

Isle Martin Trust Board Meeting - Minutes

Monday 30th March 2020 ZOOM meeting 7.30pm



Board Members present: Stephen Twitchett (Meeting Chair), Sheila Mitchell, Anthony O'Flaherty, Becky Thomson, Lesley Strachan (Joined for some of meeting), Robbie McFedries

Others present Ailsa Strange (Minute), Lizzie Williams

1. Apologies: John McIntyre, Em Magenta

2. Co-option onto IMT board of Lizzie Williams - Becky proposed, Lisa Seconded. Everyone cheered!

3. Minutes of previous meeting: 10th February 2019, approved. Proposed by Steve, seconded by Anthony.

4. Action Points from previous minutes:

a. **CALLP Monies** - report sent

b. **CROFT HOUSE RENOVATIONS** - Becky has continued to work on this on behalf of the board.

Funding moving forward, **ACTION Becky to keep board posted on progress.**

Lizzie looking at CCDC funding but doesn't feel appropriate to ask at the moment.

Agreed important to build IMT profile in Coigach - think people would be surprised at what has been achieved.

Lizzie would like to build money in for taking Coigach school children over to the island as well as core funding - the funding is for projects that show community benefit for Coigach.

c. **ISLAND CARETAKER - 2020** - Agreed the post discussed at last meeting cannot be advertised in the current circumstances.

Em emailed to say she has contacted Sam Harrison (Shieling Project), yet to hear back.

She suggests *having a really practical person/couple on the island doing maintenance, garden, scything, woodland & path work. Social skills not so important at moment.*

d. **HOUSES - Health and safety**

Lesley heard from Sam Walton - He is happy to help with a Health and Safety AUDIT of the island.

ACTION Lesley to liaise with Sam

ACTION - Ailsa still to contact Gilly Meigan

Em says *Re. water. Was most likely that Evie encountered the 'hasn't been used for a while' water in the pipes, which needs allowed to run through till it's clear. If it doesn't come clear, something is amiss in the bottom tank. I'd love to put together a 'water supply how to'... maybe with John's help?*

I've been in touch with a friend who runs Biomatrix, based at Findhorn, cleaning water with natural systems. He adores the west coast, islands and camping in beautiful places with his two wee boys, so I've asked if he could be lured to help us sort our filtration, using locally sourced and reclaimed materials (WRF? ☺). I've also asked if he knows of any funding, as IMT has none for this. Yet to hear back.

Lizzie remembers Tanera got grants for filtration UV/ph correction -

ACTION Lizzie will check with Rich where the money came from.

Lesley - need someone to keep check on island, worried might be tempting place for ignoring social distancing rules.

ACTION Ailsa to contact Ardmail Campsite.

ACTION Sheila to keep an eye when at fish farm

ACTION Em - says will continue popping over to check on things.

Board thankful for this and know Em will take all necessary precautions.

e. **FERRY** - Agreed needs to be put on hold

Jetty needs pressure washed to be safe for any users. **ACTION Em/Sean**

NEW times 10am - 12noon and 2pm - 5.00pm to be discussed once lockdown over.

Training - all training at WHC cancelled till further notice.

f. **VOLUNTEERS's Day** - On hold

- g. COIGACH Gathering - not yet cancelled. Lizzie will keep IMT posted.
Lesley and Lisa happy to woman IMT table if goes ahead - **ACTION revisit next meeting.**
- h. WEBSITE - Initial £300 budget **ACTION Ailsa to approach web designers.**
- i. BOARD MEMBERS - Lizzie now on Board so 9 total, Lesley thinks should aim for 12, would help with numbers for monthly meetings. Lesley has been approached by Jan Breckenridge who is interested in being co-opted onto board.
ACTION Lizzie to pull together list of reading materials that should be sent to potential board people, thinks she is still missing some. **ACTION Lesley to contact Jan** and copy Ailsa in so she can forward Reading Materials.
Becky would like conversation about what is expected from volunteer Board members. How many hours and what they are expected to do - Skills audit relevant. Lesley aware role and responsibility of Board been discussed before.
Becky suggests - need to think about using other volunteers, rather than the board doing all the voluntary work.
E.g. management of Croft House renovations.
Lesley - membership has been appealed to before could be done again via membership newsletter.
Lizzie - thinks might be people in Coigach willing to get involved without being on the board.
Becky - UCT - broke up projects and had working groups with 1 board member on to report back - good model.
ACTION Lesley to make a list of volunteer type roles for next meeting. E.g. Archaeology (people who volunteered at Heritage project. (Ailsa forward Volunteer poster 2019)
- j. **SEAWEED FESTIVAL** - Board asked to be aware of Trusts responsibility. Becky - right to bring to our attention - Thanks to Diane and Julia. Agreed IMT Board acknowledge their responsibility as funding recipient.
Cashflow - Steve - funders saying plans for festival can carry on at the moment - under review.
Diane and Steve working on spreadsheet - First Visit Scotland money in so bills can be paid, cashflow an issue, Sheila says thinks Ok with IMT savings as back up although will be difficult. Ailsa to pass on to Julia and Diane.
Steve - hope not to make any payments up front other than project staff.
Lesley -Baxters - perhaps change in emphasis might need to look for other funders.

5. Covid-19 implications - Third Sector Resilience Funding - **ACTION Ailsa/Becky/Sheila to apply**

6. Staffing - Sheila - commitment made to employ summer staff, hope to get funding for wages from Resilience fund. Becky thinks unlikely to be successful but worth applying.

Access Co-ordinator - Sheila - IMT can't commit to payment past end of March unless funding found.

Ailsa willing to volunteer time in short term to continue work that has been started.

ACTION - Sheila to email staff re current situation

ACTION - EVERYONE - look out for funding possibilities

7. AOCB

Membership (Membership runs till end of April) - Agreed should push renewal for 2020/2021 still only £10 also encourage new members and donations. **ACTION - Ailsa to speak to Gill**

Map and Leaflet - Lizzie - Bernard aware still has a commitment to produce a leaflet re wildlife, Steve already has produced a map with points of interest and waymarked trails. Agreed Gaelic content important - could attract some Bòrd na Gàidhlig funding?

Becky - Cathy, Em, Bernard all could give advice re key places/ all info re Archaeology, Environmental and sustainability could go together.

Steve - caution re too much text - signage course with Paths for all " people only read 25 words max"

ACTION Lizzie to go back to Bernard and see how it can tie in and check with Lesley re Kim's progress.

ACTION Lisa to help edit text and add in GAELIC.

Date of next meeting Tuesday 28th April 2020 7.30pm ZOOM - ACTION Ailsa to host.