**Unst Partnership Board Meeting minutes**

**7pm, Monday 24th May 2021 by Zoom**

**Present:** Gordon Thomson, Sarah McBurnie, Di Hervey, Colin Edwards-Horton, Susan Edwards-Horton, Frances Browne, Kathleen Johnson, Peter Sandison.

**Welcome & Apologies:** Apologies from June Harrison, George Rodger, Joan Bailey, Don Craig.

**Matters arising from last Minutes:**  Minute of 21st April approved. The Participatory Budget bid to SIC was withdrawn as Unst Community Council had already put in a bid for a Distribution fund. We may be able to secure funding for a PB event from other sources such as SCBF but in the meantime we thought it best to keep our reserves up until we see what sort of contribution would need to be made to the Recycling Centre.

**Skip Scheme**

We had received a quote from Garriock’s for the 2021-22 Scheme, only slightly higher than last year. No other quote had been received and so we agreed to accept that. The first skip day is planned for **Saturday 26th June** and 15 membership payments at the slightly higher fee of £50 had already been received. **Gordon** to confirm with Garriocks. Also, to confirm with **SAT** that they will still support the skip days by taking metal and white goods.

**Shop Report**

Kathleen reported that the shop was continuing to trade well. We wondered whether to continue the Monday night evening opening or whether to just take goods in during office hours e.g. 3-5pm on a Monday and on shop opening days (Thursday and Saturday 2-4pm.) Gordon to discuss with Kathleen.

**Shop figures for May:** **Income £33,132** since opening in September 2018 with **10,469** customers. Given that we were closed for six months during Covid, that income came in over 26 months, so roughly **£1200 per month** in income. Online sales have also helped to sell larger items. We received furlough payments for Kathleen during those six months which greatly helped with our costs.

**Recycling Centre**

After some discussion, we decided to accept the tender from Malcolmson Architects Ltd. for the Feasibility Study on the Recycling Centre. One other bid was received. **Peter** and **Gordon** to inform the firms concerned.

We had spoken to SIC and Nature Scot about our ideas but they wanted to see full plans before making further comment. The area is not in a scheduled Industrial zone, which may be a factor, and has only one access road at present. It is near the Keen of Hamar Nature Reserve but not so near that it would affect the site, in our opinion.

**Financial Report**

Finances look good at present and books are about to go off to Bridgette in Fetlar for Bank Reconciliation totals. Accounts bill likely to be higher this past year due to the number of transactions for Food Fund.

Bank balance at present: £47,108. This includes some skip payments already made. No major expenses due apart from usual running costs.

About £1500 is committed to the Fair Food Fund, still to be spent. This is expected to last until at least July.

NTS contract payments for grass-cutting and maintenance at **Halligarth** have now been paid to us. NTS staff are here again on **4th June** and we will seek to get new grass-cutting contract and maintenance agreements then.

Meeting closed at 8pm.

Date of next meeting: **Wednesday 30th June, 7pm** , either in person or by Zoom.