

Minutes of Meeting of the PBCT Board Meeting, held on Wednesday, 23 March 2022 in Skye Camanachd Club House at 7pm

Present: Calum Matheson (Chair), Duncan Brown, Ross Cowie, Bill Edgar, Lorna Cormack, Tiffany Maberley, Graham Smith, Neil Campbell, Sharon Fenlon, Drew Millar, Fred Schiefer, John A Campbell, Harriet Forrest, Irene Deplano, Fiona Thomson, Ann Marie Campbell, Iona MacDonald (Minutes).

Welcome: Calum Matheson (re-elected chair) extended a warm welcome to all and invited those who had been present for the AGM immediately before, to remain for the board meeting if they so wished.

Check-in: Fiona reported that the SLF application for funding with legal fees in connection with the Allotments purchase had been successful. The Home Farm (Allotments) purchase would bring with it a part-time development officer and kick-start funding.

Youth Philanthropy Awards – Matheson Place Playpark is a nominee.

Volunteer/Employee Headlines: Trust Board Election Results – recorded. New Trustees – Fiona will work with them regarding an induction.

New volunteer interest – good to see. Build on this going forward.

To Do List: New Trustees Induction – covered. SLF Award – covered. Waste Disposal Unit, Bayfield – to be cages off and install payment system. Toilets in next development stage. Ad Boards – will generate revenue. Pier Toilets – cleaner to be recruited as a priority by end of March. Membership Review – Fiona Thomson and Lorna Cormack to take forward.

Issue List:

Co-Wheels – Electric car hire – this option had been investigated but was found not to be beneficial to the Trust at present and would result in a net loss. Not progressed.

Matheson Place Playpark – Tiffany Maberley was put forward as Trustee representing the Matheson Place Playpark. To be discussed with Fiona. Project progressing on basis that PBCT would take ownership/control of the playpark, rather than hand back on completion to Highland Council for maintenance. Ownership plans, insurance availability and costs for non-monitored site to be brought to next meeting. At present, there is no formal organising committee in place, but 3 parents driving the project.

King George V Playing Field – ask for gate to be reinstated. Removed by LSHA and not returned on completion of new build

Investing in Communities Fund – this fund opens in April. Could potentially access funds for next year – possible 3 years of revenue funding available, e.g. staff post of Assistant Development Officer or Administrator. Proposals must meet their criteria. **Prioritise.**

Bayfield – it was requested that some of Fiona's time should be prioritised for Bayfield projects, such as the old Water Board building.

It was noted that Fiona Thomson should be regarded as the best investment ever made by the Trust, and the Chair requested that this be formally minuted.

The Trust is under pressure to develop revenue streams to finance staff posts, e.g. Phase 3 parking, pumping station, and to prioritise these over social projects. The pump station could accommodate revenue generators such as toilets, showers, start-ups, restaurant, etc. It was not possible to offer overnight parking to motor homes as this was likely to be in competition with local businesses, which was prohibited.

E-bikes – e-bike rental was suggested as a revenue source, but start-up costs were likely to be too high to consider at present.

Car Park – rental due from HC in June. This would be a major source of revenue for the trust. An additional development officer was required but funds were not currently available to fund one. Fiona could prioritise Bayfield projects now and prepare a schedule of proposed projects for the next meeting.

Harbour -The Chair suggested that PBCT/Development Officer should step back from the Levelling Up Harbour projects as this was taking up too much time, with Trust interests (breakwater and pontoons) unlikely to be met over Highland Council interests. HC had approached the Trust to facilitate feedback from the community. Recommend to HC that the plans for repairs and extension to existing facility be Stage 1. Stage 2 would include the breakwater. Certas had been approached regarding possible relocation of fuel depot, but this had been refused. Have requested sight of Health and Safety documents, but not forthcoming. Certas may consider a move for a consideration of £2m. Consideration should also be given to the 58 cruise ships expected yearly, with associated tour buses all using the pier. No additional facilities for these users. HIE will not be investing.

(D Brown left the meeting at this point)

Event Volunteers: The Skye Games (3 August) and the Skye Half-Marathon (11 June) had requested volunteer stewards and marshalls in return for a donation. The Games were looking to streamline the ticketing/entry process, and e-tickets and digital payments would be in place, in addition to cash payments and help would be required at the gate to deal with admissions as quickly as possible. Ann Marie and Graham would liaise. This could assist a number of different projects. The Skye Half-Marathon were looking for marshalls in return for a donation to the organisation. The Matheson Place Playpark group would benefit. Involve Tiffany in discussions

AOCB

In a submission from the floor, the reason for situating disabled parking at the far end of the car park (Bayfield) was questioned, and the lack of facilities for disposal of dog mess. This was no longer a trust matter, as Highland Council had the lease, and all planning and architecture was their responsibility.

It had been agreed that PBCT would look after the grass at KGV, while Highland Council would look after grass cutting at Bayfield, including dealing with the Japanese Knotweed problem in the vicinity of Tigh na Drochaid. Cuts would be carried out every 2 weeks in season.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held at 7pm on 20 April 2022 at Jans (Board Room). The following meeting (May) would be an afternoon meeting.

Close

The meeting was closed at 8.15pm