

Lerwick Old Town Development Association

Annual General Meeting

Monday 23rd November 2009

Islesburgh Community Centre

7.00pm

Minutes

1. Apologies

Two apologies were given from Richard Gibson and Harry Jamieson but they later joined the meeting at 7.40pm

2. Approval of the note of inaugural meeting 3rd July 2008

It was proposed by Jim Anderson and 2nd by Beatrice Wishart.

3. Chairman's Report

Laurence spoke about his Chairman's Report which contains the following:

CHAIRMANS Report 2005 / 2009

1. few years of stops and starts, finally started 31 March 2005
2. inaugural meeting of this group on 3rd July 2008
3. constitution was adopted on 15th July 2008
not applied for charitable status at this time
4. bank account set up
5. main action – the development of the action plan
 - a. draft approved by planning on 3rd June 2009
 - b. public consultation period 8 weeks ending 17th August 2009
 - c. approved by sic planning board on 11th November 2009
6. Town Centre Regeneration Fund – Jon to give details later
7. number of issues raised and actions taken
8.
 - 1) action plan
 - 2) PLANNING BRIEFS on swimming pool car park/ fort charlotte/ north end post office building / BT building
 - 3) church road crossing
 - 4) CCTV aerials
 - 5) Harrison square
 - 6) flagstones
 - 7) bins
 - 8) planning rules and standards
9. Other items discussed included

- 1) street furniture
 - 2) bins and street cleanliness
 - 3) plaques
 - 4) Christmas/ new year / uphelly aa activities
 - 5) illumination of the walls of fort charlotte
 - 6) floral bank at fort charlotte
 - 7) cycle racks
 - 8) old red mine
 - 9) weather station on the pier
 - 10)clocks on the tollbooth
10. Lotda logo – stationery to do
 11. Website
 12. Application to eco in this week start up funding
 13. BIDS

Thanks to Jon Molloy and his department, June Porter community services and Claire and Masha for administrative support.

4. Financial Statement

Clare Abernethy has set up a bank account but there is currently nothing in it.

5. Report by Jon Molloy – S.I.C Development Plans on 2009 Town Centre Regeneration Fund Award.

Jon spoke about the funding we have received from the Scottish Government and said that we were successful in the second round of funding of a total of £308,000 and it is split into:

- £152,000 for lane improvements
- £12,000 for railing repairs and new sections
- £20,000 for green space
- £65,000 for lighting improvements to lanes
- £45,000 new street lights to the small boat harbour
- £34,000 for shop front improvements, rain water good maintenance and paint scheme
- £39,000 for street furniture, planters, signage and information boards

6. Plans for 2010

1. review the current position
2. assess the strategy for including and signing up partners and sign up
3. decide on communication strategy with members / public / partners
4. turn the action plan into a co-ordinated strategy for the area
 - 1) review the short term projects and commence
 - 2) review the medium term / long term priorities
 - 3) develop a master-plan taking in the old town and waterfront
 - 4) consider specialist input ie lighting, public realm, conservation
 - 5) establish costs of projects

- 6) aim for a submission to the town -scape heritage lottery fun and others
- 5. develop website
- 6. development of an events strategy

7. Proposal for Membership Fees 2010

There has never been a membership fee for the group before and it was proposed that a fee would be good to help pay for the costs of sending letters, hire of rooms etc. It was originally thought that an appropriate fee would be £5 and £1 for concessions such as Senior Citizens and students. It was asked what would you get for your membership? Paul spoke about how the group had objected to the proposed CCTV aerials at the top of the Town Hall and that if he went to the group and asked for support in objecting this then it could stand a far better chance of being listened to than him doing it himself, so you would get that sort of support from the group.

It was proposed by Jimmy Wiseman that the membership be £5 for everyone and 2nd by Paul Wishart.

Jim Anderson asked if there is no money in the LODTA fund for hire of meeting rooms etc would the S.I.C still pay for this? Jon and June said that they would find funding for this and June's office can be used of the Conference Room at Grantfield could also be used free of charge.

If there was a membership then non-members can still come to the meetings, as they are open to the public. June suggested instead of having a membership fee have a 'Friends of Association' where people can still come to the meetings and make a donation if they wish. Douglas Sinclair proposed this and Damien Ristori 2nd.

It was proposed by Jim Anderson that the membership remain free and 2nd by Clare Abernethy.

It was voted on. 10 voted for Jim Anderson proposal and 2 voted for the proposal of having memberships at £5 each. Membership therefore remains free with everyone welcome to make donations.

8. Election of Office Bearers

i. Chairman

It was proposed by Richard Gibson that Laurence continue to be the chairman and 2nd by Beatrice Wishart.

ii. Vice Chair

It was proposed by Damien Ristori that Jimmy Wiseman be the Vice Chair and 2nd by Campbell Smith.

iii. Secretary

Jim Anderson Proposed that Paul Wishart carry on as secretary and Richard Gibson 2nd it.

iv. Treasurer

Jim Anderson proposed that Clare Abernethy continue to be the Treasurer and Jimmy Wiseman 2nd.

Those proposed, having seconders, and being willing to fill the posts those office bearers were duly elected.

9. Election of Management Committee

The other committee members, having declared their willingness to stand on the Management Committee together with the other office bearers, are as follows:

Jim Anderson

Richard Gibson

Leslie Irvine

Damien Ristori

Douglas Sinclair

Campbell Smith

Beatrice Wishart

They were proposed as a group by Wilbert Leask and 2nd by Louise Cluness.

The meetings will be open to everyone not just committee members.

10. AOCB

Laurence asked if anyone had anything else?

Richard Gibson came up with a few points, the new railing at small boat harbour, crossing at Church Road and a shop being changed into a flat.

Railing at Small Boat Harbour

Richard said that when you sit on the new seating at the small boat harbour then you look right through the railings. The widening of the pavement is good so are the flagpoles and the seats except that they don't have backs on them. Jim said that the thinking behind the seats was that before when it was the wall you either sat on it with you legs hanging over or you sit on it and face the post office so with these new chairs you would still be able to look and sit both ways. Harry said that when consultation went out for the new works at the small boat harbour then there was no response after it being in the paper and letters were sent out to Lerwick Town Centre Association and other organisations. Laurence said that the LTCA wrote an eight point letter to the Lerwick Port Authority about the new works. After a show of hands everyone thought that the wall being taken away is a loss for the area and preferred the wall to the rails. Safety regulations were mentioned as being an issue.

Crossing at Church Road

Just now with the pier works going on it is not safe for anyone in a wheelchair or with a pram to cross the road. Laurence spoke to Colin Gair at Shetland Islands Council Roads about the crossing. Paul asked if we have a proposal to put to the roads department about what we think should be done about it.

Beatrice suggested that it might be a good idea to ask Roads to come to our next meeting. Laurence suggested that LOTDA should have a meeting in two weeks and everyone should go and have a look at the crossing and come back with their views and then put something to Roads.

Change of use from Shop to a Flat

Richard explained that he thought it was against Council policy for this to happen so that shops couldn't be used for anything else. Jim said that we should get a copy of the report to look at. Laurence asked if we could ask the Planning Department to be consulted on matters like this. It is not advertised in the paper unless it is in the Local Plan.

Claire mentioned about the old toilets site and what is being done with it? Harry said it is going to be made into a centre for the cruise ships and it will be at the end of the pier. The site looks a lot better without the toilets.

Laurence thanked everyone for coming and the next management committee meeting will be on the 7th of December 2009, venue and time to be confirmed.