



Minute of Board Meeting of Stromness Community Development Trust (DT)

At: Commercial Hotel, Stromness

On: 16th December 2019

Present:

Kris Bevan, Director & Chair

Graham Bevan, Director

Alister Brown, Director

Nikki Gray, Director

Dan Lee, Director

Mark Jenkins, Director

Thorfinn Johnston, Director

Alistair Gray, Secretary

Apologies: Jacqueline Argo, Gareth Davies

In attendance:

Ruby Merriman, Development Officer

1. Declaration of interests

Alister Brown declared a conflict of interest as administrator of The Town Centre Fund.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 10th September 2019 were approved.

3. Matters arising and general discussion

- KB welcomed Dan Lee to the board.
- It was noted that the "What's Next for Stromness" place plan had now been completed and once endorsed by OIC will be used as a reference document for future developments in the town.
- The Scottish Government Town Centre Fund of £200,000 for projects in Kirkwall and Stromness was discussed. Funds are to be allocated by 31st March 2020 and spent by 30th September 2020. There is a possibility that the fund may be available on an annual basis. It was agreed that we should be pushing hard for the Community Centre refurbishment to be top of the project list for Stromness. Other projects discussed were the old primary school playpark, Town Hall refurbishment and Christmas lights.
- KB brought the proposed upper Sunny Bank OHAL 40 site housing development to the attention of the board as well as the proposed Orkney Builders development site on Cairston Road. In view of these developments it was agreed that the board would set housing aside as a development strategy for the trust.



- KB & RM provided an update on the 2019 Yule Log event. Arrangements for which are now almost complete. AG noted that the road closure application had been received.
- RM update the board on the Christmas lights project. OIC rules and regulations had made the project impossible to deliver in time for Christmas. KB & RM to arrange to meet and put together a plan to discuss with local Councillors.
- RM & MJ reported on the website progress, and it was agreed to proceed with a WordPress site and commission Ian Ashman to work-up the design. This was estimated to cost £400-500 and AG reported that he would seek a significant contribution from the Stromness Community Business Forum (SCBF) towards the design costs. It was agreed that there will not be a business listing on the site and businesses will be encouraged to list on Orkney.com. It was agreed that we should re-use the StromnessOrkney.com name and domain as this already has a strong brand presence. It was agreed that we need to review how Facebook is set-up so that it links to the website and ensure that we get press coverage of the launch of the new web site.

4. Development Officer

RM provided a project update report and it was noted that the OIC Cultural Fund has just opened for applications. A Stromness mural perhaps in partnership with The Pier and the Museum was discussed, and AB agreed to enquire about the costs of the school mural.

GB mentioned the possibility of smart visitor management using machine-readable QR codes throughout the street, and MJ brought up the Museum "We love Stromness" project and NG "I spy etchings".

RM reported that one of her next projects is the planned "Community Days" which were part of our original plan. These would be centred on the community centre with a range of activities for the whole community. It was agreed that this even could be an important opportunity for community fundraising.

Additionally, she will be speaking with the trustees of the community garden and looking into the possibility of an electric bus as part of the EMEC Reflex energy systems project.

RM reported that she was looking into the feasibility of fund-raising events including the possibility of a dinner dance and/or Burn's supper.

It was agreed that funding opportunities need to be added to future board agendas.

5. Finance

AG reported that the current bank balance stands at £8,504.46 and reported that £14,471 is due to be received from grant claims on costs already incurred.



AG presented the annual report and accounts for the year to 31st July 2019 to the board. The accounts were approved, and KB authorised to sign the Balance Sheet.

AG had earlier circulated a report to the board on the various options available for social enterprises for general background information.

6. AOB

GB suggested that the trust should consider how it can facilitate the integration of the research campus into the community.

DL reported that he had heard that a new THI was being mooted for Stromness.

7. DONM

A February meeting will be scheduled. Date to be determined by Doodle poll.