

Horshader Community Development Quarterly Newsletter September 2014



Hello,

Welcome to our quarterly newsletter, we hope it gives you a taste of what the trust have been doing and some upcoming projects. Do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any ideas or queries.

Rural transport

Funds from the remaining Lottery Grant will allow Horshader to purchase a new community minibus, with the revenue costs being met by Horshader through the Trust Projects budget within the Community Fund.

We are currently in the process of sourcing 3 quotes and understand that there is at least a 16 week lead in time; therefore we are aiming to take delivery in the New Year.

We are also working on a draft plan for the rural transport initiative and a scale of charges for hire. We will issue a copy to each household for information prior to a community meeting being called. We envisage that the bus will also be available for private hire and community group hire.

We will also be looking for **volunteers** to assist with driving and would be willing to discuss training for any members of our community who passed their test after 1997. All ideas welcome.

New Staffing

Finance Officer

Jim McCartney joined the Horshader Community Development team on the 27th August and will be working two days a week on Wednesdays and Thursdays. He is originally from Cumbernauld and moved to Lewis in July 2013, with a background in stock control management and distribution. Jim is enjoying being part of the community and is hoping to learn more about Horshader and Lewis as a whole. See photo overleaf.

Organisation structure Reminder – see below

Board members

David Wright (Chair)
Kenneth Macaulay
Angus Macarthur
Di Hesketh
Mary Maclean
Eileen Macdonald

Project Evaluation Group

Didi Macarthur
Ian Murray
Ian Macarthur
Ian Mackay
Catriona Macleod
Rev. John Macleod
Kathleen Murray
Flora Macleod

Staff

Angela Macleod
(Development Manager)
Jim McCartney
(Finance Assistant)
Amy Kapherr-Diamant
(Admin Assistant)

Growing Project

David Murdo Mackay
(Gardener)
Meg Macdonald
(Outreach Officer)



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An Eathar

Rowers on Loch a Bhaile, Siabost. Brought to you by An Eathar Rowing Club and Stornoway Rowing Club with the support of the SCRA.



Rowing Summer School of Rowing 21st & 22nd July 2014 Coached by Ali Grant of the SCRA



23 students received coaching. 3 students attended more than one session. The initial feeling from the teaching team was that the Summer School was a great success!

The Community boat funded by Horshader is now being built...**watch this space....**



Jim McCartney – Finance Officer

Administration Assistant



Amy Kapherr-Diamant has also joined the team to assist with admin and will be working 12 hours a week on Mondays and Tuesdays. Amy has a background in Forestry and

Community Engagement and is looking forward to meeting people throughout the Horshader area.



Park Project

The Park Project is still being considered with a possible change in location and size, we hope to have a follow-up park project meeting in October to discuss these changes and get the project underway.

Fuel Poverty

Fuel poverty is when a household would need to spend more than 10% of its income to maintain an adequate heating regime. Our last survey indicates that at least 47% of our community is in fuel poverty.

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Horshader is committed to continuing to reduce fuel poverty and to work with TEAS to develop energy saving measures. Ideas that have been discussed are further insulation programmes, community based heating systems etc. Later in the year we hope to organise a community energy savings talk, with Brian Whittington from TEAS, he will give advice on how you can save energy and money in your home and highlight funding schemes for renewable technologies.

As a high proportion of houses in our community are heated by oil we are also currently investigating the possibility of setting up an Oil Buying Group. We will feedback to you when we have some more information on this. Further suggestions are most welcome.

New Office

As the Horshader team is expanding the board it is now looking at options for new office premises to be funded with the remainder of the Lottery Grant.

Community Fund

We were delighted to provide bursary awards to:

- Joshua Morrison (see photo below)
- Robyn Bradley
- Adam Fitzpatrick
- Kathleen Mackay (see photo below)
- Eloise Murray (see photo below)



A community owned wind energy scheme for the people of South Shawbost, Dalmore and Dalbeg

Local projects



Carloway First Responders, is a volunteer Community First Responders unit covering the area from Dalbeg to Doune. Because of the first responders locality they can often arrive first and begin treatment. The group have attended over 150 emergency calls and in nearly all cases is the first emergency resource on scene.

The team is self-funded and therefore often relies on fund raising and kind donations from local people to help purchase equipment and keep the scheme operational.

Horshader is pleased to have been able to provide a grant award for the purchase of state of the art, life-size training dummies

Community tubs for Shawbost Gardening Groups Funded by Horshader



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We would like to wish them every success as they begin their further education and we hope they will keep in touch with us.

Other groups who benefitted from the fund are:

- Carloway cattle show
- Dalmore Cemetery Committee
- Westside Duke of Edinburgh Group



We will soon have a booklet available which will assist people with guidance on the Fund and how to apply and feature some examples of things we have funded in the past. If you are unsure whether you are eligible for funding, please ask.

Grant funding is open to any groups in the locality, providing local residents benefit from the scheme and that it fits with the Trust's charitable aims and objectives. More information can be obtained from the office (710241) or email horshader@btinternet.com and application forms can be requested from the office and shortly available on the web site.

As always the Trust is grateful to Angela Macleod - Development Manager, for her hard work and commitment and to Mary Maclean who has been helping out in the office.



Website

We are currently revamping the website and hope to have it live by the end of the year. We will be out and about taking photographs of the community over the next couple of months. We welcome any photographs that you would like to share with us.



Facebook

Horshader Community Development now has a Facebook page separate to the Horshader Growing Project page. This will be a great place to get Horshader updates and will act as a local noticeboard. Please like and share our new page – suggestions welcome as always.

Contact the Growing Project

Horshader Community Growing Project also has its own Facebook page



<https://www.facebook.com/HorshaderGrowing?fref=ts>

Contacts

David Murdo Mackay
(Head Gardener)
davidm@horshader.com

Meg Macdonald
(Outreach Officer)
meg@horshader.com

The dates for the next proposed Horshader Growing markets will hopefully take place on the 19th September & 17th October at 2pm; and a Community Market Stall event on Saturday the 29th November at 2 pm.

Slips for the Community Stalls will be issued by the Growing Project Outreach team and tables will be available for anyone to showcase their crafts; grown produce etc.

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Membership

Amy will be contacting everyone shortly to update the membership list and offer an Associate Memberships scheme.

Amy will also be contacting everyone in order to establish the demographic profile of the Horshader area. It is important that we have this information in order to strengthen our applications when seeking external funding. **WATCH THIS SPACE**



Turbine update

The turbine is running well and has been available within the terms of the maintenance contract that we have with Enercon, the manufacturers.

You may have seen the turbine at a standstill occasionally; this is not a result of breakdown. It is due to essential grid works being carried out by SSE, this usually requires the mainland supply being cut off and all island power being provided by the power station in Stornoway. When this happens all turbines on Lewis and Harris must shut down as per the connection agreement.

We are currently working with Community Energy Scotland and other community groups to try and better this position. At least one months' generation has been lost in 2014 so far.

Be assured there is no financial threat to Risort Power Generation Ltd, our trading subsidiary, our finances are very healthy and we are able to make regular gifts to Horshader, keeping the coffers topped up.



Switching on the Christmas lights

Horshader will be holding a community switching on of Christmas lights at the Polytunnel, on Saturday 6th December at 4pm. Where we will have carol singing, a Christmas tree, mince pies, and maybe even a visit from Santa.....

The event will be open to everyone not solely communities of the Horshader Community Development area, we will look forward to seeing you there.



Horshader Community Development

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