

# LERWICK OLD TOWN DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

## Minutes of meeting held Monday 18th January 2010, Grantfield, Lerwick.

**Present:** Damien Ristori (DR), Laurence Smith (Chairman), Campbell Smith (CS), Beatrice Wishart (BW), Douglas Sinclair (DS), June Porter (JP), Jon Molloy (JM), Jim Anderson (JA), Richard Gibson (RG), James Wiseman (JW), Paul Wishart (Secretary).

Also in attendance: N/A

ITEM	INFORMATION	ACTION
1	<b>Apologies</b> Apologies received from: Clare Abernethy, Andrew Anderson.	
2	<b>Previous minutes:</b> Some discussion on previous minutes: Secretary apologised for not having attended to his letter writing duties. Secretary was asked: to write to Jonathan Emptage to thank him for his presentation at last meeting; and add the Civic Society to the list of organisations to write to and thank in connection with the Action Plan. JA said that the LCC would welcome a presentation on the Action Plan from LOTDA. It was considered that the February or March LCC meeting might be appropriate. Secretary was asked to write to them in those terms. JP said she thought it was a good idea for the Association to go out and sell the Action Plan when the opportunities arose. Shetland Hamefarin' and Tall Ships events are near: Chairman will contact Fiona Dally to let her know about Action Plan.  The minutes of meeting of 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2009 were proposed by DS and seconded by CS.	<b>Secretary</b>  <b>Secretary</b>  <b>Chairman</b>
3	<b>Chairman and Secretary updates/correspondence</b> Secretary asked the meeting to note correspondence received from Shetland Islands Council Economic Development Unit ("SIC EDU"), enclosing a guide to Heritage Tourism Development Grant Scheme. Chairman stated that he'd spoken to Linda Coutts SIC EDU about start up funding package. This to be discussed later in the meeting.	
4	<b>Anderson High School</b> DR had written a letter which was published in the Reader's Views of the Shetland Times. DR's letter was suggesting that the Knab Site be used for College, if AHS moves from there. Those present generally considered it was a good letter as the main purpose of this agenda item is to encourage discussion on this matter in the community. JA thought that the College, at Gremista, was always build as a temporary measure and had not meant to be permanent. RG considered that the College is not in a good place. Two suggestions had been made about the College and those were relocation to where the North Ness oil tanks are or the Knab if the AHS moves. JA said that one of the big problems was the lack of any long term plan. Unless there is a proper long term plan there is going to be knee jerk reactions to things by the Council in particular, who don't seem to want to get their act together. JM said he's acted on this and reminded the Association that Architecture Design	

	<p>Scotland (“ADS”) were visiting Shetland soon to provide training and have a workshop for Council’s Education, Capital Programme and Infrastructure to look at the main issues affecting Lerwick at the moment. Some SIC departments are moving in different directions. The main thrust is to look at a vision for educational purposes, to look at what is going to happen at the College site/Knab/Staney Hill etc.</p> <p>RG thought questions had to be asked about the site now being considered.</p> <p>JM to give the secretary a note of what the ADS visit will cover. Secretary will then inform members and ask them to consider what things they should perhaps ask ADS to consider during their visit.</p> <p>Chairman said that beyond the educational aspect he thought the Association should write to the Convener and copy to the Chief Executive of SIC to ask if they have any plans to consider development options on the Knab site if it is decided to move the AHS. Also, he could be asked if there is a plan for Lerwick as a whole, including loss of activity from the school at Knab and that the Association is aware of discussions about the College relocating to that site. The meeting agreed. It was also considered that the letter should be copied to LCC.</p>	<p><b>JM then Secretary</b></p> <p><b>Secretary</b></p> <p><b>Secretary</b></p>
5	<p><b>Church Road Crossing</b></p> <p>RG. This winter has shown clearly that the crossing is actually dangerous in snowy conditions.</p> <p>Chairman has spoken to Colin Gair at SIC Roads who thinks it is all very difficult, the problem being having a system that can accommodate both traffic on the road and pedestrians crossing.</p> <p>JM said that ADS are also going to look at such things as this crossing so it might help if someone from LOTDA went on the planned walkabout with them. JA, RG and Chairman volunteered to go. Meet up at Queens Hotel 1.30pm on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2010. They will report back to next meeting and consider next steps.</p> <p>JA said that there is a difficult balance to be had between vehicles and pedestrians and perhaps a single file vehicle system with traffic lights could be the answer. Or maybe it was now time to revisit the pedestrianisation of the street.</p> <p>JW said that there were a lot of fast vehicles and there should be a lower speed limit.</p> <p>CS said that having the traffic single file would reduce traffic speed.</p> <p>JA said he’d draw up a sketch of his proposal and take it to the next meeting.</p> <p>JP wondered how the Association could get its considerations on things for the public to hear. How could a wider debate be generated?</p> <p>Chairman wondered if it could be by a column in the paper.</p> <p>JA wondered if it the Lerwick Councillors should be copied into minutes.</p> <p>The secretary was asked to ask the Lerwick Councillors if they’d like to be sent copies of the LOTDA’s minutes of meetings and, if so, invite them to make comments.</p> <p>Chairman said he’d speak to the Shetland Times to see if they would consider a monthly/quarterly column or something similar from LOTDA to let the public know what’s happening in the Association.</p>	<p><b>Chairman/JA/ RG</b></p> <p><b>Chairman/JA/ RG</b></p> <p><b>JA</b></p> <p><b>Secretary</b></p> <p><b>Chairman</b></p>
6	<p><b>New Railings at Small Boat Harbour</b></p> <p>This was discussed at the last meeting and at that time almost all disliked the new railings. The Chairman asked what everyone’s views were.</p> <p>JA said that the LCC didn’t really have anything to say on it other than the scheme was seen as being alright.</p> <p>Chairman asked everyone’s individual opinions. Were you for the new railings, against or undecided. Five were against, one in favour and four undecided.</p> <p>RG said he thought they needed the benefit of a summer time to pass before any serious conclusions could be drawn. At the moment most people seem to be against them but that might change. Things might look different when the whole scheme, including the new</p>	

