

Stromness Community Development Officer

Summary

The project will involve the employment of a development officer in order to take forward a suite of key projects which have been identified from within the Stromness Community. The projects will be delivered by the development officer, with support from various local groups, key stakeholders, as well as the Stromness Community Development Trust board of directors.

It is anticipated that the project is viewed as a pilot in order to take forward the key projects identified from the various consultations recently undertaken within the community. It will also provide an opportunity to test the viability of having such a paid resource available within the Stromness community.

It is anticipated that the project will achieve the delivery of a suite of key projects which have been identified through various community consultations. Each of these projects have social, economic and environmental elements to them and they will all help towards achieving a more vibrant and sustainable town.

The demand for this project has been demonstrated by the positive community reaction to various consultations which have taken place in recent years, coupled with the re-invigoration of the Stromness Community Development Trust. The development of this project has engaged with all elements of the local community as well as key local groups and other stakeholders (including the public sector).

Ultimately, it is intended that the successful delivery of this project will help build the confidence and ability of the local community to take a more active role in helping to shape the future of their town. Also, it will provide a platform for further development of projects, as well as new projects being identified for delivery within the community.

Aims

The need for a development officer focuses around the following key factors:

- Collective ambition of Stromness Community Development Trust (SCDT);

- Success and momentum of the Stromness 200 events last year;

- Success of recent projects carried out within Stromness (e.g. Town Heritage Initiative, Pier Head regeneration);

- Identification of various projects which could be delivered or developed within Stromness;

- Capacity of the SCDT (and other Stromness groups) and limitations of volunteers;

- Funding opportunities (especially LEADER) ending soon, with uncertainty over suitable replacement;

- Opportunity for a pilot delivery project, based on the outcomes of the Council community consultation events and supporting document.

As a concept, this has been something SCDT have been discussing since the group was reinvigorated a couple of years ago. There are various community groups within Stromness, and Stromness Community Development Trust intend to work alongside all of them to not only help them achieve their objectives but allow Stromness Community Development Trust to continue to develop its own

positive role within the community. With the current (and future) discussions regarding more control and decision-making being made by local communities, this project could be viewed as an important pilot approach to enable communities to take greater responsibility for their own future.

The project includes the following elements:

Financial Information	£	%
Total project costs	£43,050.02	
Total eligible costs	£43,050.02	100%
LEADER funding	£21,525.01	50%
OIC Economic Development Fund	£21,525.01	50%