



**SHAPINSAY  
DEVELOPMENT  
TRUST**

**DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
2007-8**

## SHAPINSAY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2007-8

Our 2007 Development Plan builds upon the foundations set down in the 2006 Plan. Our aim is to carry forward substantive projects that will bring us closer to achieving our vision of 'Shapinsay, a place where ...'

Our local environment is protected, enhanced and enjoyed by all;  
This island culture remains distinct from the Orkney mainland;  
Renewable energy sources and technologies enable us to become energy self-sufficient;  
The population is balanced and economically active;  
We are well served by transport links;  
We enjoy the highest quality of essential services;  
Our archaeology, birds and wildlife are protected.  
Children and adults thrive within the community

The Development Plan is a strategic document which outlines the key areas for project development over the coming year. It also gives a summary of the achievements of the Trust, and the methods by which the Trust will seek to monitor and evaluate projects.

### What did we say we would do?

In 2006, we said we would:

#### 1. Secure a paid resource for the Trust

Y In May 2007 we appointed our first Community Development Worker on a 6 month contract.

#### 2. Establish sub-groups to lead the work of our themes

Y The Youth sub-group, also known as 'SCRAP' has focused on fund-raising and researching funding opportunities for a new Challenge, Recreation and Adventure Park to replace the existing play park.

Y The Tourism sub-group has been working with OIC Environment Department

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Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in Scotland No. 255127  
Registered Office: Livaness, Balfour, Orkney, KW17 2EA.

Chair: Andrew Lidderdale  
Vice Chair: Steven Bews  
Secretary: Lisa Marie Muir  
Company Secretary: Robert Grainger  
Director Stanley Bews  
Director : Rachel Garson  
Director Pat Hazzledine  
Director: David Holmes  
Director: Rosemary Horton  
Director: Clive Horton  
Director: Samantha Muir  
Special Advisor: Sam Harcus

Community Development Worker: Helen Davis



## How can you become a part of our vision?

We are always looking for volunteers to work with us on our projects. If you would like to get involved, please contact a Director/Trustee or the Community Development Worker, or visit our website at [www.shapinsay.org.uk](http://www.shapinsay.org.uk) If you would like to become a member or stand for election as a director of the Trust, please contact the Secretary: Lisa Muir, 2 Millbank, Shapinsay, KW 17 [lmuir@talktalk.net](mailto:lmuir@talktalk.net) or download a membership form on the website.

to enhance the visitor experience at Burroughston Broch and to create safer access to the adjacent seal colony

- ÿ The Renewables sub-group organised and hosted a renewable energy conference on Shapinsay and has been working with Highlands and Islands Community Energy Company (HICEC) to develop a community-owned wind turbine for Shapinsay
- ÿ The Housing sub-group has successfully lobbied Orkney Housing Association Limited and OIC Housing Department for Shapinsay to be included in a housing needs survey. In this way we hope to demonstrate local need in order to secure a range of new, affordable housing. The survey will be conducted in November

### 3. Develop a web presence for the Trust

- ÿ You can see the website at [www.shapinsay.org.uk](http://www.shapinsay.org.uk). The website provides information about the Trust, its aims, policies, funding partners, achievements, membership criteria and current projects.

### 4. Hold training events for our members and directors, and organised events to promote good practice in our work

- ÿ In June we conducted an island-wide skills survey to help us support skills training within the community. Our first training course in Drystane dyke Build & Repair is scheduled for the end of September
- ÿ Child Protection training for Trust directors, staff, volunteers and other island groups working with children, is scheduled for October
- ÿ We have introduced and ratified policies on employment, recruitment, child protection, health & safety, equal opportunities, anti-discrimination, disclosure and disability
- ÿ We have registered with the Central Board of Registration Scotland which enables us to obtain disclosure checks for staff, directors/trustees and volunteers working with children

### 5. Prepare an annual operational plan

This is the 2007 Plan. It is available to view at [www.shapinsay.org.uk](http://www.shapinsay.org.uk)

## What will we do in 2007-8?

### 1. Work in greater partnership with other island organisations

Strengthening our ties with community organisations helps us all to make the case for better services. Funding bodies increasingly look to communities to work together to create sustainable projects. We want to work in closer partnership with organisations within the island. We believe that widening participation at director level will help us to achieve better communication, fairer representation and greater consensus within the community. The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 allows for rural communities to purchase and manage land for community use, subject to 50% community backing, and ministerial approval.

### 2. Make changes to our constitution

Y To enable us to seek community backing for the purchase of land and/or buildings for community development

Y Invite 1 nominated director from each of the following; Shapinsay Community Council, Shapinsay Heritage Trust and Shapinsay Community Association; to be co-opted to the board.

### 3. Build on our success

In 2006-7, we started a number of short and long term projects. As well as honouring our commitments to current projects, we plan to research and consult in the following areas:

#### 3.1 Transport

At a recent consultation with Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE), the development trusts of Orkney stressed that transport was the number one factor for islands to continue to be sustainable, dynamic and economically viable communities.

