**Portree and Braes Community Trust (SCIO)**

**Minutes of Trustee’s Board Meeting**

Wed 28th November 2018 7pm @ Jans

**Present:** Donnie Nicolson (DN), Fiona Thomson (FT), Margaret MacDonald (MM), Duncan Brown (DB), Graham Smith (GS), Ross Cowie (RC), Dorothy Urquhart (DU), Shona Cameron (SC), Chris James (CJ) Neil Campbell (NC) Myra Macleod (MM)

**Apologies:** Janice McGuire, Irene Deplano, Bill Edgar, Calum Matheson, Roddie MacHugh, Janice MacHugh

**2. Adoption of Minutes:** Minutes Approved [ ]**,** Seconded [ ]

**3. Development Officer Report**: [ ]Development Officer report will be removed from the agenda going forward – instead, FT will lead on presenting feedback on each point on the agenda.

**4. Treasurers Report:** The treasurer’s report was presented. [ ]

**5. FEI:** FT presented FEI’s letter dated 21st November in response to the trusts request to FEI to review the boundaries of the four pieces of land currently under discussion for community ownership. The boundary of the lump is now shown by FEI to extend along to bank street (ice house not included) and the boundary of the KG5 is no longer shown to include the footprint of the bar area of the community centre.

[ ] would the Trust be responsible for structural improvements along Bank Street? Potential liabilities of ownership of additional land extending towards bank street to be explored.

The Trust would like to see further investigation of boundaries as information is still conflicting. [ ] has advised that the cost of the legal work confirming the boundaries can be included in stage 2 SLF application. This application is to be ready for submitting to John Macdonald for review by mid-Feb.

[ ] met with the members from the Skye Gathering Committee and Skye games and all parties were in favour of a tri-partite agreement. Support was shown for the Trust to explore income generating activities going forward. Suggestions were made for example to charge groups making use of space and to rent space to a catering unit. Details of management procedures will be outlined in management agreement. FT to progress.

[ ] met up with Thomas Wilson re: Sulaisiader common grazing after the public consultation (30th October). On behalf of the crofters he has agreed to support the Trust to take ownership.

FT – final feasibility study will be ready to review by 7th Dec.

**6. Harbour:** FT – the group have received a proposal from marine transport consultant Chris Fisher to the value of approx. 300k for a harbour and town regeneration masterplan. This was presented to Alistair Danter of Skye Connect and Councillor John Gordon. [ ] Chris Fisher has offered to present the proposal in person on the 12th / 13th Dec.

[ ]

**7. Activity group:** All elements of the ramps project have been paid for. Decision made to leave ramps in situ over winter.

[ ] met with [ ] before the summer re: the development of a woodland adventure area / pump track at Bayfield. Will revisit. Explained that there are recommendations re: how close a playpark should be to residential areas {to make as accessible as possible for children. A pump track / woodland adventure area would be developed to appeal to older children and so this would be less of a concern.

[ ] explained that the current lease for Bayfield is for 10 years but can be terminated with 1 month notice. FT to inquire if this could be reviewed to allow progress to be made more quickly .

**8. Bayfield:** Update delivered –the tennis and squash court site is being revalued. [ ] The Tennis and Squash club are looking to reinvest funds from the sale of the site into developing a new squash facility.

FT has been working with a solicitor to review the burden on the tennis and squash club site. [ ]

A recent Portree Parking Study meeting was held (Wednesday 21st November) with HIE, LSHA, HC and Portree Community Council in attendance. It was agreed that PBCT will be project sponsor and work with John Swanson to submit an application to Rural Tourism Infrastructure fund. Deadline 25th January.

**9. Bayfield work party:** [ ]Arranged for the tennis court site to be cleared of trees etc and a work party is being arranged for Monday at 10am.

**10. Health Services**: FT – funds have been secured for Project Support Officer. Good press coverage on front page of WHFP. FT has prepared budget and is to discuss with treasurer. update on progress of Sir Lewis Ritchie Implementation groups. Sir Lewis Ritchie visiting Portee early December to review progress.

**11. Ross’s Walk:** Productive meeting with Donald Kennedy (HC paths officer). They discussed options for spending the funds in the short term with a view to considering larger projects in future. Next step is to form a subgroup. A proposal is to be produced to create a leaflet promoting walks in and around Portree. Currently a guided walk map doesn’t exist. These maps have been very popular in for e.g. Raasay, Sleat and Dunvegan.

Approx. costs for 10,000 leaflets

Graphic Design              £ 750.00 ex VAT

Printing   £ 720.00 ex VAT

Total – £1470 – (printing and design only)

Have set a provisional date for Ross’s Ramble 2 (name to be confirmed) for Saturday the 31st of August 2019. FT to investigate potential clashes.

**12. Braes hall:** FT provided update – has held a meeting with Braes Hall secretary Geoff Atkins, committee member to clarify how they would like the Trust to support them. Braes would like to secure a long lease. The committee would be happy to continue taking responsibility for management and maintenance of the hall and facilities but do not feel that they have the capacity as a group to take responsibility for major structural works. FT has been in touch with Paul Nevin , a solicitor from the council who has advised Braes Hall to instruct their own solicitor to discuss further on their behalf.

FT has offered to go to speak to Braes Hall committee to explain more about the process of community ownership should they be unsuccessful with negotiations with Highland Council and want to explore this option in future. FT asked if PBCT would be open to taking on ownership on Braes Hall behalf if this was requested. Trustees would be open to this discussion.

**13. Community Centre:** FT to attend meeting on the 30th November to discuss Park Road / Camanachd Square / Community Centre developments. Other stakeholders invited include Portree Nursery, Portree Primary School, John MacDonald SLF, HIE, Portree Community Centre and the LSHA. Councillors would like to see a coordinated approach that considers the best use of Council owned land for the benefit of all stakeholders, the Portree Community, wider Skye and the Highland Council. This is an opportunity to start these discussions as a collective. [ ]

**14. Rabbies Fund:** [ ] contacted by Rabbies Carbon Offset Community Fund**.** They have asked the Trust if they would like to submit an application. The Trustees agreed that the Outdoor Activity Group should apply. [ ].

**15. Fundraising:** To look into sourcing more display boards to be situated in village for advertising. This opportunity was discussed at previous meeting and agreed to be a good investment.To confirm dates for fundraising events.

**AOCB:**

Police house: [ ] suggested revisiting the police house asset transfer opportunity. All agreed that the health services group could take this forward with a view to potentially securing temporary accommodation for health workers.

Helipad: New windsock installed as routine maintenance. Mountain rescue are putting in planning for adjacent site. To discuss access.

Thank you to Emma Nicolson, Atlas Arts who has left Skye. [ ] suggested Emma Nicolson is thanked for her contribution to Trust projects. FT to follow up.

**DONM: Wednesday the 19th of December 2018.**