**Unst Partnership Board Meeting minutes**

**7pm, Tuesday 7th June 2022, UP Shop**

**Present:** Gordon Thomson, Sarah McBurnie, George Rodger, Don Craig, June Harrison, Di Hervey, Colin Edwards-Horton, Susan Edwards-Horton, Joan Bailey, Frances Browne.

**Welcome & Apologies:** Gordon welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Appointment of Office Bearers**

Chair- Gordon, nominated by Sue, seconded by Joan. Vice Chair: Sarah, nom. by Joan, sec. by Susan; Company Secretary/Treasurer: George, nom. By Joan, sec. by Di.

Bridgette and Bon Accord Accountancy to continue to audit accounts.

1. **Skips**

34 so far signed up for the 2022-23 scheme, but we need about 40 at least. Saxavord Spaceport has agreed to support the scheme. We had asked for £1200 but in view of lower numbers decided to ask for £1500. The first skip day is on Saturday 11th June.

We agreed to ask Sorcha Leavey, Saxavord Sustainability officer, if she wished to be a co-opted member.

Gordon to organise slips to go on table at chip night on Sunday. (*I forgot to do this but we had 40 members by the Saturday. GT*)

1. **Shop**

Kathleen had sent in sales figures for the shop. Last financial year (March – April 22) we took in £13,500; the year before during Covid, with 7 months closed we took in £9,000 and the previous year (2019-20) we took in about £14,000. The Shop is still taking in over the £1,000 a month target figure. Kathleen had done an excellent job, and in view of the pay cut due to the increase in NI, Directors agreed to up the hourly rate by £1 per hour, proposed Sarah, Sec. Don.

1. **Age Concern**

Joan highlighted the Good Connections Fund as a way of possibly supporting the shop running costs. We could stress the social benefit of the shop, as a place to go for those living on their own. Frances agreed to check on what Age Concern were looking for. It could be that we had a special project for older folk once a month.

1. **UP Hub Feasibility Study**

The Open Day on the Feasibility Study on Saturday 21st May 10-4pm had not been all that well attended. About 20 people had looked at the findings. Most replies agreed that the project was too dear. The Coastal Communities Funding has now ended, and Peter’s contract ended on 31st May.

Gordon and Frances had since met online with Dougie Spence from the National Lottery Fund who pointed out that a number of organisations had gone ahead with projects recently but were struggling for business due to Covid and the cost of living issue. It was probably a good decision to wait until building prices decreased. He also said that we needed to focus on what it was we wanted to provide for the community.

It was suggested by Frances that UP might share shed facilities with UnstFest, who also want to improve their premises at Hagdale. If they were to upgrade, part of the building could be a furniture store?

Sarah felt we should shelve the UP Hub for the time being and purchase Polycrubs to grow food for the community on the Hagdale site. It would be run as a business linked to UP. There were grants available for community projects like this from CCF or other community funds.

Northmavine have a “Grow Local” project and Nesting are looking into providing Polycrubs; the Yell Men’s Shed is now operating from a classroom next to LJ’s in Mid Yell. Frances could help with contacts.

Anderson High School portacabin classrooms would be available soon - we might be able to use these.

**AOCB**

The Key-cutting machinery and blank keys were still stored in Di’s garage. We agreed to put these up for sale on Ebay or Shetland Classifieds sites.

**Date of Next Meeting - Monday 4th July, 5.30pm at UP shop**