**Draft Unst Partnership Board Meeting minutes**

**7pm, Wednesday 21st April 2021 by Zoom**

**Present:** Gordon Thomson, Sarah McBurnie, George Rodger, Joan Bailey, Di Hervey, Colin Edwards-Horton, Susan Edwards-Horton, Frances Browne, Peter Sandison.

**Welcome & Apologies:** Apologies from June Harrison, Kathleen Johnson.

**Matters arising from last Minutes:**  Minute of 24th March approved.

**Skip day** – Next Skip day is on Saturday, 24thApril. One pickup so far in Uyeasound, 4 in Baltasound, one in Haroldswick. Chris and trailer busy due to lambing. Sarah and Peter on UP trailer, George, Gordon, Joan, Wullie and possibly Ross or Angus. This is last skip day of this season.

**Shop** – Sales had been good in April, keeping well over the £100 per opening mark. Online sales were helping again for selling larger items. The 10,000th customer was Melanie Mouat who received some gardening gifts.

**Recycling Project**

Results from the Survey had been collated and tabulated. Main features that people wanted to see were: a bigger Secondhand shop, with more storage space; a work shop area for wood/metalwork and sewing/stitching in two separate areas; a laundry facility; a meeting/social area; polycrubs or raised beds outside in a gardening area; as well as office space, toilets, etc. A Soft Play area was also mentioned.

Peter took Directors through a rough plan that he had drawn up, showing how the building might look. He also discussed various energy saving features including solar panels on a steep 40 degree roof to the south, a 20 degree “living roof” made of turf using run off water for plants etc. and a ground source heat pump as well as insulation in the walls. If the various rooms could be sealed off as “modular units” and heated individually, this should help to keep energy costs down.

We also discussed an upstairs gantry area for storage, with a lift to take up larger items.

There would need to be room for expansion, in case there were other ideas that came up later.

Frances mentioned looking at other workshops such as the Shetland Museum space and WASP workshop. Sarah also suggested a visit to the Eric Gray Centre workshop. Frances also mentioned the RIBA website for building advice on feasibility stages 0-3. She suggested contacting Graham Booth, Fetlar Hall, about their experience with tenders in converting the hall roof and making a caravan park. The capital build was £140K.

Peter would now be drawing up a spec that we could put out to architects for tender. It may be that we submit 2 or 3 versions of what we want from architects and they set out the pros and cons of each.

Financial Report funds in good shape just now, £41,908. We are due a Crown Estate payment and an NTS contract repayment which will take funds nearer to £45K. However, we may well require capital funding for the building project so it was good to keep building up reserves. Crowd funding was well supported in the Survey so hopefully we could use that route too. Depending on the funding package for the Centre, we will almost certainly need to put some of our own money towards it. (The Fetlar Hall, using Leader funding, were required to put 5% towards their project, so raised £7k on a £140K project.) Our build is likely to be nearer £400K-£500K so £20-£25K was the sort of sum we might need.

**AOCB** Gordon spoke about the Community Development Fund. We may be able to put in a bid for a Participatory Budget again. He is to check with Michael Duncan. A Hall event would not be feasible just now but it could be a virtual event.

**Date of next meeting – Wednesday 26th May?**