

Stronsay Development Trust

Board Meeting on 11 May 2011 at Woodlea 19.30 Minutes

Present: Malcolm Addison Lisa De Geer (Secretary) Sara Goodram
(Treasurer) Nina Gleed Anthony Withers (CDO/TDO)
Julia Crocker (Chair) Cora Goodram

Apologies: Helen Garside, Ian Stevenson

In Attendance: None

Action

Change of venue

The meeting was booked at the Stronsay Community Hall, but it was locked. After unsuccessful attempts to contact the Community Association, it was decided to hold the meeting at Woodlea.

Welcome by Anthony Withers (CDO/TDO)

Since all officers are elected at the board meeting following the AGM, Anthony Withers opened the meeting and welcomed all.

Election of Officers following the AGM

- *Chair*; Malcolm Addison nominated Julia Crocker and Karen Griffin seconded. Julia Crocker accepted to take on the role as chair for yet another year, but announced that she will only do it for one year.
- *Vice Chair*; The vice chair will have an important role next year, either taking on the role as chair or to support the new chair. Julia Crocker nominated Karen Griffin, Cora Goodram seconded and she was elected vice chair.
- *Treasurer*; Nina Gleed nominated Malcolm Addison, Sara Goodram seconded and he was formally elected.
- *Co-opted Directors*; Valerie Fraser and Ian Stevenson have been asked if they will be standing for re-appointment as co-opted Directors, but have not replied. The board agreed that a letter will be sent to the Community Council and the Community Association to ask if they would propose co-opted Directors to represent their organisations on the board.

JC

Anthony Withers handed over the meeting to the chair. Julia Crocker gave a special welcome to the new Director and the re-elected Directors.

Minutes of previous meeting (paper circulated)

Julia Crocker asked if the board agreed that the minutes of the meeting on 9 March 2011 were a true account. Cora Goodram proposed, Malcolm Addison seconded and the minutes were formally approved.

Matters Arising

- *Venue for board meetings.*

At the last AGM the question of SDT avoiding the Community Centre for meetings arose with reference to minutes from previous meetings. The minutes from the board meeting in February 2011 mentions the charge for the Community Centre. At the time of the February meeting the trust hadn't been granted any capacity funding and there are problems with transportation for several board members. There is no SDT agreement or understanding to avoid use of any community buildings. The chair thought it worth noting that since Sept 2010 the Trust has paid the Community Association £1280 in hall hire costs (board meetings, art project, powerdown meetings etc.). None of the funding for these projects would have been available without the hard work of the trust.

The chairs thoughts were that although there is nothing written about the trust only using Community venues for their meetings, members of the public might not feel welcome in a private home. Therefore the board agreed to try to have all SDT board meetings in community venues. It was also agreed that the Fishmart is a better option for the monthly board meetings because of difficulties with transportation.

Everyone agreed that the board meetings for SREL need to be held in private homes because they are not open to the public and they require technical facilities that the current community venues can't provide (such as broad band and SKYPE for internet conferences).

- *Open Meeting regarding the Enterprise Zone and the Development Plan*

It was decided to have an open meeting about the Development Plan (includes the E.Z.) in the week commencing 20 June in the Community Hall. VAO will be asked to help facilitate the meeting.

JC

Correspondence

Julia Crocker has written an email to Leo Martini-Brown regarding his email to the trust (April 2010) that he questioned at the AGM (5 May 2011). A reply had already been written, even though perhaps not all points had been covered satisfactory. The recent e mail informs Leo Martini-Brown that SDT has taken legal advice about the planning of the Enterprise Zone, and that it has not been appropriate to take this matter to the land tribunal since the trust doesn't own the land and that it can't be proven that there is a dispute since no maps or leases have been provided to show this.

Chair's Report

- *Bookkeeper post* - Julia Crocker put forward the question to employ a bookkeeper to support the treasurer on both SDT and SREL boards since the amount of work has increased significantly. Karen Griffin said that it would be good to have someone from the outside to do the job since that improves the transparency. The board agreed to employ a bookkeeper.
- HIE will hold an event in Kirkwall 13-14 June 2011 to help the boards of the trusts to start the process for decisions about use of turbine funds. It was decided that Julia Crocker, Cora Goodram and Sara Goodram will represent SDT.

Secretary's Report

- The secretary reported that the trust has been able to welcome four new members since the last board meeting. The number of members is now 86.
- The secretary reminded the board members about the importance of notifying in advance if they intend to attend the meetings.

CDO Report

- Planning permission for the Enterprise Zone in the yard has been applied for. Pentarq, the architect, has taken great care to fit the legal requirements. If the planning permission isn't approved, planning permission to build on another site will be applied for.
- The survey about the development plan has been put on hold to wait the result of the planning permission.
- Anthony Withers has had a discussion with Colin McAlpine from the Community Association about a possible Youth Drop-In Centre. Colin McAlpine confirmed that there is no possibility of having unsupervised youth activities in the Stronsay Community Centre.
- The terms of SDT granted funds from the Big Lottery fund (BLF), project criteria and three modified outcomes was agreed. These outcomes are
 - 1) Wind Turbine
 - 2) Fuel Poverty
 - 3) The Enterprise Zone.

£435 000 will be available up front since SREL funds the Wind Turbine with bank loan only (to get Feed in Tariff, which gives a greater profit). This means that the money needs to be spent on sustainable projects (assets, not wages or maintenance) according to the other two agreed outcomes (fuel property and the Enterprise Zone). SDT will lose the grant if the money is not used within the three year period from the grant starting in March 2011
- The board discussed the Fuel Poverty outcome. The board agreed to encourage applications for funding from the Community Association and would also investigate the possibility of organising training in renewable energy and insulation so that someone on Stronsay will have the knowledge and skills to carry out work for individuals on the island.
- The board would like the CDO, as community councillor, to approach the Community Council to investigate the possibility of the Fishmart becoming a community owned property. This would make it possible to use some of the BLF grant towards improving the energy efficiency of the building. **AW**
- The board agreed that the CDO will approach the Sea Sport Club to transfer the Sea shed over to community ownership **AW**

Treasurers Report - None

Project Reports

- *Art Project* – The Art Project was well reported in the Limpet, and the board stated that it's a lovely and impressive work. Jenny Stone has sent a detailed report to Awards for All. The final cost has not yet been calculated, and there might have been a slight overspend. The board agreed to pay for any overspend from what is left from the LDO fund, now under the general funds.

- *Wind Turbine* – SDT has the lease of the land with the landowner, and a sub lease is created between SDT and SREL. Both the lease and a way-leave agreement are needed from the landowner before the financial close, which is the point when the Co-op bank can release loan funds. North Wind Associates (NWA) has helped with negotiations and the original option to lease has been improved to bring it in line with current commercial agreements within the industry. The more advantageous lease has been welcomed by the landowner and SREL has also agreed a disturbance payment. Although the new terms have been agreed, SREL is now in a very precarious position as the signed papers have not yet been received so funds will not be released by the bank.
- *Healthy Living Centre* – Doctor Neville-Smith is in favour of individual referrals for exercise on prescription, but not to support timetabled group sessions, to make it possible for everyone to attend when they are available.

Any Other Business - None

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 15 June at Fishmart at 19.30.

Meeting Closed at 22.15