Minutes of the Shapinsay Development Trust AGM 7th October 2021 7pm, Held in the Shapinsay Community Hall

Directors present: Jean Coomber, Richard Lawrence, Rachel Garson, Stewart Leslie, Lenka Mellor.

Members Present: Steven Bews, Graham Rendall, John Phillips, Helen Rhodes, Simon Meason, Colin Leslie, Adrian Bird, George Muir, Janice Evans, Mike Smith, Emma Clements, Joanna Sosnowska, Leanne Bews, Darren Muir, JB Bady, Scott Garson, Janice Follwell, Louise Hollinrake.

In attendance: Lisa-Marie Muir, Davie Campbell, Valerie More, Alex Hall, Sue Lawrence, Jan Buchanan, Eileen Phillips, Alison Meason and Doris from Orcadia (via Zoom)

1. Welcome and Apologies: We received apologies from Ashley Boyd from SDT and Barry Moncrieff from SRL. Jean welcomed everyone and ran through some housekeeping and covid regulations.
2. Minutes of AGM held 22nd February 2021 – these were approved by Richard Lawrence and seconded by Lenka Mellor
3. Minutes of the EGM held 19th July 2021 – These were approved by Adrian Bird, seconded by Stewart Leslie.
4. Matters arising from the minutes – None
5. Chair persons report – The Chair ran through a summary of what had been done in

the past year – A year that was very different to what was expected, a year of covid lockdowns and restrictions, with limited ability to carry out normal activities and having to adapt to new ways of working. It was however, a busy year and projects that had already started, were progressed, but also, we quickly had to adapt to put activities in place relating to the pandemic.

The role of wellbeing co-ordinator continues to be valuable to Shapinsay, perhaps more so this year, enabling a quick response to the impact of limited travel for food shopping as well as helping those advised to shield and those whose income was reduced through no fault of their own. We were able to source funding fairly quickly and, with the help of volunteers, provided about 100 grocery boxes weekly during a 14-week period, April to July 2020, when travel from the island to local supermarkets was very limited. In addition, face coverings were made by volunteers mainly using donated materials, and were available free to all residents. Sanitiser was also made available free to all throughout the year.

When restrictions eased a little and the end of 2020, the Wellbeing co-ordinator identified a need for a pop-up café and charity shop on the island. Again, funding was sourced, the pop-up café, with all the current Covid restrictions in place, started at the end of December and the charity shop took a little longer, opening in March. Both were well supported and provided a social space after months of isolation.

The current 5-year Development Plan was completed in March 2020, with action points identified. These have helped us to go forward with exploring new projects, such as developing properties with an affordable rent, an island café, community garden, an island website and looking at long term planning to maintain a financially sustainable future.

An island website was developed by an outside agency during 2020 and launched 2021. As well as SDT pages, this has pages for other local organisations to manage and update themselves.

A community survey regarding and island café was done by questionnaire in September 2020, as meetings weren’t possible at this time. This was positively supported so work is currently in progress to take this forward during 2021.

We purchased 2 properties, both previously empty for some time, one in July 2020 and the other January 2021. These have both been renovated to a high standard, with energy efficient heating systems and insulation, making the properties affordable to heat. The first was completed in April 2021, and the second later in 2021. Both were unfortunately delayed for various reasons out of our control, one being the pandemic and shortage of supplies.

A fleet of e-bikes were purchased and delivered in October 2020, for use by residents and for rental to visitors. We searched for an appropriate storage area and eventually decided on a new shed in the Development Trust grounds. Planning permission was applied for in early 2021 and granted in June 2021. It is hoped this will be completed and the bikes ready for use by September 2021. Again, this was delayed because of the pandemic.

In all 2020/2021 was a very different year, not just for the Trust but for everyone, with not being able to plan ahead with certainty, having to learn to take part in online meetings, delays due to shortage of supplies and increased costs, restricted travel and enforced isolation.

Finally, I would like to thanks the board, staff and volunteers throughout this period for their commitment, time and support. It was a tough year for all of us, with ever changing circumstances, mainly out of our control and required adapting to new situations frequently.

1. Account report - Davie ran through a summary of the accounts and shared them on screen.
2. Approval of accounts –The accounts were approved by Rachel Garson and seconded by Simon Meason.
3. Appointment of auditor – Adrian Bird proposed Orcadia chartered accountants, Steven Bews seconded
4. Appointment and Election of directors
5. 6 members put their names forward for nomination.

Adrian Bird – Proposed by Graham, seconded by Louise.

Barry Moncrieff - proposed by Helen, seconded by Jean.

Claire Evans - proposed by Richard, seconded by Emma.

Graham Rendall - proposed by Colin, seconded by JB.

Helen Rhodes - proposed by John, seconded by Darren.

Simon Meason - proposed by Scott, seconded by Helen

The members were given voting slips with the 6 names on it and a secret vote was held. The counting was done by 2 non-members – Alex Hall and Valerie More. While the counting was being done, Davie and Lisa-Marie ran through a presentation and update of the 5 year development plan and current projects.

The votes were counted and verified – the newly appointed directors are Adrian Bird, Barry Moncrieff, Graham Rendall and Simon Meason.

AOB – None

Meeting closed at 7.45