**MINUTES**

**Meeting of Scottish Land Fund Committee**

**2 March 2022**

**Video conference**

**Members:**

Cara Gillespie Chair of Scottish Land Fund Committee

Tom Black Scottish Land Fund Committee Member

Malcolm Combe Scottish Land Fund Committee Member

Alan Hobbett Scottish Land Fund Committee Member

Bobby Macaulay Scottish Land Fund Committee Member

Pauline Megson Scottish Land Fund Committee Member

Janet Miles Vice-Chair of Scottish Land Fund Committee

**Staff:**

Tony Crosbie Operations Manager, Highlands and Islands Enterprise

Sandra Holmes Community Assets Sector Lead, Highlands and Islands Enterprise

Rebekah Dundas Funding Manager, National Lottery Community Fund

Fiona Grant Business Support Officer, Governance, National Lottery

Community Fund (minutes)

**Observing:**

Janet Mountford-Smith Policy Officer, Community Land Team, Scottish Government

Funding Officers, National Lottery Community Fund

Highlands and Islands Enterprise SLF Case Officers

1. **OPENING REMARKS**
   1. The Chair welcomed Committee Members and staff to this Scottish Land Fund Committee meeting.
2. **APOLOGIES & DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
   1. There were no apologies for absence.
   2. There were no declarations of interest.
3. **MINUTES FROM SLF MEETING HELD ON 1ST DECEMBER 2021**
   1. The minutes of the Scottish Land Fund Committee meeting held 1st December 2021 were approved as an accurate record.
4. **PIPELINE REPORT**
   1. Tony provided an overview of the pipeline report. The Committee noted the report now gives more of a narrative snapshot of the status of the pipeline. The team are hopeful the applications forecast for next year will come in. There is a healthy split of projects coming to the management group and the Committee. Most referrals are coming from HIE and the South of Scotland areas. The team are working on a plan to raise awareness and promote the fund in the rest of Scotland over the next few months.
   2. The Chair thanked Tony for the new structure of the report which has drawn out additional challenges and themes.
5. **SLF BUDGET**
   1. Janet Mountford-Smith gave an update on the SLF budget for the next financial year. The Committee noted that the £8million capital element of the budget has been approved and the team at the Scottish Government are working to also confirm the £2million resource element. Once this happens a formal offer letter will be sent to HIE and the National Lottery Community Fund.
   2. The Committee noted that any SLF budget underspend from this financial year cannot be added to the SLF budget for next year.
6. **OVERVIEW PAPER** 
   1. Rebekah informed Members about the budget for this meeting. She highlighted that there have been a lot of enquiry calls over the last week and this is hopefully an indication of recovery.
   2. The provisional press embargo for this meeting is 24th March. This is so the latest awards made by the Management Group can be included and is before the next period of sensitivity for the local council elections.

**7. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS**

7.1 6 applications were considered for decision making.

7.2 4 applications were awarded funding.

7.3 1 application was rejected.

7.4 1 application was discussed as the group are awaiting a CAT decision. Members agreed that the decision will be made by Chair’s Action.

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| **Name of Applicant** | **Project** | **Award** |
| Bennochy Community Hub SCIO (Polish Community Club) | Acquisition of Bennochy House | £316,250  Capital - £314,000  Revenue - £2,250 |
| Morvern Games and Gala Week Committee | Community Purchase of Knock Park, Lochaline and surrounding area | £137,452  Capital - £115,100  Revenue - £22,352 |
| Scourie Community Development Company Ltd | Scourie Regeneration Housing Project | £139,898  Capital - £125,398  Revenue - £14,500 |
| West Highland Museum Trust | West Highland Museum – our next 100 years | £205,065  Capital - £205,065 |
| Total Awarded |  | **£798,665**  **Capital -£759,563**  **Revenue -£39,102** |

1. **DISCUSSION WITH COMMUNITY LAND SCOTLAND**

7.1 Linsay Chalmers, Development Manager and Carey Doyle, Manager, Community Ownership Hub joined the meeting to provide an overview of the work of CLS, their history and current campaigns and priorities.

7.2 Linsay discussed the key issues and challenges that they were observing in the sector and plans for new reports and a touring exhibition next year to celebrate 100 years of community ownership.

7.3 Cary provided an overview of the work of the urban community ownership hub and what their key outcome have been over the last year.

7.4 The Chair thanked Linsay and Carey for their interesting presentations.

**8. AOB**

8.1 Expenses claims for Members to be submitted by 11th March to be paid this financial year.

**9. FINISH**

9.1 The Chair thanked everyone for their hard work and effort.

9.2 There being no further business the meeting closed at 14.25.