

RAASAY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes

Thursday 29th July at 7:30 pm
Online - zoom

Present:

Donnie Oliphant (DO),
Alasdair Macinnes (AM),
Elizabeth Macleod - LDO (EM)

Darryl Simpson (DS),
Iain Hector Ross (IHR),

Trevor Stratford (TS),
David Westgarth (DW),

Apologies –

Artemis Pana (AP),

Calum Gillies (CG),

Adoption of Minutes –

Adopting the minutes

- 24th June 2021 approved by TS and DO

Amendments to previous minutes –

Matters Arising –

Finance –

No report this month

Finance Manager Contract –

SKS have been appointed to work with us on the outcomes as detailed in the attached letter



L5-013 Raasay 2
Client Engagement |

RDT Insurance –

We have paid our premium and are covered but queries remain.

ACTION - EM to work on responding to the remaining queries from our insurance.

Hydro Scheme –

Ground works have started!! RCR are arranging an event to celebrate on the 31st August – Ian Blackford has confirmed, more details to follow – it was suggested that the School kids should be involved.

ACTION – EM to bring up the suggestion with the RCR board

Procurement – RCR have commenced procurement, they had to get underway quickly to mitigate upcoming price increases. Pipeline has arrived!!

Leases and consents – legal fees are covered by a CARES enablement grant awarded to RDT. Invoices have been received in the name of RCR and have been paid by RCR so VAT can be reclaimed therefore maximising the grant award. Funds will go into RDT's account and will be transferred over to RCR. CARES are aware and are ok with the process in place.

- A hold has been put on the transfer of the SEPA licences and Grid Connection until post commissioning with OFGEM in Sept 2022
- All construction licences/leases now in place
- NRSSC have agreed to the new cable route – discussions progressing

VAT – RCR now have VAT registration number and are reclaiming VAT monthly

ACTION – AP and IHR to work on the Deed of Covenant

Forestry –

We received the Raasay Engagement plan document from F&LS – we have not been able to review to provide feedback

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Pontoon and Ferry Terminal building –

Crown Estate Lease negotiations are ongoing, we have submitted a stage 1 request for lease terms at less than market value and we are awaiting a response – still ongoing, new process so they are working out how to deal with it...

EM has contacted Alan Webster and Fiona Cameron at the Council and provided updated phased costs and grant income for the project. Also chased up RCGF and HCCF award letters.

ACTION – IHR to chase up award letters

EM has spoken with Jennifer at HIE re potential HIE match for the pontoon project and an eligibility letter and application form was received. Application now submitted and we await response.

Wallace Stone have been appointed as project managers and we are arranging the first meeting – need above award letters before we can sign contract.

CATS application ongoing with the hope of getting a decision to us after the August Skye/Raasay committee meeting.

There were a few things brought up previously with one that I was asked to bring to SLF's attention for advice on any impact this would have on an SLF award. There are likely to be burdens attached to any agreement to lease or purchase – we are requesting purchase.

These burdens could potentially be

- Legacy burdens from the Scottish Government funding covering the original construction costs
- Burdens to ensure that the facility continues to provide facilities to ferry users

ACTION – EM to contact SLF/HIE to discuss the impact of the potential burdens

Housing –

We have been offered a loan from Ecology building society and documents have been circulated – documents all signed and returned

We have submitted the QHT application and they will assess it once we have planning approved – still ongoing

Legal work progressing

We are still awaiting the planning decision – flooding, trees and roads all issues that are being resolved by JMQ and Catoe/Brown.

EM has been asked to look into funding to cover the costs of landscaping/tree planting and it has been suggested we look into adding sheds – board agreed. It could be an opportunity to work with the Walled Garden to provide raised beds and planting/growing advice as this would look good on funding applications. Board agreed but RDT would have to fund the materials and provide volunteers with the walled garden providing advice and support.

ACTION – EM to prepare a project brief the outlines what we want to achieve

ACTION – TS to broach subject with Walled Garden group

Website –

Update ongoing with regular sub-group meetings

Visit Scotland application prepared for new signs and “Year of Stories” events – submitted, awaiting response

Pit–

SSE are looking at siting the new transformer behind the existing one on the slightly higher ground – there will need to be a legal agreement between RDT and RCR regarding this and Twin Deer Law are to progress this.

It was suggested that a mechanical wheelbarrow might be beneficial for the volunteers working at the pit.

ACTION – EM to look into cost and funding

Pathways –

F&LS are looking to agree a maintenance agreement for the holm loch path. RDT are to complete the surfacing work on the path.

F&LS have also asked if we would be interested in including the other F&LS paths in a maintenance agreement. The board agreed that this would be too much for us to take on with the resources available.

ACTION – EM to respond to F&LS

ACTION – AM to arrange a trailer of type 2 (quarry dust with small stones) from Sconser Quarry to complete the surfacing work on the Holm Loch path

AOCB –

- **Returning to the office/in person meetings** – It was agreed that board meetings should still be held virtually next month. The proposal from RCA covering the cost of storage and ad hoc desk hire was agreed, subject to the filing cabinets being secured. EM proposed fortnightly visits to Raasay with additional visits if required.

The financial impact of working from home was highlighted by DW and DO.

ACTION – EM to meet with Rosemarie at the office to go over the changes and to ensure the cabinets are secure

DONM: 26th August 2021 at 7:30pm via zoom

Meeting ended