

Urras Oighreachd Chàrlabhaigh

CARLOWAY ESTATE TRUST

Zoom Meeting at 7.30pm

Date: 31st March 2021

Present: Jacqueline Ferguson, Neil Macarthur, Alex A. Macdonald, Kenny John MacLennan, Derek Macleod, Dòmhnall Macleòid Iain D. Macleod, Iain Norman Macleod,

In attendance: Sally Reynolds

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and began with sending congratulations to Carloway Community Association and to Donald Mackinnon on their successful funding application for Carloway School project.

1. **Apologies:** Murdo N. Maciver, Karen Maclean,
2. **Declaration of Interest:** none at present.
3. **Minutes of Previous meeting:** Approved by Iain D Macleod
Seconded by Neil Macarthur

4. Matters Arising:

Angling: K. MacLennan had spoken to Donnie Whitefield, who is interested in hiring out his boat to UOC for the season.

Wild Camping: UnT had indicated they were not concerned about the problem, but a survey could be part of the graduate placement.

John Muir Award: There will be a meeting with school after Easter holidays, when pupils return.

Goose Scheme: Now underway and going well.

Marine Renewables: The West Side group has had a meeting with council, and there has been a proposal that the group publish a prospectus. They will hold another meeting without the council present to further this.

5. Breasclete School:

(Dòmhnall Macleòid declared an interest and left the meeting for this item.)

The Parent Council had conducted a survey on requirement for English Medium Education in the community, which had shown there was a need for local provision. Parents have had a positive meeting with CnES Education Officials, and the mothballing of the EME will be reviewed after Easter. The views of UOC would be taken into account on this issue. The Board agreed to support the Parent Council in that the EME should be re-instated.

6. Broch Plan:

The Reports and Studies had been received and circulated.
Two decisions were required.

- The Board consider moving forward with a purchase of Doune Broch Visitor Centre and Carpark. This would include opening negotiations with UnT to agree a purchase price for the Doune Broch Visitor Centre and Carpark in preparation for an application to the Scottish Land Fund Stage 2 as soon as possible (all agreements would be subject to UOC securing funding).
- The Board agree to funding a summer placement for a student to carry out visitor research on the site.

These were proposed by K J Maclellan and seconded by Dòmhnall Macleòid. Board unanimously agreed to move forward with these steps. Sally will begin to progress both.

7. Development Manager's Post.

(At this point Sally declared an interest and left the meeting)

HIE had written to the chair informing him that they would not be funding the Development Manager's post beyond 6th July 2021. The Board unanimously agreed to work to make it possible for this position to continue. A proposal was raised that a new post, of Estate Manager, be created after 6th July.

- The post of Estate Manager be split in to two distinct aspects:
 - 2.5 days per week on estate management
 - 2.5 days per week on development projects
- The salary for the 2.5 management days will be paid from UOC's core income and will continue indefinitely.
- The salary for the 2.5 development days will be paid from project funding for specific projects. Funding applications will be submitted from now until the 6th of July and ongoing thereafter.

- UOC will continue to pay the 2.5 development days after the 6th of July, from reserves, for a limited period, on the basis that live project applications are ongoing and look to have a successful outcome. This will be reviewed monthly. On the basis that project funding is successful the Board will issue a permanent contract of employment based on the 2.5 day aspects mentioned above.

It was agreed to move forward on this basis and to take advice from the personnel consultants (Orbit Agency) regarding the formal process, and to write to Sally offering a new contract as above. Board members to have sight of the letter before issue.

It was also agreed to write to HIE thanking them for the support they have given over the last 6 years.

8. **AOB:** No other items.

9. **Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday 28th April 2021, 7.30 pm, via Zoom