



New Office: We have now settled into our new offices and if you've not been up why not pop in and see us. Our future plans for the building are to re-slate and paint the exterior also we have a new sign ordered to replace the old one. The cost of the refurbishment was approximately £70,000. The Shop was also adapted and equipped at a cost of approximately £16,000 before being leased to Michael Fitzpatrick to run his own business.

Staffing: We would like to welcome Don MacDonald and Debbie Hunter to our small team at Horshader. Don is our minibus/handyman and Debbie has taken on the role of office cleaner.

Community Fund:

If you or your group have an idea which will benefit the residents of the Horshader community, why not come in and discuss it with us. More details about the fund are available in our booklet and on our website. In addition to the grant funding budget we are able to support some training costs; driving lessons; bursaries; and the relief of poverty and hardship.

Please contact us if you would like further information on the Community Fund, or to check your/your project's eligibility.

We are always open to new ideas and suggestions for ways in which we can work together to make Horshader a community where people want to stay. Please email Angela on Angela@horshader.com or telephone 701225.

Project Evaluation Group:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Project Evaluation Group (PEG) who have devoted their free time to help the Trust evaluate projects in line with our criteria. Those who have served the 2 year term of office will be asked to nominate a successor at our next Annual

General Meeting on the 15th of December. We hope this will ensure that over the life time of the Turbine that every member of the community, over 16, will have had an opportunity to serve on the PEG Group and on the Horshader Board. Training for new members can be arranged and delivered in our offices. For more information please contact Angela@horshader.com

Community Consultation:

Throughout the summer of 2012 a door to door community survey was carried out by Horshader staff and Directors. This formed a guide for the Board and staff of the community's wish list for the next 3 years. As we approach the end of the 3 year period, we would like to report back on progress and consult with you on your priorities for the next 5 years.

We will shortly be contacting you to ask whether you would like to be consulted. In the past we have found that a combination of door to door surveys and questionnaires to be successful methods of engagement prior to a community consultation day, however, we are happy to trial alternative methods of engagement such as focus groups, if the community wishes.

Growing Project update:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Laura, Brenda and Brett for all their hard work over the past months at the polycrubs while our gardener recovers from surgery. We would also like to thank some of young people in the community – Malachi and Sharon – for helping out at recent farmers market.



Produce available at recent farmers market



We are very pleased with this year's harvest. In addition to the Farmers Market stall, we were able to supply community members with a weekly supply of vegetables as they became available. Potatoes are frequently requested and thank you to Diane Smith for supplying these recent photos.



The polycrubs are available for viewing at any time and everyone is welcome to visit. We are delighted to assist other groups in neighbouring communities by sharing our knowledge and experience with them. The polycrubs have certainly proved their worth.



David Murdo and Finlay showing some of our guests round the tunnels

Thank you to all the members of our community and beyond who attended our summer food cookery demonstration in partnership with the Hebridean Celtic Festival. The event was held at the polycrubs and everyone enjoyed a fantastic mix of traditional music and local fresh produce. Maggie Mackenzie and Alasdair Macleod provided a light-hearted cooking demonstration, with easy to follow recipes that tasted incredible, many of which included fresh Horshader produce. These recipes are still available, if you are interested contact Finlay on 01851701225 or finlay@horshader.com



Maggie and Alasdair cooking lunch

We are pleased that the allotment tunnels have been a success and are greatly encouraged by the requests for more plots, both from within and out with the Horshader boundary. We will shortly be consulting to gauge

whether there is demand for additional community allotments. Please let staff know if you're interested.

You're never too young or too old to volunteer at the polycrubs. Please contact Finlay for more information.....finlay@horshader.com or 01851701225

Horshader Rural Support and Connect Project:

The aim of the Rural Support and Connect project is to enable the community to enjoy a better quality of life through the community minibus facility and the handyman service. This project received funding from the Scottish Government, Big Lottery Fund and Horshader Community Development Fund, and will run until March 2016.

The 17 seater minibus is fully wheelchair accessible and can accommodate up to 4 wheelchairs and is equipped with an on-board mounted electric/hydraulic wheelchair lift.

We are pleased to work with a local focus group of community members to try and deliver a service which reflects the community's needs. We currently provide a regular pick up/delivery to the Shawbost School; pick up/delivery for our Nicolson pupils on a Friday afternoon; pick up/delivery for Clann an Latha an De members, in addition to responding to community demands. We can also provide the minibus for group or individual hire, with or without a driver.



Clann an Latha an De enjoying the first spin in the new bus

More recently we have paid for a pool of volunteers to participate in the MIDAS training (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme) in order to utilize the bus out with the core office hours. We are grateful to Ann Marie Macdonald; Diane Smith; Iain Tiger Macarthur; Roddy Alex Dan; Cllr Ali MacLennan; for giving up their time and we are greatly encouraged by their support. There has been some interest in providing a run which would enable members to visit relatives/friends in hospital or care homes, if there is adequate demand we would be pleased to develop this with the community. Please contact a member of the Horshader Staff or Project Focus Group to discuss further or to suggest alternatives. Please keep your suggestions coming.

Don is also available to carry out handyman jobs in the community, especially for the most vulnerable, to help them enjoy a better quality of life and remain as independent as possible for as long as possible.

For example we can:

- Carry out exterior/interior painting
- Take in coal or peat
- Cut your grass/strim
- Change a lightbulb
- Assemble flat pack furniture
- Minor household repairs



Don MacDonald - handyman

Anyone who is a member of the project can access the service; however priority will be given to the most vulnerable members of the Horshader Community.

Please contact the office for more information on 01851 701225 or finlay@horshader.com or don@horshader.com

Loom Leasing:

We are pleased to report that there has been a keen interest in the loom leasing scheme. We expect the order to be placed early September with an estimated delivery date of December 2015, with an expectation that training will be carried out over the winter months.



Recently funded Boat launch

Website/Facebook Our new website is now up and running, we welcome any photographs that you would like to share with us. Don't forget to have a look at our FACEBOOK page, a great place to get Horshader updates and post local notices. Please like and share our new page – suggestions welcome as always.

www.horshader.com

www.facebook.com/horshadercommunitydevelopment