

Sanday Development Trust

enhancing quality of life



**MINUTES of the MEETING held in the
COMMUNITY CLASSROOM of SANDAY
SCHOOL on THURSDAY 26th JANUARY
At 7.30 p.m.**

**Present: William Sichel; Gill Best; Daniel Connor; David Muir; Andrew Thompson;
David Towrie and Leslie Wilson.**

**In attendance: John Redmonds (Clerk to the Trust).
Rose Seagrief (Local Development Officer).**

William Sichel in the chair.

1. APOLOGIES.

Apologies were intimated on behalf of Andy Best, George Brown, John Dearness, Margaret Dearness, Tony Lee, Angela Lennie, and Sue McArthur. (Directors), Sinclair Scott (Councillor) and Rod Thorne (Ranger).

2. APPROVAL of MINUTES of MEETING HELD ON 7th DECEMBER 2005.

The minutes were approved, this being proposed by Andrew Thompson, seconded by Gill Best.

3. MATTERS ARISING

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The Chairman had written to the Sanday Tourism Association with the suggestions for reciprocal representations at meetings. He had received a reply agreeing with the suggestions made.

4. Issues raised by members and pupil council.

The Clerk had circulated the Pupil Council meetings schedule to Directors and Daniel Connor informed them that Andrew Thompson had already arranged to attend the next Pupil Council meeting.

7. Local Development Officer's Report.

The Chairman had written to the Scottish Arts Council in support of the Sanday Arts Project.

4. ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS AND PUPIL COUNCIL

a). A member had carried out a survey of 40 households about internet access and found general dissatisfaction with the provider service and was seeking the Board's support to obtain a better service. He asked the Board to consider employing a telecommunications consultant to look into the problem. The LDO also spoke about her survey into the matter, which showed similar shortcomings in the service; she told

Directors of the steps taken thus far. The Clerk informed Directors of a thrust by the Community Council to have the provider services in Sanday improved.

ACTION:

- i) The Chairman will write to the member to explain the discussion and
- ii) The LDO will report the additional findings about internet access to the Scottish Executive's Telecom Policy Unit and seek advice on the need for any specialist input as suggested by the member.

b). A member had raised three queries, which were dealt with by the Board.

- i) Communication with the members.

It was felt by the member that the circulation of the minutes be supplemented in various ways to effect better communication with members.

ACTION: A general meeting be held in January each year. This to be additional to the AGM. This was approved.

ACTION: More information to be put into the Sanday Sound in the form of a collective Trust Newsletter. This too was approved and the LDO will collate the material.

- ii) Attendance at Board meetings.

The member wishes it be better publicised that members and the public can attend Board meetings.

ACTION: A note to this effect will feature in the Trust Newsletter in the Sanday Sound.

- iii) Appointment of Directors.

The member expressed an opinion that there should be a by-election when vacancies arise mid term instead of just appointing Directors. There was strong disagreement with this view as appointed Directors must stand for election at the following AGM. It was also felt that the Board must be able to appoint Directors with appropriate skills when and where such situations arise, the Director in question then being confirmed at the next AGM.

ACTION: It was agreed to publish an updated list of Directors and that the Chairman should write to the member to express the Board's views.

- c). There were no issues arising from the Pupil Council meeting.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

The Treasurer circulated the finance sheet and spoke briefly about the relevant figures. Funding to continue the Ranger post would be sought in the new financial year and the Treasurer asked Directors to submit expenses claims IN FULL even if other parties had paid for some of the expenses.

6. SANDAY RANGER REPORT.

The Ranger was unable to attend but his Report had been circulated and accepted with no further comment.

7. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

The LDO circulated her report and spoke briefly about the points made. She gave Directors a brief account of the trip to Gigha and circulated an information folder for Directors to take away and read.

8. REPORTS FROM SUB-GROUP CHAIRS

a) YOUTH

The Youth group Chair was unable to attend and no report of meetings and activities was available.

b) CULTURE AND HERITAGE

There has been no meeting of the Sub-group since the last Board meeting. The Chair informed Directors of an imminent meeting on 30th January to discuss a Sanday in World War II document. He produced a Children's tourist pamphlet from Abernethy, which could be used as a model for a similar project in Sanday. This met with general approval and the Chair will take the proposal to the Pupil Council meeting for School involvement in the venture. C&H is willing to assist.

c) ENVIRONMENT, RENEWABLES AND WASTE MANAGEMENT.

