



# MEMBERSHIP BOOKLET



HARRIS | FORUM

*Progress / Partner / Protect  
Adhartas / Cairdeas / Dion*

*Pursuing development through community connection*





HARRIS FORUM

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# About



“pursuing development  
through community  
connection”

The Harris Forum was formed on the 3rd of October 2017. It came about following a meeting in 2015 of representatives from local development, community and land trusts who sought to create a new development plan for Harris.

Since its formation the group has grown and seeks to show how working in partnership could add value to community development.

This booklet aims to be a helpful guide for our members to understand what it means to be a Member Organisation of the Harris Forum.

# What We Value



## 1. Progress

By supporting all projects on the Harris Plan to reach their goals and deliver for the community of Harris.

By encouraging member organisations and relevant groups to embark on new projects that the Forum could support.

## 2. Partner

By strengthening the channels of communication between member groups and relevant organisations.

By cooperating with member groups to deliver on shared projects and to achieve shared objectives.

## 3. Protect

By being a voice for Harris on topics that are critical to the community to ensure the character of Harris is guarded.

By working with councillors and other relevant parties to be proactive in response to issues that impact Harris.



# The Benefits of Membership

The benefits of becoming a Harris Forum Member Organisation are highlighted below:

- **Relational** - One of the main aims of the Harris Forum is to "promote communication and cohesion between the various groups operating in the Harris Community". The Forum is proud of our members and encourages them to use each other to support their own individual goals and ambitions.

**Question: Have you ever gleaned motivation for a project or an action from a fellow Forum Member?**

- **Developmental**- by sharing resources and seeking assistance from the Forum's officers a Member Organisation can attain support for their own projects and reach their goals quicker than by trudging the path alone.

**Question: Has your organisation's project been supported by the sharing of resources or the assistance provided by the Forum?**

- **Inspirational**- by seeking to come together to find a "whole of Harris" position on topics and issues the desired outcome is that Member Organisations would be inspired to reach their own goals as they know they are a part of a wider team.

**Question: What key issue affecting Harris is better addressed due to the attention the Forum has given to it?**

# The Responsibility of Membership

01

## Representation

It is crucial that each Member Organisation is represented at as many Forum meetings as possible in order to share updates and partake in debate. If a MO fails to partake in three consecutive meetings, without notified absence, then an individual membership meeting will be called.

02

## Communication

It is essential that Member Organisations fully and reliably inform the Forum about their Organisation's updates in order to support the joint working of the Forum and allow for best practice on matters of cohesion and coworking.

03

## Information Sharing

Following any meeting of the Forum it is crucial that the MO Representative correctly informs their organisation of the Forum's discussions and decisions. This could be through sharing of Forum minutes or by presenting at the Organisations next meeting. This is to stimulate MO's interest in the Forum and continue to make the Forum relevant to the MO.

04

## Community Involvement

Reaching the Community is ultimately a key goal of the Forum so it is imperative that MO's and their representatives share updates and discussions with the Harris Community through every channel possible. This could be done through the Community Newsletter, Social Media Channels, or more generally through word of mouth in order to let the Harris Community better understand the Forum's remit and work.

# Conclusion

The aim of the Harris Forum is to **progress** socio-economic projects and developments by working with **partners** to share resources and ideas whilst also working to **protect** the unique culture and heritage of the Isle of Harris.

*Being an...*

**Excellent** Member

*Results in...*

**Exceptional** Membership

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