

LERWICK OLD TOWN DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Minutes of meeting held Monday 21st March 2011, Grantfield, Lerwick.

Present: Laurence Smith (Chairman), Damien Ristori (DR), Douglas Sinclair (DS), Richard Gibson (RG), Campbell Smith (CS), James Wiseman (JW), Leslie Irvine (LI) and Paul Wishart (Secretary).

Also in attendance: Jon Molloy (JM).

ITEM	INFORMATION	ACTION
1	Apologies Apologies from: Andrew Anderson (AA), Danus Skene (DS), Beatrice Wishart (BW), Jim Anderson (JA), Clare Abernethy (CA) and June Porter (JP).	
2	Previous Minutes Minutes of meeting of 7th February 2011 were proposed by CS, and seconded by RG.	
2a	Matters arising from previous minutes: RG had spoken to Jim Grunberg about the Hangcliff Lane site and there was nothing to report. Secretary had not contacted the Council about update on status of Local Plan and apologised for not doing so. JM was able to give brief update. There are calls for submission to the Council of proposals for land for development. The idea is that developments can be planned for long term. Hangcliff Lane is worth notifying because it could still happen despite the current difficulties. JM asked if the group had any sites it considered worth writing to the Head of Planning about. This was discussed and conclusion was that the five key sites identified at earlier meetings together with Hangcliff Lane and the AHS site, if school relocated, were worth asking about. Also, it was considered prudent to ask what support the group would have now that JM was moving to a new job in the Council.	SECRETARY
3	Chairman and secretary updates/correspondence. Website comments. Nothing to report from Chairman. Secretary had some junk mail and also letter about BIDS which was passed round. CS showed the group the new comments posted on website and responded to some of them. One comment referred to litter and it was agreed that CS would forward that to the Secretary and he would pass it on to the Council's Cleansing Service. CS has put some of the planning applications relevant to the group's activities on to the website. The group agreed that this was a good idea and asked that he continue doing so. Anyone interested could see at a glance the applications relevant to the area and the group. CS and Secretary will liaise about a "disclaimer" for this section. These are simply links to the Council website and that needs to be made clear.	CS then SECRETARY CS then SECRETARY
4	Harrison Square There was some discussion about proposals for Harrison Square. According to JM one business, the charity shop, experienced difficulties with donors finding it difficult to get to the shop and deciding to go elsewhere. Much discussion about bollards. Chairman said that the feedback he had from businesses is that they would like to see it improved. Chairman is to provide JM with a note of the comments so he can pass them on to the right person in the Council before he moves post. JM had produced some conceptual plans for the area which he brought to the table for the group to consider. The group viewed these and considered that the most appropriate would be the Option C which is to create a public space with minimal bitmac. It is	CHAIRMAN JM

	<p>important to use the old flagstones, known as Caithness slabs, which the group understands are lying at Rova Head. One member noted that if the Council could not do it, private contractors would be interested in bidding for the work.</p> <p>It was agreed that the secretary write to Gordon Greenhill at the Council and put forward its views, ask the Council to consider options using the Option C outline and ask what the Council intended to do now.</p>	SECRETARY
5	<p>Church Road</p> <p>JM explained that WPS consultants are going to visit Shetland and look at the Church Road crossing. JM hopes to be able to continue with this project in his new post.</p>	
6	<p>Action Plan and projects.</p> <p>Chairman had prepared a plan for the LOTDA developments on a spreadsheet which he showed to the group on the overhead projector. This chart of projects was designed to create a workflow for all the projects and to plan out the work for the coming year. It identified areas of work to focus on.</p> <p>The group generally agreed that it was a good idea.</p> <p>CS said it was important to note down what the group had done so far.</p> <p>Secretary said he'd made up a project plan document that would be appropriate for use for each individual project and could tie in with the overall plan produced by the Chairman.</p> <p>The group agreed to work with the Chairman's plan.</p> <p>It is important that everyone take time to consider what needs to be done to keep the Action Plan and the projects moving ahead.</p>	ALL
7	<p>Conservation Area Regeneration Sites ("CARS")</p> <p>JM said that the Lodberries might be a possibility for investigating the likelihood of costing out work with a view of submitting a CARS application. However, he said that the Council's budgets had been cut significantly so this was not on the Council's agenda. In Orkney they had prepared an application that costed between £80 to £90,000 up front for professional fees such as surveyors and draftsmen.</p> <p>CS thought the group should ask the LCC what their plans were and see if they were going to do anything about the Lodberries, if anything. JM also wondered if it was worth contacting the Shetland Amenity Trust too.</p> <p>It was agreed that DR, being a member of LCC, should feedback to them that LOTDA was interested in any considerations that they might have about the Lodberries and if they were going to take something forward they might like to let LOTDA know. There may be an opportunity to work together on this.</p>	DR
8	<p>Pitt Lane and Park Lane</p> <p>Secretary had mistakenly put Water Lane in the agenda and confirmed that the topic for discussion was the Pitt Lane and Park Lane site.</p> <p>JM confirmed that a pre-application is now in for this development. RG was surprised by this as it had only just been made known that the Council was going to build new houses rather than refurbish. (It had been discovered that the blockwork amongst other things was dangerously bad and it would be better for the buildings to be demolished rather than refurbished. This option also allowed the opportunity to increase the number of dwellings.) JM confirmed that somebody in the Council's building service had already prepared some drawings. JM is going to ask Stephen Cooper in the Council what is happening with the site.</p> <p>Chairman had received a letter from Norman Moncrieff who had some concerns about the plans to increase the number of residents there, including concern about the collection of refuse. Chairman said he would respond to him.</p>	<p>JM</p> <p>CHAIRMAN</p>
9	<p>AOCB</p> <p>JM is going to take up a new post at Capital Programme Service. LOTDA thanked him for all his hard work and assistance to the group and wished him all the best in his new</p>	

	post. JM said that he hoped to continue to work on the BIDS process and would like to work again with the group in future.	
10	Next meeting Monday 18th April 2011, 7pm at Grantfield, Lerwick.	
	Meeting ended 9.10pm.	
	Note of items for next agenda:	