (SAM)

In attendance

Adam Pellant (AP), Ewen McLachlan (EM)

Apologies

Edwin de Jong (EdJ), Bill Badger (BB), Nigel Goldie (NG), Boyd Alexander (BA)

Item	Meeting	Action
1	Minutes of the Board Meeting of 18th May 2020 It was agreed that the minutes of the previous meeting are an accurate record of the proceedings. Proposed by MH seconded by SAM	
2	Matters Arising from the minutes of the previous meeting (not addressed elsewhere on the agenda) None	
3	Climate Action WJ presented an example of a Development Trust policy on Climate Action and asked the board if ADT should adopt this approach? MH suggested that to have targets we would need a better idea of the statistics that define environmental policy in the Highlands. MH mentioned Green Hive from Nairn who have an interesting mission statement and “projects on the go” which could be useful for ADT. AP suggested that an environmental policy could be for ADT first then Assynt wide – if across the parish then this would require further consultation. MH advised that an environmental warden has been employed at Durness who works at marine litter. It was agreed by MH that discussions with others will help to inform ADT’s policy formulation.	MH
4	Finance and Legal a) ACA Ltd and AC(T) Ltd finance update Papers circulated. There were no questions regarding the figures presented b) Supporting Communities Fund – For Assynt Resilience Group WJ gave the meeting an update on SCF projects including the Income & Expenditure report from 1 st May to 22 nd June 2020. AP advised that the next ACC meeting is planned for 25 th June and he would request access as all CC meetings are open to the public.	AP
5	Cludgie Waste Project Following the Zoom meeting on 18 th June with Martin Thomsen at HIE, AP gave the meeting an update on progress so far. It is hoped that a joint ALC / ADT meeting will go ahead this week or next to finally confirm the plan to adopted. AP believes that the AL chair and board have accepted that plan A is the most practical approach. EM asked if it is possible to ask the contractor what the likely extra cost would be for tarmac or concrete over the compacted gravel specified within the present reduced budget. AP to ask the contractors. EM also advised that Clachtoll campsite would be offering camper van owners a £10 emptying charge.	AP AP
6	Development a) The Mission – HC CAT Application WJ has corresponded with HC by email and expects a further update on the date for HC’s site visit in the next week or two	

	<p>b) Lochinver Glebe Land HSCHT will be carrying out a socially distanced site visit at the Lochinver Glebe Land on Friday 26th June at 10:30am. WJ, AP & EM will be there with them. WJ has begun discussions with Jamie Watson from Savills Inverness with a view to Savills carrying out a valuation of the Land.</p>	
7	<p>eBike Project</p> <p>a) New eCargo Bike - The eBike has not yet been received from Babboe in Netherlands but delivery is expected in the next 2-3 weeks. The EST have reimbursed the Trust for the £3,728 purchase.</p> <p>b) There is still £336.87 to be spent from the latest EST grant. SAM advised that she would be going to Inverness and could collect the bike trailers proposed from Halfords. EM agreed to let SAM know the items to be collected</p> <p>c) KS at ALC advises that three of the six current eBikes are out on 2-4 week loans with one other just about to go out. Two bikes are waiting for minor parts from Dryburgh's and then they will be available for hire.</p>	EM/ SAM
8	<p>Discover Assynt</p> <p>a) Website Update Video produced by EM with Graeme McInnes https://www.discoverassynt.co.uk/gallery is gaining huge engagement across social media. It should go on the NC500 FB page today. EM will forward to the Northern Times</p> <p>b) Visit Scotland Coronavirus (COVID19) support scheme for tourism destination organisations £1,000 grant now accepted and funds received from VS 17th June EWJ outlined that that this will mean that the DA social media presence can continue till spring next year</p> <p>c) Alternative booking system for Discover Assynt 22 Assynt businesses are currently using FTB. EM advised that FTB will contact these businesses and the non FTBB businesses in Assynt and once the FTB software has been embedded within the DA website we will be able to widen it to all members and non-members of DA. EM to liaise with WJ over this</p>	EM EM/ WJ
9	<p>Culag Park Update WJ advised that the new mower is currently out of action as a belt has broken. It was difficult to identify the product number for the belt and the even more difficult to find a supplier with the belts in stock. The meeting discussed finding another mower to keep the grass under control. EM suggested that we could approach other owners.</p>	EM/ WJ
10	<p>Development Officers Reports</p> <p>a) Report from Adam Pellant Report circulated</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AP advised that Stevan Lockhart's concern over his ISP at Stoer has not resulted in BT failing to upgrade the software of the system 2. Alex Dickson has asked AP if ADT would contribute 25% of the likely £2k cost of repainting the HC creel sheds in the harbour entrance. The meeting discussed this and agreed that the Trust should not be funding something that HC should pay for (although they may never choose to do so) and also not at a time when the Trusts finances are stretched. It was suggested that a previous idea to involve local children and a street artist was a project that may be worth considering although funding would need to be sought. AP to report back to AD 3. Tourism survey on FB has now received 49 responses, significantly more than in Coigach & Ullapool. AP & EM to summarise & disseminate <p>b) Report from Ewen McLachlan Report circulated</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EM told the meeting that the £1,000 grant application to NHI for hand sanitiser for tourism providers had been successful. Hand sanitiser dispensers will be distributed to all tourism providers who request them. 	AP AP/ EM

<p>11</p>	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) WJ had asked Corra Irwin from MacLeod & MacCallum about the removal of the Mission title security. This has not yet been processed but CI believes that it should occur in the next fortnight b) AP asked WJ to remind CI of the legal issues at AL with the cludgie c) EM& SAM advised that it had just been announced that all travel restrictions would be removed on 3rd July when self catering operators would be able to re-open ahead of wider tourism on 15th July 	<p>WJ AP</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>Proposed Date of Next meeting Late July, early August</p>	

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