

# Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust

ISLAND DIRECTORS' MEETING, 13/1/16

**Present:** Sarah Boden, Colin Carr, Greg Carr, Maggie Fyffe, Ian Leaver, Stuart McCarthy, Tasha McVarish

**Apologies:** Jacqueline Kirk

**Chair:** Tasha McVarish

Directors welcomed Stuart to his first meeting as alternate director & to Ian who is attending in his role as business development manager.

## **Business Development Manager:**

HIE finally confirmed funding & Ian started work at the beginning of the month. The post is 100% funded for 18 months & then 50% to March 2019.

Board members are in agreement that for IEHT to continue to be viable, it is crucial that we increase income. To achieve this, Ian will be focusing on 3 main areas ie forestry, housing & the provision of camping pods.

## **Volunteer Programme:**

Falling rocks signs at Massacre & Cathedral Caves to be mounted before the start of the season.

Adverts for volunteers about to be placed on various websites with a number of applications already received.

SWT are currently advertising for a new seasonal ranger with a closing date of 4<sup>th</sup> February. Interviews will take place on Eigg on 19<sup>th</sup> February. Mark Foxwell, John Chester & Tasha will be responsible for shortlisting & interviews. Start date will be early March & a room in Tigh Corraigh will be set aside for accommodation

Bird Hide ongoing ~ opportunity to apply for additional funding if thought necessary.

## **Forestry Project:**

Gary Servant to be invited to present long term forest plan to residents after the next board meeting which is scheduled to take place Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March.

MF in touch with Ian Collier of Forestry Commission to establish whether or not SRDP funding is still available for the cost of the plan.

We have also submitted an expression of interest in Making Local Woodlands Work (MLWW) project which is funded by Plunkett Foundation. 50 projects will be chosen to receive specialist support in management & how to develop trading income.

We have received an enquiry about possible purchase of the forestry trailer (which everyone is agreed is surplus to requirements) Enquiry to forestry machinery specialist has suggested that the trailer is worth approx. £3,500. **CC** to follow up.

Processor is to be maintained & stored in the forestry shed once wood deliveries are finished. Check if any more wood is required for the school before the processor is stored.

**MF** to contact Greig Milligan to find out cost of delivery of a load of wood from Knoydart to work out if it is a viable option to order a load specifically for use by the school.

### **Green Grants:**

Scheme is now closed for further applications. IL currently waiting for costs to be supplied before the grant can be calculated for the 2 remaining installations.

### **Fencing:**

2 replacement gates for the wall below the office ongoing

Quote for repair of church wall sent to Church of Scotland. **MF** to chase up

### **Green Shed:**

Repairs to green shed door ongoing. **CC** to investigate.

**GC** to look at more robust all weather lighting.

Coin meter which was recently installed in green shed, does not appear to be working. **MF** to ask EEL maintenance team to check

### **Eigg Electric:**

Still no further progress with Afnor re "High Voltage Systems Safe Working" course. **MF** to e-mail again

It is suggested that a further refurbished turbine head is purchased to have as a spare.

### **Tracks:**

Directors support the idea of the hall membership being raised to £30 to help with purchase of materials for maintenance of hall track.

The idea that cost of unit charge for electricity be raised to help with tracks is not thought to be practical as EEL needs to build up a reserve to fund future repairs/replacements.

### **Sandamhor Farm Partnership:**

Still no response from the assessor who visited to provide the report on the damage to Sandamhor byre. **MF** to continue to follow up.

### **Trust Properties:**

A number of maintenance issues with various houses ~ need to establish who might be available to do the work required.

Meeting to be arranged with tenants to discuss rent rise which has not been done for a number of years.

Smoke alarms & carbon monoxide detectors to be provided for all properties which don't already have them. Tenants are responsible for the gas appliances within the property but checks on pipework going into the building to be carried out Richard Irvine on their next visit. Leases to be provided for new tenants. **IL**

### **House Sites:**

3 new applications for house sites have been received. Meetings to be arranged with all parties to ensure conditions are understood

### **Eigg Trading:**

Thanks to Jacqueline Kirk who has agreed to become a director. However, it would be preferable if additional directors could be found.

New structure to house bins required for tearoom.

### **GIS System**

Included in HIE funding is an amount for office equipment. Ian suggests that we purchase a desktop computer on which we could install a suitable GIS system. **GC & CC** have both expressed an interest in its' use.

**DONM:** Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February