**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF TIREE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST (TCDT) and TIREE COMMUNITY COUNCIL (TCC)**

**14 September 2021**

**By Zoom**

1. Present: Phyl Meyer (general manager TCDT), Dr John Holliday (convenor TCC), Iona Campbell (vice-convenor TCC)
2. TCDT and TCC are important organisations on the island. While their functions and projects are to some extent separate, there remains considerable overlap where joint working is beneficial. Examples are the adoption of a Place Plan for Tiree or the Tiree Transport Forum.
3. Neither organisation has the capacity to deliver all that is asked of them.
4. TCDT prefers to work strategically to deliver a few multi-year projects. TCC tends to be reactive, dealing with a succession of ‘emergencies’, although it does have a few ‘policies’ such as increasing the population and supporting Gaelic.
5. There is a recognition that the current biannual meetings between the two organisations, when each lists their current projects, are inefficient and poorly attended.
6. We would like to improve communication, to work smarter together, and to achieve more output with less input.
7. To reduce the load on councillors, TCC would benefit from administrative support including minute taking (ideally using existing TCDT staff). The use of the TCDT Microsoft 365 account would save money, although there are governance and confidentiality issues that would have to be addressed.
8. TCC is able to provide access to free Pre-Planning Applications.
9. Giving TCC councillors preferential access to good broadband speeds would be helpful.
10. TCC needs to be, and be seen to be, an independent voice for the whole community, and be a ‘critical friend’ of TCDT where necessary.
11. TCC produces open minutes and a summary of monthly public meetings in *An Tirisdeach*. It is harder to keep track of Trust projects, but TCDT is hoping current recruitment will allow updates of Trust activities to be better publicised in future.
12. TCC needs to ‘think TCDT’ for every initiative, asking themselves if the Trust should be involved or not. An example is the Gott Bay Pier regeneration project, where the Trust should have been involved earlier. The MICT general manager attends every Mull Community Council meeting.
13. Conversely, TCDT could ‘think TCC’ as their projects develop, to see if political support would help at any stage.
14. It may be better if TCDT has some spare capacity in the future growth plans so that they can better manage unplanned emergency issues.
15. TCC should be consulted during the development of TCDT growth plans and there should be an easy pathway for TCC to bring potential project to the Trust for consideration outside this three- to five-year cycle. A current example is coastal erosion.
16. A monthly Zoom ‘coffee’ between the TCDT general manager and the TCC convenor would be helpful.