## A Summary of the Chisholme Institute Board Meeting at Chisholme House

## 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> January 2016

All elements discussed resulted in actions that were accepted by individual board members. These actions are to be reviewed at the next Institute meeting.

- All course and visitor fees are to be reviewed and the results made known. Agreed that minimum numbers need to have given a deposit by an agreed date before a course runs – e.g. five applicants for the modular course, eight for a six month course.
- Various ideas for courses were discussed e.g. further study weeks and a cooking skills week.
- Albion Conservation gave a presentation on help they could offer to Chisholme to gain funding for the preservation of existing structures and the building of new accommodation.
- Building needs were discussed e.g. the cleaning of gutters in the main house and the ongoing improvements in the Steading.
- Staffing needs were discussed: specifically for the summer period, The need for a summer coordinator and the idea of alumni staying at Chisholme for a period of circa. two weeks were agreed to.
- It was agreed that all staff who are at Chisholme for more than 6 months should have their NI paid.
- The importance of the Institute working in a transparent way was highlighted thus examining the possibilities for an AGM and asking alumni for ideas on who might be suitable to become a Director.
- It was agreed that the Institute needs to let it be known that a new Principal will be needed from September 2017 when Khaliq's term in office comes to an end.
- All felt that the presence of a Trust member at some Institute meetings was

to be welcomed – Christina Finegan had planned to attend this w/e's meeting but was unable to. The reinstatement of the Beshara magazine was a thought to be an excellent idea.