



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR

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Minute of Meeting held via Microsoft Teams, on
Wednesday 9 December 2020 at 5.00pm.

PRESENT

Mr Norman A MacDonald (Convener)	
Mr Roddie Mackay (Leader)	
Mr Calum Macmillan	Mr Keith Dodson
Mr Iain A MacNeill	Mr Rae Mackenzie
Mr Paul Steele	Mr Angus McCormack
Mr Roddy Mackay	Mr Charlie Nicolson
Mr Iain M Macleod	Mr Iain M Macaulay
Mr Uisdean Robertson	Mr Neil Mackay
Mr Grant Fulton	Mr Donald Crichton
Mr Paul Finnegan	Mr John A Maciver
Mr John G Mitchell	Mr Calum Maclean
Mr Ranald Fraser	Mr John Mackay
Mr Angus Morrison	Mr John N Macleod
Mr Norman Macdonald	Mr Kenneth Macleod
Mr Alasdair Macleod	Mr Kenny John Macleod

APOLOGIES

Mr Donald Manford	Mr Finlay Stewart
Mr Gordon Murray	

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Malcolm Burr	Mr Derek Mackay
Mr Robert Emmott	Mr Nigel Scott
Ms Morag Ferguson	Mr Colin George Morrison
Mrs Mairi Anne Maciver	Mrs Marina Macaulay
Mr Bernard Chisholm	
Mr David Gibson	

Prayer

The Meeting was preceded in prayer by Mr John A Maciver.

Tribute: Mrs
Morag Munro

The Convener referred to Mrs Morag Munro who had recently awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list, for her services to the community of Harris over many years.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, extended congratulations and best wishes to Mrs Munro.

Tribute: Mr Angus
Maclean

The Convener referred to Mr Angus Maclean from Harris who had recently been awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) for services to Harris and especially during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, extended congratulations and best wishes to Mr Angus.

Tribute: Mr
Bernard Chisholm

The Convener referred to Bernard Chisholm, the retiring Director of Education, Skills and Children's Services, who had worked in various roles in the Education Service since 2002.

The Convener stated that Bernard had been appointed to the role of Director of Education in 2015 and in 2018 Bernard took on the post of Director of Education, Skills and Children's Services.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, paid tribute to Bernard for all he had done for education in the Western Isles, and further afield, and transformational change across the Comhairle and wished him a long and happy retirement.

Tribute Cllr Angus McCormack

The Convener referred to Cllr Angus McCormack who had announced that he was standing down as Chairman of the Education, Sport and Children's Services Committee, a position he had held since May 2017.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, paid tribute to Mr McCormack for all he had done, and continues to do, for Education in the Western Isles.

MINUTES

Minute of Meeting of 30 November 2020 1

The Minute of Meeting of 30 November 2020 was **approved**.

Declaration of Interest 2

There were no declarations of interest.

Written Questions to the Convener and Chairmen of Committees 3

There were no written questions.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application Under Section 42 for Planning Permission – Goathill Care Development 4

The Head of Economic Development and Planning submitted a Report concerning an Application under Section 42 for Planning Permission at the Goathill Care Development site. The matter had been considered by the Planning Applications Board at its meeting on 8 December 2020..

It was agreed that, subject to there being no representations against the proposal from any party on valid planning grounds, authority to determine the application be delegated to the Director for Communities (on such terms and conditions as he may decide).

APPOINTMENTS

Appointment to Comhairle Vacancies 5

With reference to item 3 of the Minute of Meeting of 30 November 2020 the Chief Executive submitted a Report which sought approval to appoint Members to the vacancies on the Planning Applications Board, Comataidh Buileachaidh Plana Canan and Comunn na Gaidhlig.

At the Comhairle meeting on 30 November 2020, it was noted that Councillor Grant Fulton did not wish to be appointed to the vacancies on the Planning Applications Board and Comataidh Buileachaidh Plana Canan or as a Comhairle representative on Comunn na Gaidhlig and it was therefore agreed that Members be appointed to these vacancies at the next meeting of the Comhairle.

It was agreed:

(1) to appoint Mr Roddy Mackay to the vacancy on the Planning Applications Board; and

(2) to appoint Mr Alasdair Macleod to the vacancy on Comunn na Gaidhlig.

Urras nan
Tursachan:
Comhairle
Membership

nan 6

The Chief Executive submitted a Report which provided an update on the Comhairle's representation on Urras nan Tursachan.

It was indicated in the Report that the Comhairle had appointed Councillors Norman A Macdonald and Ranald Fraser as Nominated Directors of Urras nan Tursachan in May 2017 and Mr Fraser had recently intimated his resignation. Mr Macdonald had indicated that he would remain as a Director on the Trust. Mr Macdonald had also confirmed that, at this time, his view was that one representative from the Comhairle would be sufficient.

It was agreed that the Comhairle note the resignation of Cllr Ranald Fraser as a Nominated Director on Urras nan Tursachan.

COMMITTEES

Committee
Decision Reports

7

The Committee Decision Reports were approved, unless indicated below:

- (a) Communities and Housing Committee – 1 December 2020
- (b) Education, Sport and Children's Services Committee – 1 December 2020

Mr Angus McCormack, seconded by Mr Paul Finnegan, moved approval of the Education, Sport and Children Services Committee Decision Report of 1 December 2020.

Mr John N Macleod, seconded by Mr Charlie Nicolson, moved the following amendment in respect of item 7 of the Decision Report of Education, Sport and Children's Services Committee of 1 December 2020:

that the Comhairle, insofar as its interests were concerned, defer consideration of the Respite Care Policy to allow further time for consultation with stakeholders in respect of the Policy.

The Comhairle then proceeded to debate the motion against the amendment.

The vote was taken by roll call as follows:

MOTION	AMENDMENT
Norman A MacDonald	Calum Macmillan
Roddie Mackay	Iain A MacNeill
Paul Steele	Roddy Mackay
Uisdean Robertson	Iain M Macleod
Paul Finnegan	Grant Fulton
Angus Morrison	John Mitchell
Norman Macdonald	Ranald Fraser
Alasdair Macleod	Keith Dodson
Angus McCormack	Rae Mackenzie
Donald Crichton	Charlie Nicolson
John Mackay	Iain M Macaulay
Kenny John Macleod	Neil Mackay
	John A Maciver
	Calum Maclean
	John N Macleod
	Kenneth Macleod

The amendment, having received the majority of the votes cast, became the finding of the meeting.

- (c) Transportation and Infrastructure Committee – 2 December 2020
- (d) Sustainable Development Committee – 2 December 2020
- (e) Audit and Scrutiny Committee – 8 December 2020
- (f) Policy and Resources Committee – 9 December 2020