



## Update 25 November 2011



### Further Progress on Funding

There have now been two meetings with potential funders in recent weeks. Significant progress has been made, though much is still to be done, and timescales are very tight. The directors and the architect met with senior representatives of two funders in Edinburgh last week at a meeting convened again by Michael Russell MSP in his office at the Scottish Parliament, assisted by Louise Glen-Lee. Follow-up meetings with individual funders will be held in the coming weeks to develop the formal applications in terms of their specific criteria.

This progress has been enabled by the reduction in the scale of the building to allow for the shortage of funding available in the present financial climate. The revised plans for this purpose are only in outline at this stage and may be viewed on the Trust website and on the Trust notice board. These will not need to go through a further formal planning procedure. These plans represent much of the original design and the other components will have to wait for a later stage in the project.

### Historic Scotland

Last September two representatives of Historic Scotland visited the Trust to look at the disused quarries to the north of Cullipool, for which the Trust owns the mineral rights. Historic Scotland is currently seeking to secure supplies of traditional Scottish building stones, including slate, for conservation purposes. Ewan Hyslop, Depute Director of Conservation, has written a blog with photographs of the visit at <http://climatechangeblog.historic-scotland.gov.uk/home/> under the heading of 'The Islands that Roofed the World'. A further more formal assessment of the quarry potential has been promised.

### Museums Galleries Scotland

The Trust has now been formally accepted as an Associate Member of Museums Galleries Scotland, a status that will help to secure future development and funding of the Collection of Luing History Group, which includes artefacts, documents, photographs and maps. Further donations of items for the Collection to Zoë Fleming, LHG Secretary, would be most welcome.

### Luing History Group

The commemoration of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Latvian shipwreck and the crew that perished was held on 26 October. A moving service at Kilchattan graveyard was followed by a Latvian-Scottish supper in Toberonochy Hall. The collection in aid of the Islay lifeboat, which played a major role in the incident, raised a total of £360. At the request of the Honorary Consul for the Republic of Latvia, Mr John McGregor, information about the *Helena Faulbaums* tragedy was sent to Edinburgh for their National Day celebrations in November.

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