

Stronsay Development Trust

Company Number SC271553
A Scottish Charity, Charity Number SC038888

Board Meeting held at 7.30pm on Thursday 23rd March 2017 at Stronsay Community Centre

MINUTES

In Attendance

Carole Cotterill (Chair)
David Bourn-Fernley
Kevin Kent
Richard Seeber

Julie Andrew
Simone Kirk
Raymond Dennison

Apologies

Tony Piper was unable to attend.

Welcome by the Chair

The Chair opened the meeting with a special welcome to Stephen Sinclair from Orcadia who had come to present the 2015/16 accounts for SDT and SREL, also to Dianne Elliott, Finance Manager for SREL.

Approval of 2015/16 Accounts

Stephen Sinclair provided a set of Draft Accounts for SDT to all the Board Members and went through them page by page. A considerable drop in running costs allowed the Trust to award almost £100,000 for community benefit in the 2015/16 financial year. David Bourn-Fernley proposed that the SDT accounts for the financial year 2015/2016 be approved, Richard Seeber seconded, all in approval.

Julie Andrew told the Board that the SREL Accounts had been approved at the last SREL Board meeting and signed the final accounts which Stephen had brought with him.

Sale of Co-op Bank

In view of the approaching sale of the Bank the Board discussed the outcomes this may have for the monies held by the Community Fund and SREL in Co-op accounts

Approval of the Minutes of 23rd February 2017

Julie Andrew proposed, Kevin Kent seconded, all in approval.

Trusts M & A's

The Chair circulated copies of an email from Stephen Phillips of Burness Paul, the Trust Charity Solicitors, in respect of the intended changes to the M & A's which the Board had discussed at February's meeting. It was agreed to refer back to Stephen Phillips instructing him to remove the 'No' option from the voting system for the election of new Directors to the Board and to add a clause to the M & A's to allow the Trust to give business loans to small businesses in circumstances where there would be community benefit. Carole Cotterill proposed, Simone Kirk seconded, and the quote of £750+ VAT for the work was approved.

Fuel Poverty Scheme

All payments, bar one, have been acknowledged by the energy providers. A notice will be put in the March edition of the Limpet confirming this and asking any applicant who has not received the grant from their provider to get in touch. There have been fewer applicants this year and it may be that the scheme needs better/earlier promotion.

Enterprise Zone

i) Additional costs: Funding by Big Lottery for this project did not include all the additional costs incurred when the Trust had to apply for new planning permission for the building in 2015. The Chair sought the Board's approval for an application by SDT to the Community Fund for £30,000 to cover those additional costs; the installation of the windows in the Heritage Centre; the provision of an electricity supply and the cost of landscaping the bank to the west of the building and erecting the stone wall to the northern boundary. Simone Kirk proposed, David Bourn-Fernley seconded, all in approval.

9.45 pm Richard Seeber left the meeting as he had another commitment.

ii) Portacabin

There is a potential purchaser for the Portacabin. If the purchase goes ahead, it will stay and be used on Stronsay.

iii) Leases

The Trust has received two quotes for drawing up the leases for the Business Units, one from Lows for £1500 + VAT and another from Drever and Heddle for £900. It was agreed to go with the lower quote from Drever and Heddle. Carole Cotterill proposed, Kevin Kent seconded, all in approval.

Visit to Sanday

A number of Board Members visited the Sanday Heritage Centre earlier in the month. Simone Kirk has written a report which has been forwarded to Alistair Brown, NILPS.

Development Officer Post

An email from HIE was circulated to directors giving a breakdown of the cost of employing a Community Development Officer. HIE will cover 90% of the cost in the first year and 60% in year 2. The Board agreed to go ahead with the Development Officer post and for SDT to pay the 10% contribution in the first year. Raymond Dennison proposed, Carole Cotterill seconded, all in approval

Part Time General Manager Post

A decision on the part time General Manager's post will be left until the level of gift aid from SREL for 2017 has been confirmed.

Housing Needs Assessment

David Bourn-Fernley and Carole Cotterill attended a tender scoring meeting for companies bidding for the Housing Needs Assessment contract. Highland Small Communities was chosen and will commence the work on 1st June 2017.

BIS Accounts

Deferred till next month's meeting.

Plaques

A quote has been received for SDT plaques for the Community Play Parks. The Board agreed a maximum budget of £500.00 for the two plaques to allow for possible artwork costs. David Bourn-Fernley proposed, Simone Kirk seconded, all in approval.

The Board discussed the provision of Big Lottery Plaques and signage for the Enterprise Zone.

Community Greenhouse

Following a recent meeting of the Greenhouse Group Marion Miller sought the Board's view on whether the Greenhouse should be open to the public all year round. The Board felt that it should be restricted to Summer months only, between 10am and 5pm, subject to relevant insurance. It was noted that signage to this effect would be required.

A quote of £50.00 has been received from J. Dunne in respect of work cleaning up and clearing the beds in the Youth Greenhouse.

Kevin Kent proposed, Raymond Dennison seconded, all in agreement.

Meeting ended 10.20pm

EB-F

