

## LDO report: 04/09/19

Updates	Notes/Questions
<p><b>PLOCK HUB + ACCOMMODATION PODS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We've had a meeting with the architects. Signed a contract to proceed with the Plock Hub building, infrastructure and groundworks for the accommodation pods and event tents.</li> <li>• I've approached Tansy Grigor-Taylor for a quote for pods. She is asking for 3% of the building costs which seems much lower than Dualchas.</li> </ul>	<p>Should we go with her? Do you like to save space by having a bed in an alcove?</p>
<p><b>FUNDING FOR NEW JOBS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We haven't submitted any applications yet as the National Lottery Heritage Fund came back with feedback highlighting things we need to address.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>LOCHALSH CONSULTATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No progress as there was no meeting in August. Next meeting is scheduled for 18<sup>th</sup> September.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>CAR CHARGING POINT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All funding and a planning permission has been secured. Our contractors and SSEN have been given a go ahead. SSEN has been paid and the EST has reimbursed us for it.</li> <li>• SSEN are waiting for information about wayleaves before proceeding.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>ICELAND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I've attended a study visit in the Snaefellsnes area of Iceland followed by some personal travel in the south of the island.</li> <li>• Unfortunately, I think I left my notebook with notes in the Viking Club in Reykjavik but here are some of the points I learned and ideas that came from the visit:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- They have a list of Sites A and Sites B which they advertise to tourists. Other beautiful spots which are precious for locals are hidden away from tourists so they remain for locals. Sites A have good infrastructure and stakeholders land owner permissions. They also try to set up contracts with tour providers for going across private land. Locals are encouraged to set up businesses to benefit from tourism. Sites B are half way there.</li> <li>- They are trying to find way to keep visitors longer in the area. They create good maps with attractions and invest in marketing.</li> <li>- They have visually attractive and informative information points at various attractions.</li> <li>- They have visitor centres with food and gifts at quite few attractions. The attractions are sometimes free but people can be charged for parking (at one place they had a system that recorded your plate numbers as soon as you arrived to the parking so you had no choice or you thought that you had no choice but to pay).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The range of items to sell was enormous and presented in a very attractive way.</li> <li>- The Saga Museum (about Vikings) in Reykjavik had recorded historical information for visitors and when you paid to enter, you received headphones with a story to follow in one of 6 languages. Once you finished the digital tour, they had a small sitting space with a screen showing how the museum was created which will be useful for us to see the type of work it's needed to make a Viking Living Village. They also had some Viking clothes which people could put on and take a photo of themselves in. The shop space had a huge variation of items for sell from various suppliers.</li> <li>- I talked to a guy from a Viking Club. They are non-profit and have been running for over 20 years. They have 200 members, about 100 of which are active. They organise regular workshops for members to learn skills such as sawing, woodwork, metalwork, crafts, re-enactment, etc. They organise annual market and also go to Viking markets in other countries. They are strict about good behaviour, have a no-drug policy, and value the sense of community and brotherhood which the club creates. They have a Viking School for kids where they teach them how to re-enact and play Viking games. They generate income by selling items or by group bookings where they go in Viking clothes, perform, tell stories, re-enact etc. They have good links with businesses and the municipally which gives them a free use of a house for the club.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>PAYPAL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Siobhan has sorted it out!! Well done!</li> </ul>	
<p><b>PLOCK PROJECT OFFICER</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We've received 6 applications and will interview 3 candidates tomorrow (Thursday).</li> </ul>	