

MINUTE

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Development Committee
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Thursday 28 April 2011 at 10.00am

Present:

J G Simpson	L Angus
J Budge	A T J Cooper
A T Doull	F B Grains
I J Hawkins	R S Henderson
J H Henry	A J Hughson
W H Manson	R C Nickerson
F A Robertson	G Robinson
A S Wishart	

Apologies

L F Baisley	A J Cluness
A G L Duncan	E L Fullerton
C H J Miller	C L Smith

In Attendance (Officers):

N Grant, Head of Economic Development
D Irvine, Head of Business Development
N Henderson, Marketing Section Head
K Moreland, Project Manager
S Keith, Project Manager
L Adamson, Committee Officer

Chairperson:

Mr J Simpson, Chairperson of the Committee, presided.

Circular:

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

The Chairperson congratulated Douglas Irvine, the Council's Head of Business Development, in achieving 25 years of service in the Development section of the Council.

Declarations of Interest

None.

Minute

The minute of meeting held on 3 March 2011 was confirmed on the motion of Mr J Simpson.

Members' Attendance at External Meetings

Mr J Simpson CPMR Fisheries Intercom Group, Brussels – 10-12 April

28/11 Public Activity Report

The Committee noted a report by the Head of Economic Development (Appendix 1), which provided an update for Members on ongoing project work, Government initiatives and grant awards. In response to questions from Members, further updates were given on the following projects:

Shetland Brand Information Pack

The Head of Economic Development referred to the sample pages of the Shetland Brand 'Pack' which had been circulated at the meeting, and advised that the intention of the pack is to get businesses and individuals in Shetland to support the Brand to promote Shetland. The completed Pack would be presented to the first meeting of the Economy and Development Committee in June.

(Mrs I Hawkins attended the meeting).

In response to questions, the Marketing Section Head advised that it is planned that the complete Pack would contain 12-15 information pages, with the intention that each Pack would be tailored to the requirements of specific groups/individuals and in some cases the full pack would be provided.

Mr R Nickerson commented that this was an excellent initiative and he welcomed the inclusion of the Shetland flag in one of the photos. He suggested that the Shetland flag should also be included on the back page of the Pack and in some further promotions.

Laxfirth Slaughterhouse

The Head of Economic Development advised that Laxfirth slaughterhouse was currently being sold to SACL. In response to questions, it was reported that Laxfirth slaughterhouse could be required during the peak slaughtering season, and that there had been no indication that any refurbishment works would be required to the slaughterhouse.

Scotland's Islands Project

In response to concerns from Mr G Robinson that support had been provided to the Tall Ships event through Shetland's allocation of the Scotland's Islands Year funding, the Head of Business Development explained that applications had been received from various independent organisations who are arranging events to coincide with the Tall Ships event but these events were not part of the official Tall Ships Races programme.

Trade Visit to Faroe (15-18 March 2011)

In response to questions, the Head of Economic Development advised that following the visit to Faroe a paper has been submitted to the Faroese Trade Minister and other contacts made with the intention to follow up on the issues discussed to generate results, and Mrs I Hawkins asked that Members be kept informed of developments generated from the comprehensive visit. Members noted

that the Faroese Trade Minister is planning to visit Shetland towards the end of May/June.

The requirement to improve air travel connections between Shetland and Faroe was highlighted during the discussion.

Business Gateway 2010/11 Review

In response to questions, the Head of Business advised on the types of courses specifically run by Train Shetland as part of their involvement in the Business Gateway, and he reported that since the Business Gateway was established 32 businesses have been started, 17 existing business have achieved their growth targets and 10 existing businesses are working on significant growth projects.

(Mr B Manson advised of interests in two sections of the report).

Shetland Islands Council as Trustee of Shetland Development Trust

In order to avoid the disclosure of exempt information, Mr J Simpson moved, Mr A Cooper seconded, and the Committee agreed to exclude the public in terms of the relevant legislation during consideration of the following items of business.

(Representatives of the press left the meeting.)

29/11 **Non-Public Activity Report**

The Committee noted a report and brief updates by the Head of Economic Development.

Mr A Cooper said that with this being the last meeting of Development Committee under the present governance arrangements, he thanked Mr J Simpson for his work as Chairperson of the Committee. Members concurred.

The meeting concluded at 10.45am

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J G Simpson
CHAIRPERSON