

Unst Partnership Ltd

MINUTES OF A MONTHLY MEETING HELD IN UNIT 1, HAGDALE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE
ON Monday 26th January 2015 at 6:30pm.

PRESENT

Sarah McBurnie
Jane Macaulay
Minnie Mouatt
George Rodger
Gordon Thomson (Chair)
Hazel Spence

IN ATTENDANCE

Megan Burns
Frances Browne
Ross Gazey
Bridgette Thomason

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

GT welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted from Paul Thomson and Susan Edwards-Horton. Special mention given to Hazel Spence as a new director, Megan Burns as new Local Development Officer and Colin Edwards-Horton who has stepped down as a director.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING [12/11/2014] AND MATTERS ARISING

GT confirmed Unst Partnership Ltd had received Coastal Communities Funding for Tourism Development Officer post. MB noted she had sent a press release to Shetland Times, Shetland News and Radio Shetland as well as made the announcement via Unst Partnership social media.

Directors agreed to help promote the advice available from Shetland Credit Union. MB to look into developing one to one meetings, a workshop at the school for younger people and create an advert. It was agreed this would aim to take place after 21st February 2015.

GT explained the contract for Tourism Development Officer was only 8 months at the moment as Unst Partnership Ltd is duty bound to open up opportunity for Verona on her return. Directors agreed clarity was needed regarding TDO contract extension if MB was to find funding to continue LDO post.

GT questioned directors on thoughts regarding the purchase of a unit. BT noted it would show as a large credit on the accounts. FB noted that MB time may be spent better if contract is only for 6 months. Directors agreed leasing or buying a unit in Hagdale was not a priority for MB and the project should be deferred for 6 months.

True Minutes from the meeting on 12th November 2014 were proposed by GR and seconded by SM.

Copies of the approved minutes to be circulated to North Isles Councillors, Unst Community Council and displayed locally and on the website.

3. LDO REPORT AND PROJECTS UPDATE

Community skips

GT summarised that UP are due to hear back about community skip funding before 14th February. GT continued that research showed there were 35 interested in the £45 annual fee and 35 for one off £15 charge. HS noted that the £15 system is flawed as people may take advantage when using skip service and continued to explain people may ask family and friends for items to go to the skip in order for them to make the most of their £15 charge. Directors agreed, but decided to continue offering this option. JM noted that we needed to increase members involved in the

scheme to make it as financially viable as possible. Directors tasked MB with increasing number of people involved in the scheme and raising awareness. MB to also look into the cost of one skip delivery rather than two.

Waste Management/Recycling

MB briefly raised awareness of potential income generating project through composting and worm casting recycling scheme noting that the 17% of Unst's population interested could still generate profit. Directors agreed it was worth pursuing if income generating. MB to produce A4 information sheet to directors noting all possibilities with the project.

Renewable Project – Unst Energy Audit

GT welcomed and introduced RG for his attendance on behalf of PURE to help explain energy audit. RG explained BJHS, Unst Leisure Centre, Baltasound Hall, Nordalea Care Centre and Unst Partnership Ltd all had three phase supply making them viable for a larger 11kw wind turbine. RG stated the maximum Uyeasound Hall, North Unst Public Hall and Unst Medical Centre could install was smaller 5kw or 5.2kw wind turbine. All properties are viable for solar panels. JM questioned the distance and location from properties along with the potential noise created from the turbines. RG advised to have the turbines around 100m from property and that noise generally wasn't an issue. RG continued to explain that turbines could be located out the way through the use of a longer cable. BT questioned potential funding avenues the project could take and RG explained that developmental funding was available but none would be given towards hardware. Directors then asked the steps involved in such a project. RG explained that it was important to firstly engage with community groups and appoint an installer to work on technical details and specific costings. RG summarised that the project is viable and profitable. To summarise, directors agreed that MB should source funding to cover the technical set up of the project and approach community groups with energy audit to gain initial thoughts on the idea. It was summarised that after this was done, Unst Partnership Ltd would be at the stage of building a planning application and gaining consent before appointing a supplier.

Community Broadband – ni4cb

GT explained information was still required and the project was currently hindered. MB stated she had spoken to Robert Thomson and he was going to start looking for answers over the next few weeks.

Hydrogen Project

GT explained that the project aimed to assess the feasibility of using curtailed wind energy to produce hydrogen/oxygen. MB noted that she had a meeting with Alan Grieve on 4th February 2015 alongside PURE. MB also explained she had been in touch with Ross Jones, the Local CARES Development Officer, who explained of two similar ongoing projects in Orkney that had received funding and that he has positive thoughts towards our proposal. Directors agreed to let MB continue working on project funding application with Alan Grieve.

Unst Tourism Development Project

GT summarised that the TDO post had received 6 expressions of interest and 3 full applicants. Directors tasked MB with the design of the new Unst Map but MB asked to leave map for TDO to complete in order to provide a good opportunity for immediate community involvement. GT explained directors were to meet as soon as possible after 30th January to discuss applications.

6. AOCB

MB to email and apologise on social media for misread on Radio Shetland.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Discussion of TDO applicants will take place on Monday 2nd February 2015 at 4pm. GT, MM, FB, JM, SS and SM in attendance.

Next directors meeting will take place Monday 23rd February 2015 at 6:30pm.