

Ullapool Museum Trust

Minutes of the 253rd meeting of Ullapool Museum Trust held on
Tuesday 13th April at 11.00am via Zoom

1. **Present:** Ellie Ing, Siobhan Beatson, Alastair Cunningham, Jenny Cunningham, George Hobbs, Mhairi Muncaster, Penny Stewart,
2. **Apologies:** Jemma Middleton, Ian Cockburn, Lesley Spencer, Helen Avenell,
3. Minutes of 11 March 2021 were agreed (Proposed by Ellie Ing seconded by George Hobbs)
4. There were no matters arising
5. Ellie proposed a gathering for all museum volunteers in the summer as a thank you. The suggestion was supported by the board.
6. **Finances:** Alastair updated on the budget, where this month's news had been positive on balance. On the upside funding from Highlife Highland had been confirmed and the museum had been awarded funds as part of Visit Scotland's Covid relief scheme. On the downside, it had now been confirmed that there would be no Vintage Tractor Day or Soup and Sandwiches fundraising.
7. **Crowdfunding:** it was agreed that board would discuss this further at the next meeting in light of research by Mhairi.
8. **Kickstart scheme:** Siobhan outlined a proposal to make use of the government's Kickstart Scheme to fund employment of a retail trainee for 6 months at 25 hours per week. Under the scheme, the costs (salary and training) are fully covered - to be claimed monthly from MGS (Museums and Galleries Scotland). Training would be provided by us- to include retail training which Mhairi offered to assist with. There was some discussion of the risk that the employee might not meet our expectations and whether in that event the museum could release them early. Subject to confirmation that the museum could terminate the employment of an under-performing recruit, the board was content to proceed.
9. **Museum opening:** The museum is to open from Friday 30th April for 2 days per week (Fridays and Saturdays) 11am - 4pm and full time from the end of May. All volunteers are required to complete online training before they start.
10. **MGS funding:** funding of £2700 has been received from MGS to improve the museum website. We are awaiting a quote to set up the online shop (selling products unique to the museum) and host the site.
11. **Inverlael:** see Helen Avenell's report attached outlining stages of the project. Funding from HES is not conditional on a fixed deadline - some flexibility due to

Covid is allowed. Siobhan age more detail of the school's involvement from 17th May. This will lead into a Minecraft project which will ultimately be accessed via laptop as part of the museum display. We agreed a notice should be placed in the Ullapool News giving further information about the project and - later - details of walkover surveys for local residents to take part in.

12. **Next meetings:** it was agreed to continue to have monthly meetings at the new time of 11am on Tuesdays.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 11th May 11 am via Zoom