

## Stòras Uibhist

### PUBLICATION MINUTE of the meeting of the **BOARD**

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2008 at Bornish 16.30.

MEMBERS PRESENT	Angus MacMillan Chair	Roddy MacDonald
	Fr M J MacDonald Vice Chair	George MacAulay
	John MacMillan	David Blaney
	Lorne MacLeod	

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Sarah MacEachan	
	Martin Matheson	

ATTENDING	Kirsty Campbell, minute secretary	Huw Francis, Chief Executive

DECLARATION OF INTEREST	Angus MacMillan – Inward investment project (fish farming)
	<b>Lorne MacLeod – Cal Mac</b>

Agenda Heading		Record of Proceedings
		The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Directors were reminded of their responsibility to the company in respect of declaration of interests and in commercial confidentiality of board level discussions. It was agreed that confidentiality agreements should be signed by all Directors and Staff. These should be drafted for the next meeting. It was agreed that minutes available for publication should respect the commercial confidentiality of Stòras Uibhist and its clients and partners.
Minutes of meeting of 1.5.08	1	A motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting was proposed by Lorne MacLeod and Seconded by Fr Michael MacDonald. Carried unanimously.
Action Sheet	2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Register of interest forms – ongoing</li> <li>2. Signs re deer – ongoing</li> <li>3. Invite to SUAC issued but no taken up</li> <li>4. Rural Homes For Rent Pilot – application has been submitted for an initial project of six properties. It is likely that the Stòras Uibhist project will be the only application from the Western Isles.</li> <li>5. Lochboisdale regeneration – ongoing</li> <li>6. Archaeology – ongoing</li> <li>7. Youth Engagement - no action to date.</li> <li>8. Local fundraising is ongoing.</li> <li>9. Public minutes still require to be uploaded to the website. – ongoing action. Approval of the minutes for publication was delegated to the Chair.</li> <li>10. South Uist Estate Charitable trust. Fr Michael provided the meeting with an update on the current position. A meeting of SUECT agreed on four trustees, and the needs to be addressed. The trust have agreed to seek to establish resident piping master class tuition within South Uist.</li> </ol>
Extraordinary Topics	3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Election of Directors: AGM raised the question of the resignation of David Buckland and subsequent replacement by George MacAulay. Mike Ferris of Gillespie MacAndrew has advised:  George MacAulay was co-opted to the Board on the basis that he was the nominee with the highest number of votes not elected to the Board at the first election of Directors. He was co-opted at the time of David Buckland's resignation to maintain the number of Directors at a constant level. He will therefore be a Director until the third AGM (as per Clause 31).  The minimum number of elected Directors shall be three with up to twelve Directors overall, of whom seven must be elected (as per Clause 29). Therefore there is currently no vacancy that must be filled and so no EGM for an election of a Director needs to be held.</li> </ol>

		<p>Fr Michael noted that the issue has arisen as part of the requirement to have directors validated at the AGM, whilst there is a need for postal ballots to allow all members to vote.</p> <p>The issue of co-opted directors also requires some consideration.</p> <p>2. There was some discussion on the matter of minutes of the AGM. Angus MacMillan noted that item 17 in the Mems and Arts deals with the business of the AGM. Item 49, states Minutes of the AGM should be made available, but does not specify they are made available at the AGM.</p> <p>It was agreed to put the minutes of the two previous year's AGMs on the website prior to the next AGM.</p> <p>3. The governance subcommittee will take forward discussions on elections and mem and arts.</p>
Chief Executives Report	4	<p>1. Lochboisdale project. The collation of the needs assessment underway, some information still being collated.</p> <p>2. Roddy MacDonald gave an update on the CnES position regarding capital funding for the project. Funding of £600,000 was identified in the capital programme, however due to the ongoing issue regarding schools provision no external funding is currently available for dispersal.</p> <p>Some funding may be used for revenue costs of developing a project.</p> <p>3. Huw Francis and Angus MacMillan discussed with John Watt at HIE the existing and upcoming projects and requested staffing support for the development of the projects.</p> <p>4. HIE have begun considering how best to work with Stòras Uibhist in an account management role and looking at setting up a task force for South Uist. The discussion is ongoing, being led by Archie MacDonald within HIE.</p> <p>5. Renewables – project progressing well. A second meeting with the lochdar hill township meeting was held to discuss draft terms for agreement. The met mast will be installed on site in August.</p> <p>6. Lochboisdale/Mallaig – Lorne Macleod left the meeting for the duration of the following item's discussion. CalMac discussions regarding the Lochboisdale Mallaig ferry link have to date not proved fruitful. Huw Francis and Angus MacMillan met with Andrew Banks of Pentland ferries and have established that the Claymore vessel is currently available and is in class, contrary to CalMac's earlier statements.. Mallaig have confirmed there is capacity within the pier, again contrary to statements made by CalMac. The proposal for a new Mallaig-Lochboisdale link was considered and discussed. The proposal covers three options, 1 the Claymore to be leased and operated by CalMac, the operation to be run by Pentland ferries, or a partnership delivery between Pentland ferries and Stòras Uibhist.</p> <p>It was agreed to take the proposal to Malcolm Burr at CnES and then present it to Stuart Stevenson minister for transport as soon as possible.</p> <p>8. Inward Investment Project Angus MacMillan left the meeting for the duration of the following item's discussion. Lorne MacLeod returned to the meeting. Removed for commercial confidentiality reasons. Following discussion on the proposal the board agreed that the principle is good, and that the project should be followed up with vigour.</p> <p>9. The board agreed to consult Gillespie MacAndrew on the implications of</p>

	<p>undertaking discussions in relation to new commercial ventures etc.</p> <p>10. The board agreed that the Chief Executive has delegated authority by the Board for following up on new project proposals which arise and require urgent attention prior to the subsequent board meeting.</p> <p>George MacAulay left the meeting. Angus MacMillan returned.</p> <p>11. Investment funds - Fr Michael requested that the Board consider the creation of an investment facility (company or fund), wholly owned by Stòras Uibhist, to allow Stòras to enter into different relationships with clients and others and to allow for company expansion. The Board agreed that this proposal should be investigated with urgency’.</p> <p>12. Scottish Investment Fund Lorne Macleod indicated that the new Scottish Investment Fund had been established by the Scottish government to assist community companies in accessing investment finance. It was agreed to consider how this might apply to Stòras Uibhist. It was further agreed to talk to Scott Moncrief regarding establishing investment funds.</p> <p>13. Gàidhlig t.v. – Stòras Uibhist is taking an active interest in trying to bring aspects of this new TV station to South Uist, Benbecula and Eriskay and the CE will work towards this aim.</p> <p>14. South Uist Archive Trust – The board agreed that Angus MacMillan would write requesting an update on the activities of the Trust and security of the archive.</p> <p>Lorne Macleod noted he had met with Jim Hunter of UHI recently who is keen to discuss how Stòras uibhist can make best use of its archive. A visit by Jim Hunter is to be organised soon..</p>
A.o.c.b.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It was noted that the business plan requires to be updated to take account of new projects and developments. The original business plan should be placed on the website.</li> <li>2. The governance subcommittee was agreed as Fr Michael MacDonald, Lorne MacLeod and Huw Francis.</li> <li>3. Directors were advised of the fundraising/ profile raising events up coming.</li> <li>4. New Office – no Update.</li> <li>5. The meeting then closed.</li> </ol>
Date of next meeting	Next board meeting: 7.8.08