

Unst Partnership Ltd

MINUTES OF A MONTHLY MEETING HELD IN UNIT 1, HAGDALE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE ON TUESDAY 1ST JULY 2014 AT 6.30PM

PRESENT

Colin Edwards-Horton
Jane Macaulay
Minnie Mouatt
George Rodger
Gordon Thomson (Chair)
Paul Thomson (late)

IN ATTENDANCE

Verona Shaw
Bridgette Thomason

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Gordon welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted from Susan Edwards-Horton, Frances Browne, Fiona Stirling and Steve Swan. Paul Thomson joined the meeting after 630pm.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes from the meeting on 2nd June 2014 were proposed by GR and seconded by JM.

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

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTE (NOT ON THE MAIN AGENDA)

The Shetland Credit Union will be taking a stand at the Unst Show and UP agreed to have a meeting to discuss a local meeting in September if sufficient interest arose.

GT briefly summarised the latest decision on the Northern Lights Bistro project. Discussion followed on the Hamars, the building next to the Bistro, and on who owns this. VS to enquire with Derek Jamieson (SAT).

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

4.1 Accounts update

BT gave the Directors an update based on information previously distributed and noted a healthy balance in Reserves.

There were a few outstanding debtors from the tourist map adverts that were noted. Further discussions around the map and the next reprint included the addition of more beaches, earlier printing and distribution to the Shetland representatives who attend the annual Expo, south.

BT distributed the relevant money laundering forms to the new Directors; for completion asap.

VS to check if there are any outstanding annual conflict of interest statements due from Directors.

BT noted interest in attending the Social Enterprise Scotland workshop ('Investment Ready') in September 2014.

4.2 Core funding, income generation: consider LEADER funding pack

VS also mentioned that a meeting had taken place with Michael Duncan, SIC Grants Officer, and he offered some valuable and interesting points in relation to UP's recent funding submissions and future approach to funders. Discussion ensued surrounding project based funding and the importance of identifying clear and strong needs, demands and benefits within each potential proposal/product/service. It was agreed that project proposals should concentrate on tourism development and waste management, in the immediate future.

VS/MM/GT explained about a resource sent out from Shetland LEADER after recent consultations. It was felt that the notes could be used in brainstorming new projects: VS to circulate notes to Directors in advance of the next meeting.

4.3 Polytunnels

An enquiry from one of the current tenants was discussed and it was confirmed that all rental charges are to remain the same regardless of whether covers are on the polytunnels or not.

4.4 Feedback from Director's training, 9th June

Those present at the training stated it was a useful workshop. VS previously distributed the feedback gathered by the trainer. The group discussed the next step and the future of UP beyond June 2015 and agreed to set a date for an annual strategy meeting. VS to arrange.

5. PROJECTS UPDATE

5.1 Temporary skips project

GT and JM had spoken with Barbara Priest and the Barrack Stores regarding the siting of a skip/s nearby and there was a provisional agreement made. GT to speak with Frank Strang about the exact location and access before the skip/s are ordered. The group discussed the length of time that the skips could and should be in place for and VS to follow up with Victor Jamieson and enquire the charge/time.

5.2 Waste Management/recycling appraisal

VS summarised the appraisal paper provided by Mark Taylor of Eriskay Associates and read the conclusion to the group. It was identified that the two favourable options for developing were the recycling centre and composting/worm casting and the Directors were in agreement to go with this. It was suggested that plastic recycling and the anaerobic digester were not feasible options and it was decided that these should be deferred.

5.3 Tourism Development

There were several points discussed under tourism development:

PT and VS noted an email that had come from a Professor at Southampton University in relation to potential geology tours on Unst. The Professor was experienced in bringing students to the island and kindly sent on useful information and proposals for creating packages for future students and other visitors. VS to circulate round the Committee for interest and notify the tourism development group.

VS noted that UP were still awaiting news from the Coastal Communities Fund on progression to Stage 2 of the application process.

VS explained that there was an opportunity via HIE to attend the Adventure Tourism World Summit in Ireland, in September. JM expressed an interest and VS to pass on details.

6. LDO REPORT

This report was available to Directors and VS summarised the latest with the community broadband project and confirmed that UP would be taking a stand at the Unst Show on 30th August.

7. AOCB

GT asked VS to collate information on on-going projects for a summer newsletter, to be produced asap (VS).

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is Thursday 7th August, 6.30pm in Unit 1.