#### Project Ideas

1. Develop a community transport strategy in conjunction with the

## Our Partners

We are keen to work with our partners in the community, public, private and voluntary sectors. To date these include:

Development Trust Association Scotland,  
Steven Hagan, North Isles Councillor and Convenor of OIC,  
Sam Marcus, North Isles Councillor,  
Alan Caldwell Associates  
HIE Orkney,  
Shapinsay Community Council,  
Voluntary Action Orkney  
Shapinsay Community Association,  
Shapinsay Community School,  
HI Energy,  
Highlands and Islands Community Energy Company (HICEC)  
Orkney Archaeological Trust,  
Orkney Islands Council,  
Orkney Isles Forum  
Orkney Renewable Energy Forum,  
Westray Development Trust  
Sanday Development Trust,  
Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre Development Trust,  
Stronsay Development Trust,  
Hoy Development Trust,  
Eday Partnership,  
Visit Scotland,  
North Mavine Development Trust,  
Stromness Development Trust,  
Scottish Natural Heritage,  
Historic Scotland,  
Shapinsay Football Team  
Shapinsay Sound (formerly Beginners' Music Group)

**Living within environmental limits** - we will ensure that our activities and services derive from local needs, and take account of local resources wherever possible. For example: we will give priority to local suppliers and contractors when putting projects out to tender.

**Capacity building:** We will develop the skills and resources of the Trust so that we mature as an organisation and increase our skills in order to handle the social and financial responsibilities of larger programmes, projects, investments and capital developments. By recognising the value of learning from our experiences, seeking consensus, and sharing our knowledge with others, we can grow and develop into a useful resource for the entire community.

**Project criteria:** We will assess any programme, event or project by the following criteria:

**Sustainability** - does it meet our criteria for sustainability?

**Community led** - does it have the support of the community?

**Best Practice** - does it contribute to best practice within the field?

**Support of Partners** - will it secure the practical support of our partners?

**Legal benchmarks** - does it meet with the requirements of charity, company and employment law?

**Capacity building** - does it enable us to grow and develop as an organisation, through the development of new skills, knowledge or enhanced competencies?

**Impact** - what will be the social, environmental, cultural or economic impact

**Integration** - how does it fit within our overall strategy and vision?

**Access** - does it meet with our policies on equal opportunities, anti-discrimination and disability?

Community Council

2. Undertake local transport audit
3. Work in partnership with the Community Council to lobby for better transport links to mainland
4. Work with the Community Association to investigate funding for a new community minibus

### 3.2 Young People

Our 'Young Islanders' policy stresses the need to develop "projects that improve quality of life for our young islanders" and create "strategies that will increase their involvement in projects and activities within the community".



Current projects

1. Funding application to Children in Need and the National Lottery for a new Challenge, Adventure and Recreation Park, to include new equipment, play area surfacing, salary for a part time Youth Development Worker and the creation of a nature trail

Project Ideas

1. Establish a Children's Council linked to the Development Trust so that young people can make a direct contribution to community planning
2. Develop a youth drop in centre
3. Investigate and provide training courses and work placements

### 3.3 Housing

We need an adequate supply of affordable, high quality and green housing which will enable us to retain our young people and encourage others who will develop our economy, and retain and develop skills on the island. The Trust will be taking part in a Northern Isles housing needs and land availability survey, in conjunction with OIC Housing Department. The results of this survey will be analysed by Voluntary Action Orkney and made available to Orkney Housing Association Limited, with a view to obtaining more housing on Shapinsay. The survey will examine local need and recommendations will be made on the basis of the information supplied.

#### Project ideas

1. Research skills training in eco-building techniques in order to encourage and support more eco-friendly building
2. Create a heritage skills training package as part of the Douche restoration scheme so that local builders have the opportunity to acquire skills in restoration and specialist building techniques

### 3.4 Renewable and Sustainable Energy

Sustainable energy is a very important issue facing every community. In order to maintain and enhance the quality of our environment and to have a sustainable future, we need to invest in environmentally friendly technology.

#### Current projects

1. Install a community-owned wind turbine for Shapinsay, that would enable the island to reduce energy bills, limit fossil fuel consumption and fund community programmes and projects

#### Project ideas

1. Develop an Island Renewable Energy Strategy that takes account of developments in harnessing wave and tidal energy

**Making open and inclusive decisions** - by organising the structure of the development trust so as to invite participation, engender a sense of common ownership, and increase the contribution of all groups within the community. For example: we will instigate a partnership with the Community Council, Community Association and Shapinsay Heritage Trust; we will set up a children's council in order to solicit the views of young islanders, and to encourage them to participate in community planning.

