

Minutes of Meeting  
Harris Tweed Small Producers

Venue: The Harris Tweed Association Ltd. Offices  
Date: 12<sup>th</sup> September 1975.

The following people were present:-  
Kenneth Macleod, Seaforth Harris Tweed  
Angus Macleod, Park House, Marybank  
Hector Morrison, Seaforth Road, Stornoway  
Angus Maclean Jun, Labost, Stornoway  
Mr. Macleod, Laxdale, Stornoway  
A. Campbell, Plockropool, Harris

The following small producers were unable to attend the meeting but indicated their views on the restructuring proposals for the Harris Tweed Industry.

Calum Dan Maclean, 16 Aignish  
John Macleod, 23 New Shawbost  
D.L. Smith, Stornoway  
Angus Nicholson, Holm Road, Stornoway

The meeting was called as a result of a letter received by Angus Macleod, Park House, Marybank dated 5/9/75 from the H.I.D.B. under the signature of A.G. Lane, inviting him or Mr Kenneth Macleod or someone else to attend a meeting of the main committee on the restructuring proposals for the Harris Tweed Industry, as a representative of the small producers. The meeting was to take place at the Caberfeidh Hotel on 15/9/75 at 2.15pm.

Angus Macleod explained that both he and Mr Kenneth Macleod felt that a meeting of as many small producers as possible should be convened in order to discuss the restructuring proposals and decide if the small producers were to respond to the above invitation and send a representative to the meeting of the main committee on 15/9/75, and if so, to instruct the representative on the attitude of the small producers to the new proposals to restructure the Harris Tweed Industry. Mr Kenneth Macleod gave a report of the restructuring meetings he had attached and there followed a long discussion of all that was known about the new proposal.

After over two hours of discussion it was agreed to send Angus Macleod as a representative, to the meeting of 15/9/75 and he was instructed to raise the following points as the unanimous decision of the meeting of small producers.

1. The small producers present at this meeting today unanimously support the establishment of a double width power woven industry in the Western Isles, so long as the product of such an industry is not an imitation of Harris Tweed, and so long as the new industry operates under a separate and distinct Trade Mark of its own.
2. Regarding the discussions on restructuring proposals for the Harris Tweed Industry which took place over the last year or so, the small producers present here today are dissatisfied with the public presentation of the proposals and the lack of relevant information released to weavers, small producers and the general public.
3. Under present conditions the small producers are unable to participate in the Harris Tweed industry of manufacturing to order for the home and export markets in the traditional manner. Has the present restructuring discussions duly noted this fact? And what provision do the committee expect to make in order to enable the small producers to participate in the industry as manufacturers, in accordance with their undoubted heritage.
4. The small producers present at this meeting are strongly against weaving being allowed to take place at mill premises or premises associated with them, or under their control, if either Harris Tweed or an imitation or similar cloth to Harris Tweed in either single or double width.
5. The small producers present at this meeting would like to know if all members of the Committee of Management of the H.T.A. Ltd were involved in the restructuring discussions.
6. The small producers present at this meeting are unanimously agreed that the present definition attached to the Orb Trade Mark be not changed in order to include within its scope, double width power woven cloth woven under factory conditions.