

## Board Meeting Minutes

### Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 11.00am via Zoom

Present – James Hilder, Jenni Hodgson, Sally Semple, Gill Calver, Ali Upton, John Jones, Denise Anderson, Elizabeth Carmichael

In attendance – Lara Van de Peer

#### 1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies received from Claire Cameron and Joanne Matheson.

#### 2. Minutes of the last Meeting

These were approved with no amendments.

#### 3. Matters arising not covered on the agenda

- a. Board skills audit – James apologised for not distributing this in the correct format. **Action – James** to send round to the Board as soon as possible.
- b. Project Officer job description and role review – no comments received on this to date. **Action – James** to ask Joanne, in her absence, if she has any comments to add, before formalising a new contract and job description.
- c. It was noted that funds for the Project Officer role hadn't yet been transferred over to the Urram bank account. **Action – James** to transfer these funds.

#### 4. Dail Mhor House - Current status of Service & Operational Update

- a. In Claire's absence, Jenni updated. There are currently 3 people in Dail Mhor receiving care. One is due to go home shortly. Board members are aware of 2 people in the community currently in need of respite. It was agreed that it would be worth keeping a track of current respite needs in relation to the re-opening of Dail Mhor as a respite unit at the end of March and going forwards. It was also agreed that the Board should keep statistics, informally and in the meeting minutes, of numbers of the people in the community that we know of needing respite care and care at home services.
- b. Lara added that Dail Mhor would be reopening for respite at the end of March, although this date was subject to change by the Scottish Government.
- c. The Board would formally like to thank Dail Mhor staff for the recent palliative care delivered to local residents.

#### 5. Project officer update

- a. Community Consultation – this closed on 28 February. There were 203 responses received - 173 online and 30 hard copy.

The geographical breakdown was as follows –

- 45% from Strontian
- 22% from Lochaline
- 12% from Kilchoan
- 9.5% from Acharacle

- 7% from Ardgour and the rest from Salen

Highlights from the data received are –

91% in favour of redeveloping the Dail Mhor site

69% liked our proposal and 28% liked parts of them

89% said that they could see an advantage to having all care provision being coordinated from the same place

57% think there is the right balance of care and community spaces

18% would consider living in a flexi home and 43% would say maybe

Comments on care side of development

- long-term care needs of our communities (consider private care beds to bring in an income)
- safe place for mental health patients
- bookable visitor accommodation
- Think bigger – two stories?
- Pharmacy needed
- Staff room needed
- Provision of satellite day care across all communities
- Patient transport needed
- Care beds should be away from the village hall and have a view

Comments on wider development

- 58% think that the hall will be suitable for the community's needs
- Development should be sustainable / use environmentally friendly fuel sources
- More parking required
- Redevelopment of play park at the same time.
- Space / rooms for teenagers to use

It was noted that Sian Taylor, Dr Taylor's daughter from Lochaline has approach Lara to offer her data analysis skills in helping to decipher the data received and get it into a format that is usable for writing a report. **Action – Lara** to progress report

It was agreed that we should press release the key findings and messages in due course as well as make the report available to the public and key partners. It was also agreed that the project needs to remain flexible and that any new build should be able to adapt to change over time and have the ability to work at an increased capacity depending on need.

- b. Feasibility Study. 3 consultants have now been identified and have agreed to tender for the work. It was agreed that we should also look at opening the tender process up and putting it out on Public Contracts Scotland. The next stage is to fundraise for the feasibility study which will cost around £25,000. Urram have around £5000 to contribute from the NHS funding they hold and Lara will submit funding applications to the 3 local hydro scheme funds as well as the HC Ward Fund and HIE. **Action - Lara** to progress funding applications.

- c. James reported that a funding request had been submitted to NHS Highland to ask for continued support for the Project Officer role. This has now been agreed and NHS Highland will contribute £15,000 to Urram over the coming year.
- d. Community Asset Transfer – Following on from discussions with Dot Ferguson from Highland Council, James reported that we were going to put the community asset transfer on hold for the moment, until we establish, what parts of the site would be best to apply a CAT. He explained that if we are going to work in partnership with HC to deliver some flexible housing on the site, then it is better that HC owns that land.
- e. Highland Hospice meeting and update – Lara and Jenni attending a meeting at the end of January with Ross MacKenzie, Claire Cameron and Marie Law from NHS Highland, Rena MacLeod and Sarah Traynor from the NHS Care at Home team and Isobelle Campbell, Paula Cooper and Andrew Leaver from Highland Hospice. The aim was to find a way forward for the Highland Hospice care at home service to commence. All agreed that they wanted the service to succeed and it was heartening to hear that the NHS C@H team were keen to work in partnership with any new service. The next step is to run a joint session with HH and a job centre representative to provide information and advice about the jobs and try to attract more interest. **Action – Lara** to progress.
- f. Highland Hospice Befriending – James and Lara met with Susan Smith from Highland Hospice about getting a Befriending service up and running in the area supporting people across all the peninsulas communities. It was agreed that it would be good to get a small-scale health and welfare project up and running quickly to show the community that we are established and starting to work on things. **Action – Lara** to send round a project paper and costs for consideration.

## **6. A.O.B**

It was suggested that it would be useful for Urram to put updates on to the Urram facebook page and also the Dail Mhor page, in the absence of De tha Dol. Denise explained that it was hoped De tha Dol would be returning to production soon.

## **Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 2.00pm via Zoom.