**Celebrating the diversity of human society** - by acting in accordance with our equal opportunities policy, we will seek ways of bringing together diverse groups within the community, and provide services that enable the community to share knowledge, time and resources. For example: we will investigate the feasibility of combining a recreational teenage hub with an ICT facility where all members of the community can meet.

**Making decisions on the fullest and best information** - through our relationships within the voluntary and business sectors, we will examine wherever possible, examples of good practice, and seek professional advice before embarking on projects. For example: working in partnership with Shapinsay Heritage Trust, the Community Council and OIC, we have made preliminary contact with the Heritage Lottery Fund before embarking on project planning for the Douche restoration project.

## How will we achieve what we plan to do?

### Evaluation & Monitoring

We are committed to monitoring and evaluating our activities in order to

1. Ensure that we meet our aims and objectives, and thereby work towards achieving the main goals of our vision
2. Communicate directly and transparently with the community and ensure that our aims are consistent with the needs and expectations of the people we serve

To achieve this we will continue to operate according to the following guidelines:

**Community Profiling:** We will start to compile and review statistical data about Shapinsay in order to effectively lobby on behalf of the island to external agencies

**Sustainability Indicators:** We will endeavour to undertake projects and the administration of the Trust according to the following principles:

**Achieving Social justice and well-being for all** - by acting in accordance with our anti-discrimination policy, and taking steps to ensure that our activities afford the community the best chances of achieving economic sustainability, help to reduce social and economic divisions, and work towards a common purpose. For example: we will offer accessible training courses that are fairly priced in order to cover the costs of delivery.

**Buying and selling in sustainable ways** - by understanding the economy of the community and taking steps to ensure that goods and services are traded fairly, with minimal environmental impact. For example: we will reduce costs by sourcing materials and services wherever possible within Shapinsay, and across Orkney.

### 3.5 Enterprising Community

We have researched community-owned subsidiary trading companies and how they can generate income. We have investigated the possibility of owning facilities and undertaken an audit of skills within the community. Our aim is to make the Trust more sustainable and less reliant on grant funding, and to enable the community to develop expertise and strategies that will build on local enterprise initiatives.

#### Current Projects

1. Organise a series of skills based workshops on Shapinsay, starting with a one day drystone dyke build & repair workshop in September
2. Produce a marketing strategy to promote Shapinsay as an overnight destination for visitors to Orkney, as well as building awareness of the island as a weekend break alternative for Orkney mainland residents

#### Project ideas

1. Undertake feasibility study into running a community pub/internet cafe to raise income to cover the on-going administrative costs of the Trust
2. Create an investment fund/vehicle for Shapinsay - from the proceeds of the community owned wind turbine

### 3.6 Recreation, Pastimes, Community Facilities and Local Services

A healthy community enjoys a high quality of life, with a good balance between recreation and work. We are committed to retaining and improving existing facilities and supporting the development of new ones.

#### Project ideas

1. Produce an island newspaper/newsletter
2. Work with Shapinsay Community Council, and local boat owners on the feasibility of a marina
3. Support local sporting initiatives

### 3.7 Education and Learning

To create an enterprising community we will need to provide high quality training and life long learning that is easily accessible. The skills survey helped us to determine local needs. We will build on existing facilities and encourage access through sourcing local expertise and encouraging the use of modern information technologies

#### Project ideas

1. Develop an ICT facility on the island for open access
2. Investigate modern apprenticeships

### 3.8 Elderly Care and Support

To create a balanced community we want to care for the elderly and those with special needs on the island, thereby avoiding upheaval, and providing valuable local employment and training opportunities. Care and support for elderly members of the community is essential for maintaining quality of life on Shapinsay.

#### Project ideas

1. Investigate feasibility of a befriending/visiting service, for elderly or infirm people who are unable to participate in the wider community
2. Research care home, day centre and respite provision similar to Kalisgarth facility on Westray

### 3.9 Culture, Heritage and Environment

Our culture and landscape are unique and need to be protected and conserved for the enjoyment of future generations of islanders. We welcome visitors and recognise the value of sharing our heritage with others so that Shapinsay continues to be a vibrant island culture

#### Current project

1. Promote island environmental education through the appointment of a Youth development worker. Establish working partnership with RSPB education officer.



2. Create new interpretation boards and signage at Burroughston Broch
3. Enhance/interpret areas of wildlife significance. Using a team of volunteers, construct drystone seal hide close to Burroughston Broch seal colony, with information boards on breeding, habitat and life-cycle.
4. Develop footpath network in partnership with OIC Environment department and local landowners
5. Work towards restoring the Douche in partnership with Community Council and Shapinsay Heritage Trust, to create new and enhanced visitor attraction, and to facilitate public access
6. Create glossy visitor guide for Shapinsay based on existing black and white version currently in circulation

#### Project ideas

1. Create field guides for visitors to enjoy the local wildlife and environment safely and without disruption
2. Develop an island grapevine for wildlife spotting using web site/phone texting