	<p>decking etc. is finished.</p> <p>JA said he'd contact Andrew Anderson at Lerwick Boating Club to see if he can obtain their plans for the decking etc.</p> <p>Chairman said he'd contact Victor Sandison to try to get LPA plans for it.</p>	<p><b>JA</b></p> <p><b>Chairman</b></p>
7	<p><b>Funding for website and stationery</b></p> <p>As advised at the start of the meeting the Chairman said that an application had been submitted to SIC EDU and he'd spoken to Linda Coutts who was the official dealing with it. He said that Linda had asked if the Association had asked other SIC Services, ie Planning or Community Development. She also wanted to know how the Association was going to fund the website after the three years was over. Chairman said she wasn't against the proposal but did need answers to some questions.</p> <p>There followed a long discussion between a number of the members about the merits or otherwise of having a website, the cost of the quotation received from NB Communication for setting it up and hosting it, the cost of stationery, ways of producing stationery and setting up a cheaper website and so on.</p> <p>CS suggested setting up a website sub committee. BW and RG said they'd be willing to assist. CS suggestion was welcomed and it was agreed. The sub committee of CS, BW and RG will report back to the Association at its next meeting.</p> <p>JM said that if the secretary emailed Claire she would be able to assist in formatting the letterheads.</p> <p>Chairman said he'd let Linda Coutts know that the Association's application for funding should be put on hold at least until the Website Committee reports back.</p>	<p><b>CS/BW/RG</b></p> <p><b>Secretary</b></p> <p><b>Chairman</b></p>
8	<p><b>Roles and responsibilities for members</b></p> <p>Given earlier matters this item was dropped.</p>	
9	<p><b>Any other competent business</b></p> <p>a) Litter bins. RG said that the Architectural Society had been pulled in to this and there may be other ways of looking at this. RG gave slide show. The conclusion from the Architectural Society is that circular bins are better than square ones.</p> <p>JM said that from a Planning perspective rectangular bins are best.</p> <p>RG asked JM if Planning would be able to get perforated and/or round ones to see what they look like after a couple of months in Lerwick's climate. JM said he'd see if that could be done. It was thought more discussion was probably required.</p> <p>b) Benches. JM showed slides of benches/lights from a manufacturer's display.</p> <p>c) Flagstones. JA is going to email the secretary with a note of the flags that are lifting on the street. The secretary will then write to SIC Roads to ask them when they will attend to this problem.</p> <p>d) Plaques. JM asked DR and DS if they could tell him their four favourite sites for plaques. DS had that information to hand and passed it to JM.</p>	<p><b>JM</b></p> <p><b>JA then Secretary</b></p>
10	<p><b>Next meeting</b></p> <p>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2010, 6.30pm at Grantfield.</p>	<b>ALL</b>
	<p>Secretary's notes only. This does not form part of the minute.</p> <p>Insert matters arising section in agenda</p>	