Minute of Meeting of Board of Directors of **Point and Sandwick Trust** held in the PST Office on **Tuesday 20 March 2018 at 6.00 pm**.

PRESENT: Angus McCormack (Chair)
Duncan Mackay
Liz Chaplin
Agnes Munro
Kenny Dan Macdonald
Dan Maclennan
Eddie Macgregor
Matt Bruce
Norman Mackenzie
Donald John MacSween
Calum Macdonald
Rhoda Mackenzie
Gordon Mackay

APOLOGIES Alison Carty
Sonja Macleod

1 WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all those present to the meeting and congratulated Andrew Mackenzie who had been voted on to the Western Isles Development Trust. He also congratulated Alison Carty on her pregnancy with her first child; Norman M Mackenzie on the birth of his grandchild; and Liz Chapman on the birth of her grandchild.

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were none declared at this point although the Chairman indicated that declarations could be made at any time during the meeting.

3 MINUTES

The Minute of Meeting of 6 February 2018 was approved subject to the following amendments:-

(1) Sederunt: Duncan Mackay – absent
Gordon Mackay – present
Rhoda Mackenzie – present.

(2) The Chairman's Welcome to include a warm welcome to Rhoda Mackenzie and Gordon Mackay to their first meeting of the PST Board.

4 **MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

5 **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

(1) Finance

The balance in the Trust Current Account is c £255,200k.
All the grant payment approved by the Grants Sub Committee on 19th March 2018, amounting to £18,788 are to be deducted from this balance, and no other invoices are outstanding.

(2) Grants Sub-Committee

Duncan Mackay went through the grants recommended for approval by the Grants Sub-Committee of 19 March 2018 as follows:

Goathill Park Amenity and Recreation Club	- £7,500
Cairdean Og Allt nan Gall	- £ 848
Feis an Rubha	- £ 500
Stornoway Historical Society	- £6,000
Mossend Residents' Association	- £ 940
Stornoway Rugby Club	- £3,000
TOTAL	**- £18,788**

The above grants were approved.

(3) Development Consultants Progress Report

In January, consultants met up with Point and Sandwick Coastal Community Path to review progress. It was noted that there was little progress with the landowners on Iolaire section and advice was given to concentrate on the Eye chapel section, which had planning permission.

Following the 22nd January funding workshop, held in PST offices , for several local organisations, funding bids were drafted for :-

Plasterfield Recreation Association.
Tiumpanhead Community Association.
Portnaguran Amenity Fund.
Upper Bayble Community Trust.
Roots for Low Impact Living.
BeSpoke Bicycles and Glen House
Eye Cemetery Project.

On 7 March Alasdair Nicholson represented PST at a Scottish Government workshop on Scottish Energy Strategy and current funding streams from Low

Carbon Innovation Funding. The development phase have application deadline of 30th April 2018. Grant is at 50%.

On 8th March, attendance was made with PST attendees to Western Isles Renewable Conference in Leverburgh and as a follow up, a meeting was held on March 13th with Greenspace Live to explore the possibility of a LCITP bid in furthering the energy development needs of The Old School site.

The 2018 Scottish Charity Awards are now open for application with a 29th March deadline to SCVO. Categories include Pioneering Project, Celebrating Communities etc and Charity of the Year 2018. The Pioneering Project may be a good entry for the hydrogen ferry project after that work has reported but I would suggest that PST submit as Charity of the Year to encompass the range of work and achievements to date. Full details are on scvo.org.uk.

The Consultants' report was noted.

(5) Croft Woodlands Project

A progress report for the period 7th February – 20th March 2018 was circulated by the Croft Woodland Officer and **noted.**

The Report was noted.

(6) LED Community Report

A progress report from the LED Project Manager was circulated and **noted**.

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(7) Marketing, Social Media, and Promotion

The General Manager indicated that a report on Facebook activity since October 2017 had been circulated to Board members**.**

This was noted.

(8) Stornoway Trust Update

The General Manager indicated that no communication had been received from Stornoway Trust since the last Board meeting.

