

Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust

ISLAND DIRECTORS' MEETING, 17/2/16

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

Apologies: Jacqueline Kirk

Chair: Sarah Boden

Volunteer Programme:

Almost 40 applications were received in response to advert for SWT Ranger post. Mark Foxwell, John Chester & Tasha have narrowed it down to a shortlist of 5. Some of the applicants will come for interview on Friday 19th February with the remainder being interviewed via Skype.

Forestry Project:

Ian Collier (Forestry Commission) advised that he will register the long term forest plan although he is still requiring some changes plus felling maps. Gary Servant will make some of the changes but we may have to do others ourselves or pay a bit extra to Gary.

Unfortunately, we are too late to claim SRDP funding for the cost of producing the plan but IL is in the process of applying for FGS funding for this purpose.

Once the LTFP has been approved, we will then be eligible to apply for other funding streams. Expression of interest in Making Local Woodlands Work (MLWW) project will be submitted next week. Advice from other successful groups have suggested that they are looking for less emphasis on wood-fuel & more on wood products.

IL attended CWA information day at Laggan last week & visited Knoydart Forest Trust. KFT is a standalone project with a management agreement with Knoydart Foundation & is very well managed employing 4 people on a part time basis. As the timber is easier to access, they have contracted Scottish Woodlands to take out approx. 11,000 tons to date with a small percentage being kept on Knoydart for local use. They created tracks into the woodland & have built a high spec storage shed for their seasoned wood and timber a wood mizer, planer & firewood processor. £80/ton is charged for firewood or £90 for seasoned softwood & they raise approx. £3k per annum through sales of craft items.

Greig Milligan quoted for delivery of a load of wood from Knoydart for use by the school. Once cost of processing is added, total cost to HC would be prohibitive.

Green Grants:

IL still waiting for final costs to be supplied before the grant can be calculated for the 2 remaining installations.

Fencing:

Dougal Tolan still to make 2 replacement gates for the wall below the office
Church of Scotland will consider quote to repair the wall but have more pressing repairs requiring funding in other places

Green Shed:

Repairs to green shed door ongoing.
All weather lighting ongoing.

Eigg Electric:

“High Voltage Systems Safe Working” course still isn’t available **MF** to e-mail again
Refurbished turbine head ordered to have as a spare.
Meeting held earlier at which supply to camping pods was discussed & agreed.
Procedure for new connections circulated to all directors & maintenance team for info.
Maintenance team have pointed out that although we are able to measure level of renewables being produced, it would be very useful to be able to monitor amount of power being used at any one time.

Tracks:

IERA has suggested that IEHT supplies hard core to be left along the various tracks so that the people who use the tracks are able to fill in potholes as necessary.
CC & TM to walk the tracks & note drains & culverts which need attention & could be a job for volunteers over the summer.

Sandamhor Farm Partnership:

Risk assessor finally provided the report on the damage to Sandamhor byre & the claim has been received from insurers.

Trust Properties:

Maintenance ongoing
Meetings to be arranged shortly with tenants to discuss rent rise.
Leases provided for new tenants.

House Sites:

Meetings to be arranged with applicants for house sites.

Eigg Trading:

Thanks to Frances Carr has also agreed to become a director.
Directors to look at the whole area & how it can be better managed.
Pier tidy up arranged for 20th March

Wigwams: An order has been placed with Wigwam Cabin Co for 3 cabins each sleeping 4 which should be delivered in June. EEL directors met earlier today ~ it was agreed that a 5kW

connection will be made available (ie max of 1.6kW for each wigwam) This will include a 500w heater in each cabin which would regulated by frequency ie only available for use when there is surplus power. There will also be time switches on each heater so it will not be possible to leave on indefinitely. A small 750w kettle , one double socket with USB sockets for charging phones/tablets etc. A 6amp trip will be installed so it will not be possible to use appliances like hairdryers etc.

Application to planning will be required for change of use.

Environmental health are happy with the arrangements as facilities are available in the near vicinity.

The area will be fenced to exclude livestock & a fire-pit will be provided.

GIS System

Once HIE funding is received, a desktop computer will be purchased & a suitable GIS system installed.

International Land Coalition: ILC works all over the world to promote land rights. They are currently making a number of short films & hope to visit Eigg in the next couple of weeks.

DONM: Wednesday 23rd March

IEHT Board Meeting: Thursday 31st March