



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR

REVIEW PANEL

Minute of Meeting held in Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Stornoway, on Thursday 3 May 2018 at 2.00pm.

PRESENT

Mr Keith Dodson (Chair)
Mr Ranald Fraser
Mr Finlay Stewart

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Bernard Chisholm
Mr Calum Mackenzie
Mr Euan Scott, CBAB (by video conference)
Ms Sarah Maclean, CBAB (by video conference)
Mr Paul McGuire, Barra Sports Forum (by video conference)

Mr Derek Mackay
Mrs Fiona Maciver

Minute of Meeting of 29 March 2018

1 The Minute of Meeting of 29 March 2018 was **approved**.

Community Asset Transfer Review

2 With reference to item 3 of the Minute of Meeting of the Chief Executive submitted a Report detailing the process for undertaking Elected Member reviews in respect of Community Asset Transfer Requests. The Report intimated Coimhearsnachd Bharraigh agus Bhatersaigh Limited (CBAB) had submitted an asset transfer request under the Community Empowerment Act 2015 relating to an area of land opposite Castlebay School. The asset transfer request had been refused by the Comhairle at Officer level and CBAB had exercised their right to have this decision reviewed by Elected Members.

The Report stated that the Appeals Panel had met on 29 March 2018 to consider the request for review and determined to proceed to a hearing. The Panel further determined that there would not be a requirement to undertake a site visit.

The Panel agreed to note the Report.

APPEAL

Land Opposite Castlebay Community School

3 The Panel proceeded to consider a request for review from Coimhearsnachd Bharraigh agus Bhatersaigh Limited (CBAB) in respect of an asset transfer request under part 5 of the Community Empowerment Act 2015 concerning an area of land opposite Castlebay School for the purpose of creating an all-weather sports facility. The asset transfer request had been refused by the Comhairle at Officer level on 9 January 2018 and Coimhearsnachd Bharraigh agus Bhatersaigh Limited had exercised their right to have the decision reviewed. Documentation in relation to the review was included in the agenda.

Both parties were given an opportunity to present their respective cases and Members of the Panel were afforded the opportunity of asking questions of both parties. Both parties were given the opportunity to sum up their respective cases and withdrew from the Meeting while the Panel deliberated.

Having considered the written submissions and the verbal representations from all parties, the Panel agreed to confirm the decision of Officers to refuse the Asset Transfer Request.

In arriving at its decision the Panel recognised the wide community support and the social, economic and public wellbeing that an all-weather pitch would bring. The Panel also recognised the major capital investment proposed for Castlebay Community School and the submission from Officers that until such time as

funding was confirmed and design proposals developed the Comhairle would not be in a position to dispose of any adjacent land within its ownership as this may impact on the scale of development and lead to constraints and additional costs during construction. The Panel further noted the intention of the Director of Education and Children's Services to progress the new Castlebay Community School Development in partnership with the local community.