

# Unst Partnership Ltd

## NOTES OF A MEETING HELD IN UNIT 1, HAGDALE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE ON TUESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2013 AT 7.00PM

### PRESENT

Minnie Mouatt  
George Rodger  
Gordon Thomson, Director (Chair)

### IN ATTENDANCE

Verona Shaw – Local Development Officer  
Bridgette Thomason – Finance Officer  
Fiona Stirling - HIE  
Frances Browne – Community Worker SIC

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Gordon welcomed everyone to the meeting and in particular Fiona Stirling, HIE Senior Development Manager, covering Mhari's maternity leave.

Apologies from Murray Brown, Chris Dumont, Jane Macaulay, Steve Swan and Paul Thomson.

*This meeting was not quorate and therefore any decisions to be made will be carried until the next meeting. Any issues for approval in the meantime to be emailed to Directors.*

### **2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes proposed by MM and seconded by GR and to be taken forward to next quorate Committee meeting for approval.

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

GT provided an update of the Hagdale wind turbine situation, explaining the FIT income, for Fiona Stirling.

### **4. LDO REPORT**

Attached is a copy of the report provided by VS.

#### 4.1 Priorities and current projects

Potential community broadband scheme: Verona updated the group on recent meetings and discussions to research and develop options for offering everyone in the North Isles access to a better broadband service. Surveys have been distributed and this user information will be collated and presented to all communities in the North Isles alongside Community Broadband Scotland for further development. The consultation had been well received by local press so far, with support from local MSPs. VS asked for the committee's encouragement in ensuring as many people as possible completed the survey.

Bistro: Verona stated no change to the current situation since receiving the valuation figure and contacting the owners to discuss a reviewed price. Discussion ensued on what should be done to

gauge community interest for taking this further and on consulting with HIE Community Assets team. Fiona offered her support in working through this stage of enquiry and will arrange to meet with VS. All trading figures and relevant background information to be gathered by both parties in advance.

GT noted that there had been private interest in the property but does not appear to have progressed further.

Marine Energy research: VS explained that the PhD student who had previously distributed surveys on the island would like to gather a group of 7-10 interested individuals from the community to discuss views on marine energy and the local community/environment on Unst. Response had been low to date and as the meeting was being hosted in Unit 1 on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2013, Verona hoped the Directors may support this research nearer the time.

VS followed up on the discussion points from the recent community consultation noting that the broadband, recycling and Halligarth points were actively being developed with the remainder to be looked into.

## **5. FINANCIAL REPORT**

### **5.1 Core funding and accounts update**

Bridgette summarised the balance of the account and explained that the core-running budget was very tight and required cuts to be made.

### **5.2 Overdraft renewal, debit cards update**

Bridgette explained that paperwork for both of these had been completed and sent to the Bank of Scotland.

### **5.3 Fiona Stirling, HIE**

GT asked Fiona to provide an update on the potential availability of funding from HIE for future core-running activities. Fiona explained that there were no new timescales for future Community Account Managed funding at present but more information may be available after September 2013. As SIC Economic Development had match funded in the past discussions would need to take place between both parties to discuss future budgets.

## **6. ADMINISTRATION/OFFICE MATTERS**

### **6.1 Articles of Association update**

The amended Articles of Association have been sent on to Companies House for approval.

### **6.2 Policies and Procedures**

BT asked the group to consider again the Conflict of Interest policy and statement for Directors and Staff and this was provisionally agreed to be adopted further to acceptance by the majority of Directors. BT to send out electronically the documents to all Directors. On adoption, all Directors and Staff should complete a Conflict of Interest form and submit to the Company Secretary and Chair who will hold this information confidentially.

### **6.3 UP Assets – trailer, allotments**

Trailer: VS informed the group of recent rentals.

Allotments: In Jane's absence it was reported that there is still one available allotment. Gordon explained that a hose is now in place to supply water to the site.

VS noted the updated Workforce Development Plan which includes a Project Management course, DTAS annual conference and another HIE Community Account Managed group event

later in the year. VS to circulate this to Directors via email for their approval and then to Fiona Stirling along with a completed Skills Audit.

## **7. PROJECTS (ON-GOING)**

### **7.1 – Using LEAP Framework**

VS had recently been on a useful course about learning, planning and evaluating projects. The practical application of this tool to UP projects is to be discussed at a future meeting.

### **7.2 – Halligarth NTS**

The House is officially a listed building and NTS have applied for funding to undertake further survey work. Any feedback and comments can be directed straight to Sian Loftus at NTS.

### **7.3 – Distribution of Unst Map**

VS explained that maps had been distributed across Unst and down to Lerwick and Sumburgh, and also on the Bluemull ferries.

### **7.4– Local funding support**

VS reported that the application for funding on behalf of the Uyeasound Waterfront Trust to the LEADER Convergence fund had been rejected. Other funding avenues to be pursued. VS and Rhoda continue to work on the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund and will contact the Community Work office and Grant Officer for support.

## **8. PROJECTS (NEW) – OPEN IDEAS SESSION**

Paula Goddard joined the group to discuss an idea surrounding a local recycling, waste reduction and up-cycling project. Paula summarised her proposal for a door to door survey on Unst to gather information on recycling and how this could contribute to an impact study and an alternative waste removal service, locally. The group discussed various aspects including the current domestic waste removal service, the loss of community skips, Voar Redd Up material and thrift shops. It was agreed that the Partnership would support this idea and assist Paula to develop a plan and proposal to secure funding to undertake the survey in the first instance. VS and PG to arrange a meeting and consult local contacts at SIC and SAT for information on waste removal services.

## **9. AOCB**

There was no other competent business.

## **10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Tuesday 16/7/2013 at 7pm in Unit 1.**