**Unst Partnership Board Meeting minutes**

**5.30pm, 25th October 2022, Baltasound hall**

1. **Present:** Gordon Thomson, Sarah McBurnie, George Rodger, Di Hervey, Frances Browne.

**Apologies:** June Harrison, Don Craig, Colin & Susan Edwards-Horton, Joan Bailey, Kathleen Johnson.

**2. Matters Arising:**

*Key cutting* – still to be advertised. Photos required before going online. (**Gordon, Di**).

*UP Hub, Hagdale* – no further word on alternative premises.

*NTS Development Officer post* – we need to know the process involved in advertising this post. It is a contract for a company to take up, not a simple Job application. The job involves looking at options for Halligarth house; developing the grounds for visitors; and also recording/displaying Joy’s various artefacts which are in storage, some in museums in Edinburgh and Lerwick. It is a part time post and requires a range of skills. Gordon had tried one person who had turned it down.

**Action:** **Gordon** to approach SAT **, Sarah** to speak to Chris Dyer, **Frances** to contact Carol Christiansen.

*NTS Properties* – The next NTS Property Committee is on 26th Oct and we may hear more then. There had been over 30 expressions of interest in the various properties - Roselea, Houlland and the Laggans cottage.

**Action: Frances** to contact HIE about this to see if they had any suggestions.

*Fixed links group* – the group has no funds at present. Directors agreed that UP pay hall hire costs for meetings.

*Tree planting*- Unst Health Centre have a small tree planting project taking place in March with RSPB. No other land has been notified to us as available at present.

*Show Day stall* - not that many people were at the stall, we maybe need more of a “carrot”. There were a lot of people around but not many stalls/attractions in the shed.

**3.Shop**

The Shop has been busy with some house clearances recently. Kathleen will be running a “hent up your proil” scheme and raffle in November to encourage folk to have a pre-Christmas clear-out.

Since April, we have taken in £9076, an average of £1345 per month, well over the £1,000 per month target figure. There have been 3,094 people through the door, an average of 458 per month.

Gordon made clear, again, that the Shop proceeds do not fund food or fuel vouchers. This is separately funded and no vouchers have been issued this year. Other groups such as CAB, SIC Social Work Dept. and Shetland Foodbank all provide services to help people in need, and seem to be doing so, as we have not had any requests for assistance this calendar year.

We have not applied for any outside funding for food or fuel yet; unless agencies tell us that there is a need, we won’t do so.

Participatory Budget event- see AOCB

**4. Skip Scheme** –The next Skip day will be held on **Sat 19th November**. The trailer suffered damage to a rear wheel recently and is being repaired. We are not hiring it out at present until all wheels are secure.

**5. AGE Scotland “Good Connections” fund**

We received £1400 from AGE Scotland for a Winter activities scheme, a shortfall of £900. Gordon has applied to the SIC Winter Activities Fund for more funding and we still hope to begin the project at the end of November. We need to fit this in with other group activities e.g. Senior Citizens Lunch Club and Unst Leisure Centre activities. (The Baltasound hall has a Senior Citizens Xmas meal on the 10th December.)

Events could include advice sessions e.g. on saving energy or food budgeting, cookery, etc.

**6. Warm Winter hub**

Sarah suggested a **Warm Winter hub**, a warm space provided during the day for people to go to save heating their own house. This could be a community hall or possibly the Kirk hall or the Unst Leisure Centre.

Volunteers would be required to run it. Again, as with the AGE Scotland scheme above, it would need to fit in with other activities. Frances suggested a discussion with the Lunch Club and ULC Social club organizers (Mary Robertson and Karen Malone) to see if this is the sort of thing we need.

It was also suggested that UP might pay for Lunch Club dinners. At present those attending pay £6 and there are about 30 people attending. So £180 a time, £360 a month. Gordon said that the Lunch Club had received £500 from the Participatory Budget in previous years.

**7. AOCB**

**Participatory budget** – we agreed to run this in the New Year as we were running out of time to advertise and organize an event this year. Again we would have £3000 available in amounts up to £500 for any community group. Holding an event in the Hall had proved successful in the past and allowed groups to advertise their activities in a social setting.

**Development Groups meeting** This is now taking place on Saturday 29th October in the Hymhus, Bigton. This is open to members of any development group in Shetland and travel expenses can be paid. Various workshops are being offered. Frances can provide more details for any Directors interested.

**ZETRANS Travel/paths in Unst Audit Meeting by Zoom with Robina Barton** – This is taking place by Zoom on Thursday 27th Oct at 5.30pm. Sarah and George will be attending.

**Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 6th December, 5.30pm at Baltasound Hall (TBC nearer the time.)**

**Next Skip Day – Saturday 19th November**