



Shetland Islands Council

MINUTE

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Executive Committee – Economic Development
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Tuesday 20 June 2006 at 11.30 a.m.

Present:

A J Cluness F B Grains
J A Inkster W H Manson
W A Ratter J G Simpson
W N Stove

Also:

B P Gregson

Apologies:

J C Irvine

In attendance (Officers):

M Goodlad, Chief Executive
G Spall, Executive Director Infrastructure
A Cooper, Head of Development Resources
J Smith, Head of Organisational Development
G Johnston, Head of Finance
S Spence, European Officer
J Dunne, Agricultural Development Officer
L Coutts, Area Economic Development/Tourism Officer
A Cogle, Service Manager – Administration

Also:

N Grant, General Manager, Shetland Development Trust
W Goudie, Project Manager, Shetland Development Trust

Chairperson

Mr W A Ratter, Chairperson of the Committee, presided.

Circular

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

Minutes

The minute of meeting held on 9 May 2006, was confirmed.

24/06 **EU Progress Report**

The Committee noted a report by the European Officer (Appendix 1).

After a summary of the report from the European Officer, Mr W A Ratter said that, on a general point, State Aid regulations were being re-written, and the proposal was that the new State Aids would come into effect on 1 January 2007. He said that within the new regulations there was no mention of Islands, or special circumstances affecting Islands. Accordingly, Mr Ratter suggested that, given the relevance of this for Shetland, and in partnership with other UK islands, that attempts are made to have private meetings with the authors to persuade them to mention small islands and islands issues. Members unanimously agreed this as a recommendation to the Council, later adding that it further recommended that a report on this issue be presented to an appropriate meeting, and having due regard to the timescale involved, and that a special meeting be called if necessary.

Mr A J Cluness reported that he had attended the North Sea Commission in Aviemore, particularly in his role as Vice-Chairman of the Fisheries Group, and it was decided to have a special seminar on the Maritime Green Paper before the end of this year. He said that because of Shetland's unique, or special, relationship with the oil industry sector and fisheries, it was probable that someone from the Fisheries Group and/or Sullom Voe would be asked to present a paper at that time, although the details still had to be finalised.

25/06 **Minutes of Shetland College/Train Shetland Board of Management – (a) 28 April 2006; and (b) 9 June 2006**

The Committee noted the minutes of the meetings of the Board held on 28 April and 9 June 2006 (Appendices 2a and 2b).

26/06 **Shetland Animal Health Scheme**

The Committee considered a report by the Agricultural Development Officer (Appendix 3).

[Mr W H Manson declared an interest as a Director of the Shetland Livestock Marketing Group. Mrs F B Grains declared a non-pecuniary interest.]

Some discussion took place regarding the continuing high health status for Shetland livestock. Members agreed that a report be prepared for the next meeting, setting out progress on proceeding to extend the diseases included in the existing by-law.

In response to a query, the Agricultural Development Officer confirmed that the grant was for a period of 1 year, which was subject to renewal on an annual basis.

The Committee adopted the recommendations contained in the report, on the motion of Mr A J Cluness, seconded by Mr J G Simpson.

27/06 **VisitScotland's Shetland Network Office – Tourism Funding Arrangements 2006/07**

The Committee considered a report by the Area Economic Development / Tourism Officer (Appendix 4) and approved the recommendations contained therein on the motion of Mr A J Cluness, seconded by Mr W H Manson.

Mr Cluness commended the work of the Tourism Section and VisitShetland during the recent launch of the Round Britain Race, which he said had highlighted the professionalism of staff from both organisations, and had impressed visitors from other countries.

28/06 **Shetland College Budget Estimates 2006/07**

The Committee considered a report by the Director – Shetland College/Train Shetland (Appendix 5) and approved the recommendation contained therein, on the motion of Mr A J Cluness, seconded by Mr W H Manson.

The Committee recorded their thanks to the Director and staff of Shetland College and Train Shetland for the work involved in ensuring a balanced budget.

29/06 **Revised Recognition and Procedure Agreement between the Board of Management of Shetland College and the EIS – FELA and Revised Constitution for the College Lecturers JCC**

The Committee considered a report by the Director – Shetland College/Train Shetland (Appendix 6), and approved the recommendations contained therein, including the minor amendments agreed by the Board of Management on 9 June, on the motion of Mr W N Stove, seconded by Mr W H Manson.

In order to prevent the disclosure of exempt information, Mr W A Ratter moved, Mr W N Stove seconded, and the Committee resolved, in terms of the relevant legislation, to exclude the public from this meeting during consideration of the following items of business.

30/06 **2005/06 and 2006/07 Pay Settlement for Lecturers at Shetland College**

The Committee considered a report by the Director – Shetland College/Train Shetland.

The Committee noted the stance taken by the Unions, but agreed that the Council had no option but to agree this as a full and final offer. The Committee therefore approved the recommendations in the report, on the motion of Mr W N Stove, seconded by Mr W H Manson.

31/06 **Shetland Development Trust – Minutes and Background to Decisions**

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

Mr J G Simpson provided Members with an update to the Smyril Line item, advising that the Trust was awaiting the outcome of the legal processes.

W A Ratter
CHAIRPERSON