

**DORNOCH HERITAGE SCOTTISH CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION (DHSCIO)**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**PRESENT** ~ Jerry Bishop (Chair), Tony Rundle (Secretary/Treasurer), Elizabeth Oakes and Andrew Senior. Peter Wild, Patrick Murray (Dornoch C.C.) and Cllr. McGillivray (Highland Council) in attendance.

**APOLOGIES:** Alison Davies and Brian Munro.

**1. MINUTES:** The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022 were confirmed as a correct record. With reference to minute 10 (Collections Management Software), JBi reported that the transfer of data had now been accomplished, with an immediate improvement in the effectiveness of the system.

**2. EXTENSION PROJECT:** The Chair gave a comprehensive presentation detailing the increase in construction costs since 2019, secured and possible sources of funding, and the SCIO's current financial assets. He reminded members that both the SCIO's application to SSE (Beatrice Partnership Fund), and its Expression of Interest in the Coastal Communities Fund had been unsuccessful. However, the National Lottery Heritage Fund had now indicated that the project had amassed sufficient funds to permit an application to that body. In that connection, he advised that the Museum Assistant had, as part of the preparation of a Community Engagement Plan, consulted over 20 local organisations.

Replying to a query about the proposed extension's effect on the Museum's financial independence, the Chair stated that, in addition to providing extra display space, it would increase footfall in the building by creating opportunities for increased community engagement with many different groups.

Further discussion ensued regarding a timetable for the submission of a funding application to the Common Good Fund in 2023. If finance permitted, it was hoped to commence construction in the Autumn of that year.

**3. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:**

The Board **agreed** the following appointments ~

- a) Chair: Jerry Bishop
- b) Treasurer: Tony Rundle
- c) Secretary: Tony Rundle

**4. BOARD SUCCESSION PLANNING / NEW TRUSTEES:** Members noted, with considerable regret, that Brian Munro had submitted his resignation from the SCIO's Board as he was moving away from the area. A number of Trustees had already paid personal tribute to his valuable service to the Board, and its committees.

It was suggested that Fiona Mckinlay be invited to attend the next meeting of the Board, with a view to her becoming a Trustee.

**5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Dornoch Heritage Society: PW stated that the Society had taken space at the recent St. Andrew's Fair, and was also represented at the 'Meet the Societies' evening. The DHS was enjoying a successful season, with a number of talks and social events yet to come.

**6. FINANCE:** The Board noted summaries of Museum and DHS Income & Expenditure to date, together with an up-dated overview of the current Young Curators' Club (YCC) project.

**7. APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:** The Board considered seven applications for full membership, and two for associate membership. It was **agreed** that the applications be approved.

**8. ENERGY SAVING PROJECT:** The Chair reported that an application for funding had been made to Museums Galleries Scotland (MGS), and a decision was awaited.

**9. FUNDRAISING:** PW asked if there was information on the SCIO's web-site regarding possible ways in which members of the public could assist in fundraising. The Chair agreed to check on this, and review the content if necessary.

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 11 a.m.**