

Minutes of the Meeting of the Shapinsay Development Trust
Held at the Boathouse on 20th January 2025 at 6:30 PM

Present: Barry Moncrieff (BM), Adrian Bird (ABird), Simon Meason (SM), Graham Rendall (GR), Toby Diamond (TD).

In attendance Lisa-Marie Muir (LM) and Davie Campbell (DC) (Via zoom for one hour)

1. Apologies: Ashley Boyd (AB), Christine Leslie (CL).

2. Declarations of Interest: None declared.

3. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the meeting held on 25th November 2024 were approved. Proposed by SM and seconded by TD.

4. Action Log Updates:

- **Maintenance Contract:** One contractor submitted a tender. S. Bews was awarded the contract.
- **Photo Competition:** LM will advertise themes as *Black and White, Sky, Reflections, People, Animals*. Prizes will be £10 vouchers for local photo-based businesses (e.g., Finlay's Photo Shop) with runner-up prizes of sweets. G. Campbell to be invited as judge.
- **Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP):** LM is collaborating with CES to produce a draft CCAP. Public engagement will be tied to the publication of the 5-year plan.
- **CLD:** LM is working to finalise a date for first aid training, with other activities scheduled for March.
- **Map:** Concerns about the large island map have been resolved. The map, previously stored in unsuitable conditions during renovations, has been returned to the heritage centre. However, other artefacts remain in storage. LM to approach SHAC members to see if they need further support.
- **Smithy Broadband:** LM to contact BT about installing fibre broadband.

5. Accounts: DC presented the latest accounts. ABird proposed ring-fencing part of SDT funds in a high-interest savings account for future turbine replacement or repowering options. This was approved by the board.

6. Turbine Report:

ABird shared the latest report. He and AB will attend a repowering conference in February to explore replacement options. Planning permission will be sought to extend the turbine's operational life by five years. ABird suggested engaging specialists (e.g., Aquatera) to explore future energy solutions, including solar, mega batteries, or turbine replacements.

7. Project Updates:

- **Rulinvoe:** Expected completion by 25th January. Stone chips are required for the driveway. Collaboration with SRL for stone and digger work on the turbine road was suggested. An open day and promotional video will be planned post-completion.
- **Balfour Cottages:** DC discussed building warrant queries from the architect. LM to provide feedback. BM to measure road width.
- **Spion Feasibility:** DC to request funders reprofile £36k for feasibility works. Focus will be on the lower part of the site due to funding changes. Stone from Balfour Cottages will be stored on-site for future use.

8. Wellbeing Update: The current funding ends in March 2025. LM to prepare the Wellbeing Coordinator for contract termination. The board discussed withdrawing from the project in its current form due to funding uncertainties and VAO's reduced involvement. A review will consider future priorities and funding options.

9. Cast Affs: With the current coordinator stepping back, the board will trial running the project with a rota of volunteers. Two individuals have expressed interest in helping.

10. Smithy: LM requested a large washing machine for the Boathouse to handle Smithy loads, which was approved. GR requested detailed financial figures. LM has engaged a consultant for March. Summer hours to be decided at the next meeting.

11. Living Wage Update: Deferred to February meeting.

12. Transport: An evening service trial was agreed upon. Fares will be £10 per trip regardless of passenger numbers, provided the journey is in the same direction. Waterproof covers for the van will be purchased, and the role will be advertised.

13. Crisis Fund: Deferred to February meeting.

14. 5-Year Plan Update: The board approved the current draft with minor amendments. LM to proceed with public engagement.

15. Conference: LM shared dates for the Orkney Development Trust conference (27th-28th February). Open to board members and development officers.

16. SWAPs:

- Makin: £350 (driving lessons).
- Chaney: £30 (training), £100.20 (training).
- Boyd: £400 (driving lessons).
Accommodation discussion deferred to the next meeting.

17. AOCB:

- **Housing Issues:** A home inspection identified several issues. LM to liaise with WRC on drainage concerns and engage D&H to address other matters. LM to consult DC for PAT tester recommendations.
- **Board Discussion:** LM stepped out for a board discussion.

18. Date of Next Meeting: 10th February 2025, 6:30 PM.