

Sanday Development Trust
enhancing quality of life



**Minutes of the meeting of the Sanday Development Trust
held at Heilsa Fjold on Monday 28 August 2017 at 7.30 pm**

Present: S Ray (Chairman); L Brown; H Collinson; C Leslie; J Muir; M Stockton;
S Towrie; J Walker

In attendance: K Howe (Administration and Finance Officer (AFO)); I Sawyer
(Projects and Grants Officer (PGO)); three members.

The chair welcomed everyone present and in attendance.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from P Allan.

Action agreed: That consent for absence be given to P Allan.

2. Membership It was noted that S Pugh had resigned from the board.

3. Election of vice chair S Pugh's resignation had left a vacancy for the post of vice chair.

Action agreed: That directors give consideration to the matter and that it be discussed further at the next meeting.

4. Directors responsibilities and corporate responsibility

The chair reminded directors that once a decision had been made by the board, it was directors' duty to support the decision made corporately, even though they may not have been in support of the decision as an individual.

5. Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 3 July 2017 had been circulated.

Action agreed: That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 July 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and be signed by the chairman.

Matters arising from the minutes

6. Communications (7)

Directors discussed the suggestion made at an earlier meeting to raise the profile of the Trust. The question was raised of who would be targeted and for what purpose. It was felt that sufficient effort was being made already on Sanday, and that there was not sufficient need to raise the profile outside the island to make this a priority for spending. The need to recruit new directors was recognised.

It was suggested that posters be put up in Heilsa Fjold and the school with the aim of recruiting new directors.

It was agreed that the annual trustees' report be circulated to all island houses, not just to members, in order to ensure that the objectives and achievements of the organisation are communicated to the entire community.

7. Ranger tours (8)

It was suggested earlier in the year that the role of Ranger be extended to include the offer of wildlife tours. The cost would be covered by visitors on the tours, so could potentially contribute to the unrestricted income of the Trust. Concern was expressed that the profile and corporate support of the Ranger would give the Trust an unfair advantage over other members of the community offering tour services. Two people offering tours expressed their fear of an adverse effect on their business if they were in competition with the Trust. It was agreed that, although there were benefits to the Trust if the Ranger offered tours, it was not fair that the benefits be gained at the possible expense of business owners on the island. The suggestion was therefore shelved for the time being.

8. Get Growing project review (10ii)

The board were pleased to hear that since the last meeting, Orkney Islands Council had granted planning permission and the Get Growing project had been able to move forward significantly. Advertisements had been put up for volunteer workers to get involved with the project.

9. Interpretation boards (15)

Concern was expressed at the July meeting that various interpretation boards around the island were in need of maintenance, and there was uncertainty as to whose responsibility their upkeep was. It was noted that this task had been taken on by the volunteer rangers.

10. North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme (NILPS)

Representatives of NILPS had discussed with Trust directors and members of the Heritage group the possibility of contributing to renovation of various buildings of interest on the island; the weighbridge at Kettletoft, the Brickie hut, East Kirk Walls, Lady and Lettan radar building. The Trust would be asked to contribute in kind and

to pay for work prior to claiming funds back.

It was not very clear at this stage what would constitute the Trust's in kind contribution and there was a degree of doubt about ownership of the properties in question and whether leases and permission to renovate them would be granted. It was agreed however that the proposed work would be achievable with support from NILPS and that the Trust would be in a position to pay for work up front, as long as funding claims were processed sufficiently quickly. It was felt that it would be reasonable to deliver one project a year.

It was noted that whereas the Trust would have to maintain the properties over the period of the lease, they would not need manning on a day to day basis.

11. Climate Challenge Fund

An expression of interest had been forwarded to the Climate Challenge Fund. It had not been possible to discuss in advance because of the deadline. Community projects were being sought that would aim to improve carbon and climate literacy and carbon reduction.

Possible projects included support for a community transport service, an extension of Skills for Sanday to include training in repair skills, an extension to the island clean up service, provision of electric vehicle charging points and provision of electric bicycles for free community use and hire to visitors.

In answer to a question the PGO advised that the Climate Challenge Fund would not support renewable energy provision.

Doubts were expressed about the viability of electric bicycles. It was felt that they would not be sufficiently used and would deteriorate too rapidly.

It was agreed that the funding application be continued to the next stage, but that electric bicycles be not included.

12. Staff reports

Reports from staff had been circulated.

Action agreed:

12i That the reports be received with thanks

12ii That the Learning coordinator be asked to pay in money received for courses in order to relieve the AFO of this task

12iii That it be noted that although the new banking procedures were time consuming they gave added security and should be continued.

12iv That the drop-in supervisor be asked to report user numbers.

12v That it be noted that trips to Doun Helzie and the lighthouse attracted significant visitor numbers.

13 Finance report

A report of income and expenditure against budget for the quarter April to June was circulated. There were no significant discrepancies.

Action agreed: That the report be received with thanks.

14. Reports from Community Interest Companies

The two community interest companies had been asked to send reports to the board in order to keep Trust directors better informed. A report was received from Sanday Renewables (SRCIC).

Action agreed:

14i That the report from SRCIC be received with thanks.

14ii That M Stockton chase up a report from SECIC.

15. Annual General Meeting (AGM)

It was agreed that the AGM be held on 8 November.

The need to recruit new directors was discussed. It was suggested that a social evening be held for interested people to meet the current board and staff and also that the chairman present a talk at the forthcoming Soulka event. The chairman agreed to consider talking at the Soulka event.

16. Community donations

An application had been received from the Sanday Sports Club.

Action agreed: That a donation of £250 be made to the Sanday Sports Club.

17. Harbour House update

Drawings were circulated to show proposed changes to the layout of Harbour House to be made during renovation. It was proposed that the back kitchen be made suitable for use as an office or fourth bedroom, that the downstairs corridor be extended to allow access to an improved bathroom/utility room and that the upstairs landing space be increased to allow better access to the bedrooms.

The proposed changes were agreed.

Action agreed: That quotes be obtained for full architectural plans so that a funding application could be made.

18. Funding request

A letter was received from a member of the community who was hoping to train as a yoga teacher. It was expected that this would provide a significant health benefit to the community as well as opportunities for leisure activity. The board were asked to consider contributing to the cost of training.

Although the potential benefit was recognised, directors agreed that the Trust did not have sufficient funds to pay for individuals' training programmes.

19. Community Council update

J Muir advised the board that S Clackson had offered to keep leaflet supplies topped up on the ferries, as he regularly travelled between Sanday and Orkney mainland.

Directors were reminded that council elections were coming up, having been postponed earlier in the year.

A new post of Link Officer was being created on the island by Orkney Islands Council. This post would create a link to the Council for the island and would incorporate the role of Clerk to the Community Council.

20. Surf 'n' turf project

An invitation had been received to attend the opening of the 'Surf 'n' turf', pioneering Orkney hydrogen project, on 27 and 28 September.

21. European Small Islands Federation

The AGM of the European Small Islands Federation was being held in Orkney in September. Details were available at Heilsa Fjold for interested directors.

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Signature of Chairman

Reminder of forthcoming meeting dates:

16 October, 7.30pm
4 December, 7.30pm
22 January, 7.30pm

