

NORTH HARRIS TRUST

MINUTE OF MEETING

TITLE : The North Harris Trust

DATE : 25:05:2026

TIME: 7.30pm

VENUE : Tigh an Urrais

Present: Michael Hunter (MH), Kirsty MacKay, Diana MacLennan, Ian Strachan, David Wake, D J Morrison (DJM), Calum MacKay (CJM), Barbara MacKay, Steven Morrison, John Sutton (JS), Maria Jolly

Item		Summary and Action	Who?	When?
1.	John Moffat (JM), MJG, Audited Accounts	- JM presented the audited accounts to the Board and answered directors' questions. - JM raised awareness of potential fraud sources and advised directors on what measures could be taken to try and prevent fraud incidences. - JM left the meeting.		
2.	Apologies	Robert MacKinnon, Paul Russ, Kate Lewis		
3.	Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising	- Minutes were approved by DJM and seconded by JS. - MH will circulate Harris Forum minutes.		
4.	Conflicts of Interest	SM West Loch Tarbert business space project.		
5.	Scourst View Allocation Process Discussion	The allocations process for Scourst View houses was discussed. The housing sub-group met last week and their proposals were presented to the Board. The applications and scoring were reviewed, and allocations made. Directors agreed that the scoring system should be reviewed to improve the process in future.	Directors, Housing sub-group	Next board meeting
5.	Staff Reports	Staff Reports were circulated and tabled. Matters Arising from Staff Reports: Estate Worker – Ian Strachan (IS) IS attended the Tarbert in Bloom Growers Market in the Community Centre on Saturday. The day was successful with plants selling out rapidly.		

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	- The work experience placement from Sir E Scott School, through Developing the Young Workforce, was successful and it was agreed to become a DYW pledge partner. Site Operative – George Owens (GO) - CJM suggested stocking alternative animal feed at Urgha Depot. Development Officer – David Wake (DW) - Scourst View – it was agreed that £7.5k of the project contingency funding could be used to appoint a contractor to complete outstanding groundworks before they are tenanted. Advice has been taken from the Quantity Surveyor and it was decided that a contractor could be engaged directly if needed. - It was approved to engage an architect to progress plans for the West Loch Tarbert business space project. SM expressed a conflict of interest for this item. - Suggestions for the golf driving range at the Gun Club area were discussed. This will be discussed further after the feasibility study is received. Manager – Michael Hunter (MH) - Finance papers were tabled. - The Gaelic Officer position will be reviewed and readvertised. - An approach for financial support has been received from the Bays of Harris Estate steering group to meet a shortfall in the estate purchase cost. The Board were open to the idea to support but requested to see the feasibility study before deciding on how best to assist. - The Isle of Harris Distillery are proceeding with a judicial review of the planning process for the HHP Scott Road Housing project. As the Resumption has been granted, MH asked whether the Trust should proceed with the sale and dispoise the land to HHP. The Board felt that this should be paused at the moment due to the uncertainty of the outcome. - A CLOH meeting will be held on Wednesday 27th May. CLOH have submitted an application to the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation for funding for staffing. - MH is awaiting the results of a valuation on the Ardvourlie Hub resumption area from DM Hall via Anderson MacArthur. MH will discuss with directors once received. - An approach has been received by the owner of a B&B in Scalpay to clarify enforcement of sheep movement to the grazings over the summer months rather than being in the village. The Board believed that this was a matter for the Crofting Commission rather than the Landlord. - The updated valuations for the Ardvourlie self-build plots have been received and the sales are proceeding. - There is an access issue with the Scalpay wind turbine site, MH will meet with the private landowner involved to discuss options to rectify the issue. - MH has received the final form for the reletting of Croft 3B Tarbert. The tenancy will be advertised in due course. Events & Marketing, Student Placement – Maria Jolly (MJ) - MJ is continuing to organise events for the Wildlife Festival and has secured a band for the Ceilidh.		

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5.	AOCB	Roddy MacLean has contacted CJM with proposed dates for filming the promotional video for the Trust. CJM informed of what was required and suggestions of filming ideas were discussed.		
6.	DONM	- Monday 1st June 2026 at 7.30pm – AGM, Tarbert Community Centre - Monday 22nd June 2026 at 7.30pm, Tigh an Urrais		
7.	HR	It was agreed that MH's employment pattern trial would be extended until the end of August.		