A member of the sub-group is to produce a short item in the Sanday Sound. The first one on composting was considered a success.

Funding for the weather station has been requested. Volunteers were asked for to help with fencing the plantation over the coming weekend.

The Chair of the sub-group is standing down due to pressure of work and a new Chair will be appointed at the next meeting.

The report of the last meeting had been circulated with the minutes.

d) HOUSING AND ECONOMY.

The Chair informed Directors that the Lady Village Project had now been subsumed into the Housing and Economy sub-group.

With regard to work units in Lady Village, the Directors were told of the Community Council's willingness to sell the property to Orkney Enterprise.

A public meeting on housing has been arranged for **7th FEBRUARY** for people to have access to information on grants available, waiting lists and other relevant matters.

d) ORGANISING OUR COMMUNITY

The Chair reported that the Fundraising Policy document is not quite completed and a little more work is required. He suggested the title be changed to Financial Policy, which was agreed to. The Policy should be available for discussion at the next Board meeting.

9. ADOPTION of POLICY DOCUMENTS.

Two policy documents were brought forward for approval by the Board;

- i) EDUCATION POLICY. The Chair thanked Daniel Connor for his work on this Policy. The Policy was approved, this being proposed by Gill Best and seconded by David Muir.
- ii) EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY. The Chair thanked Rose Seagrief for her contribution. The Policy was adopted, this being proposed by Daniel Connor and seconded by Andrew Thompson.

ACTION: Copies of the Policies to be forwarded to the Clerk.

10. THE LDO LEGACY.

Directors were reminded of the necessity of thinking about the future once the LDO post has concluded.

Delegation to and co-operation with Directors was proving successful and may be a way forward.

An LDO "Shadow" was suggested as a possibility to keep the post 'alive'. This was thought to be a good idea to consider.

Training Directors in order to spread the knowledge and build an infrastructure is a further possibility.

Establishing a 'manual' for future use is vital.

The work of producing the annual report needs to be delegated to others.. A suggestion was made to form a publishing group, which it was hoped to establish in March. Production of an Environment Policy was the last suggestion.

ACTION:

- i) Launch a Publishing Group in March with a concurrent publishing workshop.
- ii) Draw up an Environmental Policy
- iii) Consult the Skills Survey for people with relevant skills
- iv) Organise a Fund Raising/Grants workshop in April.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. The Chairman read relevant sections from a letter from the Sanday Light Railway, which had been written to solicit support from the Development Trust for the ongoing improvements and erection of tearooms at Strangquoy. This was approved;

ACTION: The Chairman will write the necessary letter of support.

2. The Chairman informed Directors of a visit to Sanday on **21st FEBRUARY** by Alan Caldwell and sought suggestions for the best way to make use of Alan's expertise during his visit. Amongst suggestions were:-
 - A question/answer session with the Board.
 - Community involvement/liaison.
 - Learn about the Land Reform Act
 - Discuss changes to the constitution and
 - Discussing the tourism association link.

ACTION: The Chairman will write back to Alan Caldwell with suggestions for his visit.

3. The LDO informed the Board that a preliminary colour palette for natural dyes for Sanday had been drawn up and sent to the Orkney Agronomy Institute, prior to wider consultation with the Community. A Sanday Tartan was deemed by Directors as inappropriate as a potential Sanday theme based on such a palette but a suggested 'Viking Check' pattern might be preferable.
4. The LDO informed the Board she is investigating the potential for allotments in Sanday. These would be under cover using polytunnels. This is at an early stage.
5. The LDO informed the Board of a 'Financial Foundations Course' to take place on the **9th March**. This would be particularly useful to treasurers of societies.
6. The Treasurer informed the Board that the sale of Christmas cards had raised the sum of £113.00. This had covered one third of the production costs. This was a reasonable achievement in light of the short time available for selling them.

7. The Treasurer sought the Board's approval for purchasing an official Trust rubber stamp for receipts issued. This was approved at a cost of £10.00 or £11.00.

8. The E.R. & W.M. sub-group has finally arranged a visit by 'Waste Aware Orkney'.

This will take place on **14th FEBRUARY**. The team will visit the School during the Day and an evening meeting for the general public.

12. DATE of NEXT MEETING.

The date of the next meeting was provisionally set for **THURSDAY 16TH MARCH 2006.**

13 CONCLUSION.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m