

Great Bernera Community Development Trust Meeting (Draft)

Minutes of Meeting Monday 17th January 2022, 7pm

Present: Tom Macdonald, Callum MacAulay, Anne Ryan, Rhiannon Teather,

In attendance : John Porteous, Julia Higginbottom, Joanna George

Apologies: Ken MacAulay, Norma Macleod

Previous minutes – Minutes of the two previous meetings were approved - October 2021 minutes proposed by Tom, seconded by Rhiannon; and November 2021 minutes proposed by Tom, seconded by Callum.

Housing – The Free Church have approached Torrance to do a second valuation of the glebe site, probably next week; discussion on options once we have been given the Torrance figure.

Buyout – Discussion on next moves. Agreed the Land Unit email is very unhelpful, JP to chase Dave Thomson and request more clarity. JP to draft letter to Cyran re possibility of agreeing an amicable transfer. Suggestion to attempt to get all those excluded from voting to agree to the Community going ahead with the Part 3 without their votes. Tom to chase Alasdair Allan regarding his disempowerment by the Scot Gov interpretation of the Act.

Asset Transfer – Anne to pick up the application started by Joan, to allow submission to CnES.

Pontoons – Kenny Macleod of CnES has found more funding for the pontoons and building, to be spent by the end of March 22. Very welcome, as building cost will have doubled. Agreed the Trust will issue enquiries to the three local contractors who have expressed an interest in the work.

The pontoons themselves have been complete for some months, but the contractor will return soon to install all the power bollards and water hose reels. The return depends on the installation of the services cables and pipes, currently being worked on by Breedons, who could not make a start until the new bridge was open. Operation of the pontoons will depend on completion of all the services, confirming insurance, agreeing berthing dues etc, before any berths can be allocated.

Funding – Joanna George has been appointed as Recovery Coordinator, on a 3 month contract, assisted by Nat Higginbottom, with whom she will share the role. The Trust needs to agree on their priority activities – suggestions have included a welcome pack for newcomers and visitors, strengthening the Trust's relationship with the Community, and building up the Trust's Facebook page. Nat will work in the provision of IT assistance and developing the Facebook page.

Development Officer – Only one application was received for the post, from Amanda Macaulay, Joan’s daughter. She lives in Glasgow, and would work remotely. Amanda’s skill set would benefit from assistance by Nat, and HIE have approved taking on both, if the Trust agree. HIE have offered to re-draw the contract to let it be divided between Amanda and Nat. HIE would assist with funding applications. Agreed to move forward quickly, as the funding stops in December 2022.

Meeting closed at 9.00p.m.