

LERWICK OLD TOWN DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 30th June 2010, Grantfield, Lerwick.

Present: Laurence Smith (Chairman), Douglas Sinclair (DS), Damien Ristori (DR), James Wiseman (JW), Paul Wishart (Secretary).

Also in attendance: Jon Molloy (JM).

ITEM	INFORMATION	ACTION
1	Apologies Apologies from: Campbell Smith (CS), Richard Gibson (RG), Clare Abernethy (CA), Beatrice Wishart (BW), Andrew Anderson (AA).	
2	Previous Minutes The minutes of meetings of 19th April and 6th and 24th May, all 2010 were proposed by DR, and seconded by JW.	
2a	Matters arising from previous minutes: JM updated the group on the regeneration projects. Benches have been requoted. After discussion the group agreed that stainless steel benches should remain unpainted at least to start with. Bank Lane work ongoing; lighting agreed but waiting on costings. Benches: 4 benches being made by Paparwark, two to go outside Harry's, no decision as yet on other two. Derelict site at Hangliff Lane. JM reported that the legal issues were no further on.	
3	Chairman and secretary updates/correspondence LCC Bench request. Secretary read out letter from LCC letter and discussion took place on where to site benches. Group agreed that the Secretary should write back to LCC to ask if they'd like to join LOTDA members on a site visit/walkabout to discuss possibility of siting bench at Esplanade. Chairman said he'd spoken to a lighting designer who is currently in Shetland and working on a project at the Bonhoga Gallery. Chairman is to continue dialogue with him. Tesco Planning application letter. Secretary read out the Council's reply to the Association's letter to them about Tesco extension. The group noted this.	Secretary
4	Vacant premises on street Damien Ristori raised this as being something of concern and wondered if there was anything that the Association could do to address vacant premises, in particular he noted that two premises, shop at corner of Church Road/Commercial Street and the former Freezer Food shop had been empty for some time. DS wondered if there was any possibility of the Association taking on the premises for community benefit projects. Some discussion ensued. Secretary considered that although a noble idea it did not fit easily with the Association's constitution which does not really allow for the taking over of premises under such circumstances. Part of the discussion that took place was about the need to keep existing uses of premises and not lose retail space to offices. Chairman mentioned the Council's Planning Service's Main Issues Report that he said RG had responded to. JM said that there had been a very disappointing response from the community to this. He said that LOTDA had not responded. Secretary was disappointed to hear that and said that it was very important for the Association to input into that piece	

	<p>of work.</p> <p>The group discussed and agreed that the secretary should contact Planning to see if it wasn't too late to respond and if not then he would prepare a submission which could also touch on the issues raised by DR.</p>	Secretary
5	<p>Derelict Site at Hangcliff Lane and Pirate Lane</p> <p>The Chairman handed out a note of the public meeting held on 14th June 2010 at the Old Library Centre and subsequent site visit.</p> <p>JM said that only once the title issue had been satisfactorily concluded would he be able arrange for a design to be fully worked up. Those who'd attended the meeting agreed that the note fairly reflected events and discussions and JM agreed to update the group on progress, which depended entirely on the title being confirmed acceptable.</p>	JM
6	<p>Action Plan Strategy</p> <p>The Chairman said he was now getting to grips with this but was not yet in a position to comment to the group.</p> <p>Agreed to hold this over to the next meeting when Chairman would report.</p>	Chairman
7	<p>AOCB</p> <p><u>Information boards.</u> DS has been working on information boards with Lucy Wheeler from SIC Planning. He presented the group with the work in progress and all agreed that they were excellent and should really enhance visitors, and indeed locals, experience of the old town.</p> <p><u>Website.</u> CS needs information to go onto the website. The group needs to feed this to him.</p> <p><u>Church Road Crossing.</u> JM updated. Architecture Design Scotland, Derek Lawlor, had visited and potential options are going to be explored by them. JM will keep the group updated with progress. The group considered that this was an important matter and a satisfactory alternative to the currently unsafe crossing was urgently needed.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>JM</p>
8	<p>Next meeting</p> <p>Monday 26th July 2010, 6.30pm at Grantfield.</p>	ALL
	Note of items for next agenda:	