This was noted.

6 PSP UPDATE REPORT FROM CALUM MACDONALD

1. Output Update

The wind farm output in January was 3,160 hours as compared to the P50 expectation of 3,400 hours, and the February figure was 2,626 hours as compared to the P50 of 2,400 hours. Over the two months the shortfall is just 14 hours.

The main cause of lost output over the two months was a semiconductor fault on 5th January which Enercon took three days to get staff to the site to fix and which

resulted in 89 hours of lost output. We are still waiting for Enercon to respond to our request for additional staff at the service center to avoid such delays in the future.

The second main cause of lost hours was the Connect+ constraint which lost us 15 hours in January, but National Grid will compensate us for these hours.

2. Income Update

Prices have continued to be at their highest since we began operations.

3. Compensation Claims

The National Grid have yet to deposit the compensation for 2015-16 in our account and our NG case officer is not responding to emails or voice messages.

4. Enercon Variation Costs Claim

Enercon have finally come back and agreed a figure of £8,030 to settle the outstanding construction variation claim. This is a successful conclusion to our negotiations and it means that around £130,000 which we had been holding in reserve can now be released and used for gift aid and PSP development investment.

5. Rates

No update to report. It was agreed there was no need to include this item in future agendas as it was unlikely that the Scottish Government would provide any specific rates concessions to community owned wind farms.

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6. New Community Wind Farms

a) **Legal: -** Over 100 responses have now been submitted to the Land Court opposing the motion by EDF to disqualify them from the objectors list. We are waiting for the next move from the Land Court on this.

b) **Media: -** There has also been a lot of activity on the media front with an excellent article by Holly Watt in The Guardian and a visit from Alex Thomson of Channel 4 News to film a report which has yet to go out. Moira Hickey also visited to do a report for the You and Yours program on BBC Radio 4 but that too has yet to go out.

c) **Planning: -** A lot of work is being done by Aquaterra to try and get the planning applications back on track. However, we are being seriously hampered by a lack of cooperation from Wood Group and from the person employed to do the bird survey in 2016. All that can be done is to press on and try to get the four township application in this summer.

d) **Grid Connections: -** The township applications are being submitted by Xero Energy but there are difficulties here too in managing the handover between Wood Group and them.

e) **CfD Consultation:** - A submission had been made to the Government consultation on islands CfDs which closed on 9th March. The submission called for a separate Community CfD to be introduced. Following a meeting with Enercon sales representatives visiting Stornoway on 28th February, Enercon had

also made an excellent submission supporting the call for a CfD submission. In addition, this had been supported by Community Energy Scotland in their submission, by at least two of the Grazings Committees (Melbost and Sandwick North) and by Johnston Carmichael. This was a good result and it was agreed that it would be followed up by further representations to Donald Cameron MSP, among others.

7. **Hydrogen Ship**

The press release announcing the project received good coverage locally, nationally (in The Times and the BBC) and in the trade press. I am coordinating the work with the help of Wood Group but it is requiring much more time and effort than I had anticipated to steer the work of the Consortium.

8. **Financial Model and Dividend**

After some delay, the £250,000 gift aid payment agreed at the last meeting has now been paid to PST.

I will continue to monitor the wind output and power price we achieve each month. If our performance falls consistently below the P50 level I will report it to the Board so that we can consider whether or not we need to make any reductions in our operating budget to compensate.

9. Re-Financing

Santander responded to the refinancing request on 19 March with a proposal. I have sent it to Mark Stewart at Johnston Carmichael for analysis.

10. Other Meetings and Events

I met with officials from the Scottish Government Low Carbon Infrastructure Program in Glasgow on 14 March to report on the hydrogen project. I also met with the new case officer for the Scottish Investment Bank to report on Beinn Ghrideag and to discuss our new wind farm projects. On 8 March I gave a talk on the hydrogen project to the Community Energy Scotland conference in Leverburgh on 8 March.

The Report was noted.

11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

12 DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

Tuesday 1 May 2018.

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