

Unst Partnership Ltd

MINUTES OF A MONTHLY MEETING HELD IN UNIT 1, HAGDALE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE ON TUESDAY, 27th AUGUST 2013 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT

Murray Brown
Jane Macaulay
Minnie Mouatt
George Rodger
Steve Swan
Gordon Thomson, Director (Chair)
Paul Thomson

IN ATTENDANCE

Verona Shaw – Local Development Officer
Frances Browne - SIC

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Gordon welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies from Bridgette Thomason (Finance Officer), Chris Dumont and Fiona Stirling (HIE).

Gordon noted to the group that Bridgette was absent due to being on sick leave after a recent spell in hospital; all expressed well wishes and a speedy recovery.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes from the meeting on 17th July 2013 were proposed by PT and seconded by SS.

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)

Gordon enquired about the progress of the painting of the turbine: VS stated that PEC had not been in touch to arrange a day/time. VS to follow up.

All Directors were to complete the annual Conflict of Interest statement and Gordon queried if this had been undertaken: VS to send on a form to GR.

4. LDO REPORT

Attached is a copy of the report provided by VS.

4.1 Update

VS stated that the development of UHT's application to the Heritage Lottery Fund had been put on hold as the search for core running funding was prioritised. Minnie explained that UHT continue to look for project funding in the meantime.

UP are having a stand at the Unst Show and VS asked Directors to assist manning the information stand. The focus is on the community broadband project and the dissemination of information and the FAQs sheet.

There were no further questions on the report as all the main points and projects were to follow on the agenda.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

5.1 Accounts update

In the absences of BT, VS explained that there were no figures to report on and that BT would email a financial update when she was back to work.

BT had provided a copy of the current fixed assets schedule which was discussed. The electric scooter and its expenses were briefly considered and it was agreed to carry forward the assets discussion to the next meeting (VS).

It was also noted that OSCR had formally approved the amended Articles of Association.

There are a few outstanding debts relating to a polytunnel lease and map adverts. The group discussed the distribution and use of the tourist maps and decided that feedback should be gathered to find out if businesses would be interested in supporting a future reprint, alongside any additions or amendments. The remainder of the leaflets are to be distributed and some put down to Northlink.

It was noted that correspondence had been received relating to the Unst Development Forum bank account. As this group no longer exists, the bank have agreed (on request of the signatories) to transfer the remaining balance of £27, to the UP account.

5.2 Core funding, update from HIE meeting

Fiona Stirling, provided VS with an update prior to the meeting and explained that HIE have not reached a decision on what future funding they may be able to offer and that they are considering each CAM area individually on a case by case basis. It is hoped that a decision would be made by the end of September. The Partnership is actively seeking match funding and VS explained she has found three potential funders to apply to. Submission of these applications should be the main focus in the next couple of months.

SS proposed an idea to supplement any grant applications with social fundraising through the likes of a local award ceremony and dinner. The group discussed how this might work including nominations, criteria and benefits verses preparation time. A few other social fundraising ideas were brought to the table and it was agreed to consider this type of fundraising at future meetings.

5.3 Workforce Development Plan

This has been approved for VS by HIE and the agreement now signed by UP office bearers. There is an opportunity to take part in training provided by the Social Enterprise Academy, hosted by HIE (in Shetland) and this is open to UP staff and Directors. Due to take place in September, there is space for one or two Directors if interested.

6. Projects

North Isles Community Broadband: the survey results were collated and distributed, available on online. Relevant information has been prepared in a FAQs sheet which VS will distribute to Directors to look over and comment on before making available locally. A meeting is being arranged with Community Broadband Scotland and an advisor is coming to the North Isles in October. Community engagement remains the priority and VS and Robert Thomson are keen to promote the project at the forthcoming Unst and Yell Shows. Local support needs to be evidenced alongside a mapping exercise of service users' postcodes and speeds. This project will be carried as a main agenda point for the next meeting.

Northern Lights Bistro: VS stated there was no update with the preparation of the business plan since the last meeting.

Unst Waste Reduction/Recycling: an application for a grant for this project was submitted to the SIC's Community Development Fund and await a response. There has a been a new project set up by St. John's Kirk ("The Barrack Stores") that collects unwanted items for onward sale and it was acknowledged that if the UWR project develops careful consideration must be given to both projects working harmoniously.

7. AOCB

There was no other business discussed.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 24/9/2013 at 7pm in Unit 1.