

RAASAY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes

Thursday 17th February 2022 at 7:30 pm
Online via zoom

The meeting opened with a presentation from Climivore on the pilot CLIP (Closed Loop Intertidal Polyculture) project they are taking forward in Clachan Bay from April. We thank them for their time and for informing us of their interesting plans which include three trestles being placed in the intertidal zone. The trestles will be accessible at low tide and the materials will be non-plastic and it is hoped that they will act as a substrate for seaweed and mussels to grow. Their aim is to create a community asset that promotes clean water and generates income.

Present:

Donnie Oliphant (DO),
Darryl Simpson (DS),

Trevor Stratford (TS),
Elizabeth Macleod - LDO (EM)

Iain Hector Ross (IHR),

Apologies –

Artemis Pana (AP),

Alasdair MacInnes (AM),

Adoption of Minutes –

Adopting the minutes from 17th Jan 2022 approved by DO and TS – Minutes were also approved by email to enable them to be uploaded onto the Raasay.com website quicker.

Amendments to previous minutes –

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Matters Arising –

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Governance and AGM –

EM to send email to conform questions for members
Date of AGM to be confirmed by email

Finance –

No report

Agreed to ratify decision on appointment of accountant by email

Hydro Scheme –

RCR and Chris (BluEnergy) are making great progress with the hydro.

Forestry –

F&LS have approached us to see if we have the capacity to store more wood at the pit – 18 months time. A meeting had been arranged at the community hall but was cancelled and is yet to be rescheduled

Pontoon and Ferry Terminal building –

Wallace Stone reviewed the tender responses and as advised we have appointed Gael Force to fabricate and install the pontoon – fabrication will take place off site and installation should take place in May. Prior to installation there will be some boat movement as they undertake anchor tests but most of the work will take place over one to two weeks in May.

Our funders have been provided with the tender returns and Wallace Stone Report. There is a contingency, which is necessary due to the continuing volatility of the price of materials, and we have identified the following that has yet to be included in the costings which will draw down the contingency

- Website, marketing and promotion – EM has prepared a scope of work
- Insurance – EM to obtain quotes
- Possible CES lease payment and legal fees

Two proposals from CES were circulated. One is a reduced rent for the first 5 years and the second is a single payment for a 20 yr lease.

Option 1 – this is a slight reduction in the market value, but it does not go far enough

Option 2 – We could capitalise and use the grant funding available to cover the lease costs and legal fees, but our funders would require

- The option of subletting to be included in the lease
- The option to continue/renew the lease at the end of the twenty years

The board agreed to proceed with option 2

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We're still awaiting a response from Ewen on the questions raised – a meeting was due to be held earlier this month but was cancelled and is yet to be rescheduled. Ewen is still off but Willie is arranging a meeting, possibly next Thursday, behind the scenes to discuss the terms and determine a possible agreement on the CalMac office and the rent we might be able to charge.

Housing –

Planning and Building Warrant have both been granted and a March start date is proposed. We have been asked if we are happy to go with the councils street name, which has yet to be put forward, or to put forward a name chosen by the community. It was agreed to post on the Raasay Residents page to ask for suggestions with a deadline for responses.

NRSSC are taking forward work on the junction – An update meeting via zoom with NRSSC and CHT has yet to be rescheduled.

EM has been revising the QHT application which has to be submitted by the end of February to make the next meeting deadline

EM is working on an application to the Garfield Weston Foundation and this will be submitted at the same time as the QHT application.

EM has been asked to look into the funding to cover the costs of landscaping/tree planting and it has been suggested we look into adding sheds – ongoing

Progress on the legal aspects of the project has been frustratingly slower than anticipated. This includes the sale of plots, preparing the deed of conditions, Deed of Servitude between ourselves and the Dept' of Agriculture etc. ongoing EM to meet with Johnny on Friday

Housing Needs and Demands report review – EM and AP are working with Leia Croy on collating the information necessary to update the report

Land ownership review – EM has spoken with HIE to identify if this could be undertaken alongside the options appraisal for CORRA – EM is arranging a meeting with the appointed contractor.

Website –

ongoing but no sub-group meeting since our last meeting – meeting arranged for Monday 21st February

Pit–

SSE are looking at siting the new transformer behind the existing one. Work has been put back until April and will still result in power being off to the majority of Raasay, notice will be given.

Funding for new equipment – our application to Princes countryside trust for additional funding to purchase two log conveyors was successful and the conveyors were purchased today with delivery in March.

Pathways –

No update

Shop –

An application has been submitted to HIE to try and secure funding for preliminary, development stage work through the Supporting Communities Framework. Consultants have been appointed and an initial meeting with CORRA has been held. EM to meet with consultant on Monday 21st February

Freight –

The freight group submitted a response to the Island Community Impact Assessment terms of reference and CalMac responded. EM to arrange next steps

AOCB –

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DONM:

Time: Mar 3, 2022 07:30 PM London