Unapproved - Urram Board Meeting Notes 13th February 2023 9.30 am via Zoom

		Action
1	Welcome, apologies and introductions. Present: James Hilder, Elizabeth Carmichael, Gill Calver, Jenni Hodgson, Louise White, Denise Anderson, Natalie Rodgers, Karen Ann Wilson (left early), Bryan Gregg, James Campbell Apologies: Ali Upton, Claire Cameron James Hilder opened the meeting and particularly thanked Jenni for attending and offered all of our condolences at this difficult time. Bryan introduced himself and shared a little of his history.	
2	Minutes of the last Meeting (January) Approved proposed Elizabeth seconded Jenni. Things not covered elsewhere Now Acharacle Community Council is back up and running James Hilder has written to them, to remind them that there is no Acharacle representative on the board currently and we would like there to be. Grant declined to join the board at this time, too much on. James Hilder has been in touch with Highland Hospice to progress sunflower home care. Meeting with Paula is pending.	
3	 a) Current cash- £31,321.84p. We have had the money from NHS but not totally sure which period this is for and still no paperwork in place. b) Funding. HCMHWB- rejected. This was for Yoga at Treslaig, lunch club at Lochaline and tea and chat in Kilchoan. Community Regeneration Fund- successful. This is for another vehicle, staff capacity, revenue costs & charge point Charge point in Acharacle now has funding and working with Acharacle Community Company to make that happen Community Alliance trip to Tagsa Uibhist (James C confirmed attendance, and Gill will be away.) Change of use for Age Scotland grant to support the Lochaline lunch club and we will apply to Age Scotland for some more for this too. 	Natalie/Louise
	ICF- should hear in February. It was mostly revenue funding for the next three years. Circumstances have changed considerably since then but we shall wait and see if they award us any funding and then see what happens. In the next while need to develop more of a fundraising strategy- now we have some momentum but need to keep going in the long term. SDS development may need an additional employee etc	Louise/Natalie/ Bryan

4 Services Update

Befriending continues to go well with 8 clients. Some unmatched volunteers are currently helping at social groups and lunch clubs. Natalie has plans for more promotion over the next few weeks by developing some case studies, interviewing volunteers and clients. This week a volunteer is being interviewed for the Youth Philanthropy Initiative run by AHS.

A longer term possibility is if the college or Advanced higher students doing photography course might be interested in a photo journalism story. This could give a bank of great photos for publicity etc. Alternatively could find funding for a photographer.

SCVO and others are keen to share case studies if we wanted some more national publicity.

Social groups and lunch clubs.

Lochaline lunch club, trialled before Christmas and continuing until end of March with Age Scotland funding. Yoga at Treslaig is going very well and busy.

Big thanks to Elizabeth for running the tea and chat in Ardgour and recruiting some volunteers to host. This is an essential part of the sustainability of tea and chat groups.

Now the Strontian village hall is back up and open there maybe more that we can do in Strontian.

Transport

Continues to be busy! The board agreed to not pursue taking on the Morven eco wheels car, due to the age of the vehicle. But do need to learn lessons from the model as we consider a community car share scheme in Strontian.

Vehicle proposal: it was agreed to keep the Berlingo in the short term. A close look at the financials and vehicle strategy for the next 2-3 years for all transport services is required. This will demonstrate how the Berlingo will continue to be paid for, as maintenance costs increase. The team will draft a dossier for PACT, with some case studies and papers to ask for them to continue to support the HTS after November. There was a discussion about the sustainability of workload associated with HTS as it can be logistically time consuming.

Board confirmed there should be finite hours for the phone, and volunteers should be made aware of these.

Need to recruit more volunteers.

With Bryan joining the team there is easy opportunities to reset expectations, adjust working hours.

There is the standard service of booking and there needs to be the emergency service for real emergencies- and these two things are getting confused at the moment.

We need to overhall the phone system that we have so that it facilitates the team working together and the operation of the service. When visiting Tagsa Uibhist, it will be interesting to see how their transport service works, volunteers/employees, covering of costs, phones etc. Perhaps that will bring some ideas, especially as new vehicles come in to operation and community transport gains momentum.

Natalie

Natalie/Louise

Natalie/Louise/ Bryan

Louise/Natalie/ Bryan

Louise

5	Recruitment Bryan will be in post by the beginning of March The employee handbook is still in draft and being worked on by Louise. New starter details for payroll etc are with Jenni	Louise Jenni
6	Dail Mhor House Staff shortages continue and combined with the time it takes to get new staff through the recruitment process has meant that the re-open date of Dail Mhor has been pushed back to March. Invernevis house has closed today for 10 days due to covid. There is a little additional capacity at the Mackintosh Centre for respite beds. Karen Ann is being supported by Pam Cremin in trying to speed up the recruitment process. Karen Ann asked for a wee report on how often we are using the office so that we can formalise the use of the room	Louise/Natalie
7	Pail Mhor/ Wellbeing Hub Report from Consultants: Has been circulated and final comments on the response to the report to Louise by the 17th February. Louise to send to Bryan. Then we will publicise the report , sharing with our partners, for comments prior to a press release report. Bryan shared experience from the Lochaber health and social care redesign group meetings. It was interesting to note that Dail Mhor is still part of the overall social care plan but not necessarily with financial commitment. From the transport side of things; the costs to the NHS of transporting patients does out weigh the cost of offering services in Lochaber and its worth shouting about the number of journeys we are doing and the costs associated with these. Local GP Surgeries: As it has not been possible to recruit a GP for the Lochaline practice, the Acharacle practice will intergrate Lochaline in to their practice and are currently recruiting for another GP to cover the work load. Encouragement for everyone to share the poster. Housing Progress: Louise has been in contact with Highland Council to initiate the housing. Nothing else to note other than the work load has been allocated to Emma Micklethwaite. Louise to ensure we are kept in the loop with progress, along with NHS ensuring there is an open communication process. Report from Duncan highlights needs for housing needs analysis to be done in the area. Lochaber Housing association have put theirs on hold, big expensive project- and might try and run it over two financial years. When Louise shares report with CHT, highlight this need to Ronnie and see if there is a way we can work together to do an analysis of our areas. Funding the last one came from 'adopt an intern' and there could be scope for similar. Rural housing conference could present some opportunities.	ALL Louise Louise

8/9	Discussion related to SDS support. What and how can Urram be involved at the moment. Whilst in the future there could be a role for Urram in a formal capacity, employing carers etc for the moment operating as a broker between personal assistants and clients is more useful. There could be opportunity to be a local organisation who can help clients cope with the admin of SDS option 1. This is also supported by the community contacts work of Carrgom Urram team will continue to work towards a local solution using new connections and contacts to help along the way. In the short term we can help with signposting people for help.	Louise/Natalie/ Bryan
10	Vision and Mission. All to re- read the draft in light of the meeting last Thursday and any comments to Louise by the 24 th February.	ALL
11	AOB James Hilder to write to Pam Cremin, to say thanks for the support. Discussion regarding request from GP's for emergency drivers to help with trips to fort William. The feeling was this needs to be separate from the HTS and could easily become muddled. Denise will have a conversation with Janet, practice manager to discuss.	James Hilder Denise
	Date of next meeting – 27 th March 7.30pm Future dates:	
	8th May 9.30am Evening! 19th June 7.30pm Evening! 31st July 7.30pm 11th September 9.30am 23rd October 9.30am Evening! 4th December 7.30pm (mince pies and mulled wine optional!)	