

Ness of Brodgar Development Project

Area – Stromness

Summary

The Ness of Brodgar, in the midst of the World Heritage Site *The Heart of Neolithic Orkney*, is unique in the Neolithic of Atlantic Europe. Its archaeological significance is of world-importance. That importance is reflected in both visitor numbers and national and international media coverage. This high profile exposure has brought many visitors to Orkney and thus the Ness contributes directly to Orkney's economy through its tourism and cultural heritage sectors.

The Ness however has become a victim of its own success and it has become increasingly difficult to develop the work and its outcomes, including raising Orkney's profile, without dedicated staff. The purpose of this project is therefore to fund the appointment of a Full Time Manager for the Ness, for a 24 month period, to concentrate on developing the full potential of the site as an excavation of world importance, as an educational resource, to explore the potential to be a sustainable visitor attraction and to grow Orkney's visitor market with its associated spin offs in terms of increased sustainable employment and income. This new post will be supported by a 0.5 FTE project officer to assist the Manager, organise post-excavation, and project specific administration.

A summary of project aims are:

To develop the Ness of Brodgar both in terms of its academic profile and its long term, sustainable tourist draw to Orkney.

To enhance the visitor experience of the Ness of Brodgar by providing increased information on the site through information panels and new guidebook, and exploring the potential of other experiential routes such as a visitor centre, 3D models, interactive screens and improved on site artefact displays

To begin to explore ways of preserving and presenting the site in the long term and throughout the tourism off-season.

To enhance & further develop the site's virtual presence.

To improve accessibility to the site, both physically and by virtual means.

To develop cross sectoral partnerships e.g. Orkney's tourism, art, and craft sectors to meet the demands of the modern tourism market.

To direct the excavations and post-excavation activity of the Ness of Brodgar.

To develop quality and wide-ranging academic collaborations and output.

To provide overall project management for the work of developing and sustain the Ness.

To find long-term and sustainable funding for the work at the Ness and a dedicated team to make that work happen at a world-class standard to match its world-class archaeology.

Financial Information	£	%
Total Project Costs	144,021.02	
Total Eligible Costs	144,201.02	
LEADER	72,010.51	50
Ness of Brodgar Trust	72,010.51	50