



**St Kilda Development Group
Buidheann Leasachaidh Ionad Hiort**

Committee Meeting
2 April 2010, 7.30pm
Uig Community Centre, Uig

MINUTE

Present: Iain Buchanan (chair), Murdanie Macdonald, Naomi Buchanan, Anna Mackinnon, Sarah Egan.

Apologies: Donald Macaulay, Elsie Mitchell, Janet Macleod, Jim Mattison, Joni Buchanan, Catriona Maclean, Brian Wilson, Gillian Davies, John Maciver.

1. The minutes of the meeting of 10 March 2010 were approved (NB, MMcD).
2. Matters arising. A few skills audits had been received but many were outstanding.
3. Correspondence and News. In view of the Dark Skies Scotland event earlier this month, the secretary enquired of Museum nan Eilean whether there was an ongoing astronomy programme being developed; meetings on the subject will take place later this year and we will be invited to take part. Fraser Stewart's very helpful paper on establishing an observatory had been circulated previously.
4. Funding. The committee agreed a three stage funding strategy to support the early stages of developing the project with the prospectus, publicity, community engagement and Gaelic/content development taking priority over the next six months. Sources have been indentified which may cover the short-term needs, if applications are successful, and discussions with the key funders for mid- and long-term development funding will continue.

An idea for an innovative pilot project was discussed and will be explored further with Proiseact nan Ealan before being made public.

The chairman, secretary and any other interested members will meet with CNES, HIE and PnE on 6 April to begin the formal process of building the partnership that will deliver Ionad Hiort.

5. An Architecture and Building subcommittee was formed, consisting initially of Iain Buchanan, Elsie Mitchell, Murdanie Macdonald and Neil Mackinnon. This committee will also address the acquisition of the plot; IB to pursue with the legal representative.

6. Historiography of St Kilda. The Islands Book Trust will hold a four-day conference at Lionacleite 11-14 August 2010. The programme is not yet known; the secretary will write to IBT for information and to offer place on the Ionad Hiort website.

7. Next meeting. Wednesday 14 April at 7.30pm.

The meeting was closed.