

Membership Strategy 2021/2022

1. Introduction

There are 220 members of North Uist Development Company (Trading) Limited (NUDC-T) following the final share offer which closed in December 2018 and was finalised in March 2019, with the official register of members collated by Mann Judd Gordon accountancy firm and the figure updated following review with the accountant. There were a number of corrections required in the register, and as a consequence Greenbank were contracted to confirm details held in the register as well as apply any corrections necessary. Based on the corrections a few certificates will be reissued. Thanks to all Members for their cooperation.

2. Communications

Newsletters with updates have been sent out to Members via email and postal mail to those who haven't provided an email address. NUDC-T aim to work towards sending these bi-annually. Social media posts are less frequent as operation doesn't tend to facilitate as many events as construction. With the wide impacts of the global pandemic limiting the format of outreach activities; and demands on the current NUDC member of staff; outreach activities have been postponed this year, to be picked up again once the COVID-19 situation improves and pressures are eased. NUDC-T aim to carry out a range of outreach activities in the coming year, including the name a turbine competition with local children. NUDC-T will continue to work towards maintaining strong communications with members and any suggestions are welcome.

Feedback from Members asked for notification and election material to be provided via post for the Annual Members' Meetings. However, this is at a cost to the Company and requires significant staff and volunteer capacity. Therefore, the Management Committee would like to recommend for future Annual Members' Meeting, this process is carried out electronically via email, and information is only sent via post to those Members without email access.

3. Future members plan

Given the delays on the project, the impacts of the ongoing pandemic, and potential energy related risks relating to lockdowns and a fragile market, it isn't recommended to carry out another share offer at this time. NUDC-T are; however, considering options for the future. Any further share offers will also need to be approved by the lenders through an associated proposal. The aim of another share offer would be to help clear the loan from the Energy Investment Fund whilst attracting additional members. We are approaching year 3 of trading, and though the prospectus stated between years 3 to 7 investors can withdraw shares at the absolute discretion of the Management Committee, earlier delays, that have been out of our control, means this is not yet possible. This will be re-considered annually. We are constrained by the lenders facility agreements and meeting their operational conditions. NUDC-T are working with its lenders, advisers and accountants to clarify the future financial projections and ensure long-term financial security and annual return for its Members. Rubycom Limited are currently working with NUDC-T to support this process and provide recommendations for reserves to cover ongoing investor returns.

4. Summary

2021 was a year which saw substantial progress for the project despite the effects of the pandemic on ourselves and partner organisations. The member review is deemed complete, there are 4 remaining investors who are proving difficult to contact, but we must move forward to ensure processes can proceed for an investor return. We are in conversation with the new accountants and lenders to facilitate the first investor return. We are very grateful for all the support of the Members and the positive responses we have had during the recent review of the register, and thank you all for your patience and commitment to our objectives.