**MINUTES**

**Meeting of Scottish Land Fund Committee**

**24 August 2022**

**By Teams**

**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

Rebekah Dundas Funding Manager, the National Lottery Community Fund

Fiona Grant Business Support Officer, Governance, The National Lottery Fund Community Fund (minutes)

**Observing:**

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 apologies from Dave Thomson, Scottish Government.
   2. There were no declarations of interest.
3. **MINUTES FROM SLF MEETING HELD ON 25th MAY 2022**
   1. The minutes of the Scottish Land Fund Committee meeting held 25th May 2022 were approved as an accurate record.
4. **PIPELINE REPORT**
   1. Tony provided an overview of the pipeline report. The Committee noted that the pipeline remains healthy.
   2. The Committee commented that it would be helpful to have a breakdown of the common themes for the reasons why groups withdraw their applications. An analysis will be provided in the pipeline report for the next SLF Committee meeting.

**ACTION, Tony Crosbie**

1. **OVERVIEW PAPER** 
   1. Rebekah informed Members about the budget for this meeting. The Committee noted that there have been staff changes in both HIE and the National Lottery Community Fund and both organisations will be busy supporting and inducting these new staff members.
   2. The Committee noted that staff are closely monitoring the impact of the cost of living crisis on groups both in terms of building/running costs and volunteers capacity to be involved in projects.
   3. The press embargo for this meeting is 1st September.

**6. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS**

6.1 Four applications were considered for decision making.

6.2 Four applications were awarded funding.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Applicant** | **Project** | **Award** |
| Applecross Community Company | Applecross Community Hub | £106,833  Capital - £81,190  Revenue - £25,643 |
| Leanchoil Trust | Leanchoil Hospital Redevelopment | £440,500  Capital - £375,000  Revenue - £65,500 |
| Killin and Ardeonaig Community Development Trust | Killin Business and Reuse Hub | £207,141  Capital - £177,141  Revenue - £30,000 |
| The Ridge SCIO | CAT Empire Close | £98,548  Capital - £69,925  Revenue - £28,623 |
| Total Awarded |  | **£853,022**  **Capital -£703,256**  **Revenue -£149,766** |

1. **DISCUSSION SLF AND HOUSING PROJECTS**

7.1 Hugh Ross, Staffin Community Development Trust and Mike Staples from South of Scotland Community Housing joined the meeting at 13.00 and had a broad ranging discussion about the development of community owned housing projects. Hugh presented a case study of the work undertaken by Staffin CDT including the range of challenges that they faced and the longer-term benefits of a community group leading on this housing development. Mike presented an overview of support for community housing with examples of SLF projects supported in the South of Scotland and future opportunities for further developments.

7.2 The Chair thanked Hugh and Mike for joining the meeting.

**8. AOB**

8.1 The Committee noted that the next SLF Committee meeting on 16th November 2022 will take place in Inverness. Decision making will take place in the morning and in the afternoon the Committee will be joined by representatives from Crown Estates Scotland. This will be a hybrid meeting.

8.2 The Chair thanked Katie for her input to the Scottish Land Fund Summary report that was produced by the Knowledge and Learning team. It was a very interesting report with some good case studies and insights.

8.3 The Chair noted that the annual review process has been completed and she thanked Members for taking the time for meeting with her. The summary findings have been shared with Rebekah and with Members in the Committee only discussion prior to the Committee meeting. The actions will be picked up in the coming months. She thanked Members for their effort and commitment to the Scottish Land Fund and staff for the support Members had received from colleagues in their new role as the SLF Committee.

**9. FINISH**

9.1 The Chair thanked everyone for their hard work and for attending the meeting.

9.2 There being no further business the meeting closed at 14.45.