



**MEETING OF THE WESTERN ISLES DEVELOPMENT TRUST
(COMPANY NUMBER SC271462)**

Meeting of Western Isles Development Trust held at Committee Room 3, Council Offices, Sandwick Road, Stornoway and VC to Balivanich Council Offices (Committee Room); at 5 pm. on Thursday 25 July 2019.

PRESENT

Nominated Members

Norman A. MacDonald (Director and Nominated Member) Chair
John MacKay (Director and Nominated Member)
Norman MacDonald (Director and Nominated Member)
Stuart Wilson (Director and Nominated Member)

Elected Members

Donnie Morrison (Elected Director for Lewis and Ordinary Member)
Andrew Mackenzie (Elected Director for Lewis and Ordinary Member)

APOLOGIES

Andrew Walker (Elected Director for Uist and Ordinary Member)
John Mitchell (Elected Director for Harris and Ordinary Member)
Calum MacKay (Elected Director for Harris and Nominated Member)
Sarah MacLean (CBAB Elected Member, Barra)
Kirsty MacCormick (Elected Director for Uist and Ordinary Member)

Donald Nicholson (Director and Nominated Member)
Carola Bell (Director and Nominated Member) Vice Chair
Iain Maciver (Director and Nominated Member)
Fiona Stokes (Director and Nominated Member)
Iain Archie MacNeil (Director and Nominated Member)
David Muir (Director and Nominated Member)
Sheena Stewart (Director and Nominated Member)

IN ATTENDANCE

Allan MacDonald

1) WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed the directors to the meeting. The meeting was quorate.

2) MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 27 JUNE 2019

The Minutes of the meeting of 27 June 2019 were approved.

3) MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4) EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

There were no expressions of interest received.

5) APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

5.1) Uist & Barra Food Bank: Development Officer Project

There were concerns raised that the project might not be sustainable once the proposed grant had been spent. Directors however decided that it was probable the new post would increase the likelihood of further applications for funding from other bodies for future years being successful. The Board decided that in this instance it was appropriate to limit the funding to £10,000.00.

- **The decision was taken to award Uist Food Bank a grant of £10,000.00 towards the Uist Food Bank project. This sum was to come from the general grant fund and not the proposed new fund.**

6) CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION

- **Report was noted. Bank statement for July 2019 to be forwarded to directors on receipt.**

7) FUNDING CRITERIA

The Board discussed the report. Directors stated that a 'Small Grants Fund' should be established with a less comprehensive application process than that of the existing general fund. At least some match funding would be required (although it was suggested that this could be 'in kind'). The criteria would replicate the objectives of the Company as set out in the Articles with any successful project being required to be of benefit to the community. It was suggested that applications should be invited and the criteria decided then, however, it was highlighted that that would not be a fair and transparent process. It was further suggested that the application process be limited to 1 sheet of paper and show what the benefits would be to the community. The fund would be launched at the AGM. Allan MacDonald stated that there was a risk that the new fund could increase the administrative burden on the WIDT significantly. The Board agreed to monitor and deal with that if it became a difficulty.

- **The decision was taken to establish the WIDT Small Grants Fund for community groups with applications that met the WIDT objectives as set out in the Articles (projects will need to be of benefit to the community). The maximum grant is to be £2,000 and an element of match funding will be required. This fund will be capped at £40,000 each year and will be launched at the AGM in August 2019. There will be a draft press release circulated to directors in relation to the fund. Directors will be able to comment upon the draft before issue.**

8) WEBSITE

- **The Board agreed to invite Judy MacDonald (website administrator) to the next Board meeting to discuss updates to the website. Directors will be invited to send comments by email to be forwarded to Judy before the meeting.**

9) UPDATES FROM PROJECTS:

- **Updates noted. Directors were asked to contact Fiona Stokes directly if they were able to attend the Pairc Trust opening event as set out in Fiona's email.**

10) DATE AND TIME OF AGM AND NEXT MEETING:

- **Board meeting to take place at 5 pm on Thursday 29 August 2019 followed at 7 pm by the AGM.**

END.