

SHETLAND LEADER 2007 - 2013 LAG

MINUTES OF LAG MEETING HELD IN EDU BOARDROOM AT 9.30AM ON WEDNESDAY 27th AUGUST 2014.

Present: Douglas Irvine, SIC
David Cormack, SGRPID
Ruth Henderson, Seafood Shetland
Michael Duncan, SIC
Tommy Coutts, SIC
Wendy Hand, VAS
Sally Spence, SIC
Juan Brown, SNH
Karen Eunson, Shetland College
June Porter, SIC
Bryan Leask, HHA
Ann Johnson, Scoop Wholefoods
Jeemie Smith, FSB
Donald Anderson, Shetland Arts
Jim Nicolson, NFU
Diana Abernethy, AB Associates Ltd

Sheila Tulloch, SIC – LAG Co-ordinator

1. Apologies and Introductions

Apologies were received from; Fiona Stirling and Elaine Jamieson HIE; Sylvia Jamieson, CAB; Kathleen Sinclair, NFU; and Maree Hay NCDC.

Douglas Irvine welcomed new members to the group.

2. Membership Balance

Membership of the group was discussed and there was an adequate balance of public and private sector members. It was noted there were no projects to be approved and a vote was not likely to be necessary.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes of 19th June 2014

The minutes were approved by Ruth Henderson and seconded by Michael Duncan.

5. Latest Updates

Sheila discussed the approvals list and financial updates. Most of the approved projects have submitted final claims. There are a few projects that have not yet submitted final claims as they are not in the position to do so as projects are not fully complete.

Final claims have been received for two further projects: CVG107 Regional Hockey Facility, Brae and CVG097 Development of Bridge End Outdoor Centre Phase 1.

Sheila provided an update on CVG108 SBFS Enhanced Facilities at Scalloway Museum. The project is moving ahead, an archaeological survey was recently completed. Following a tender exercise, the majority of tenders came in over budget, some by as many as 50%. The applicant is having to review its funding package. LEADER is unable to award any further funding. The applicant will seek to secure further funding from its match funders as well as considering phasing the project.

Sheila provided an update on CVG 064 Moving Image Archive Project. Jeemie Smith declared an interest at this stage as he had not been aware this project would be discussed from the agenda. The applicant was seeking an extension to the project to allow the project to run for 17 months instead of 15. No further changes were anticipated and no additional funding was being requested from LEADER. The LAG were happy to approve this extension.

The Shetland LEADER Programme will have an overall underspend despite having taken the decision to overcommit funding by an agreed amount. Sheila explained the underspend will be returned to the Scottish Government.

Target and Outputs were noted. It was pointed out once again that it is difficult to quantify targets and outputs for individual LEADER projects but the LAG agreed each project undertaken had provided many benefits to communities, individuals and Shetland overall. The format provided to record this information did not capture fully the overall benefits to Shetland.

6. Local Development Strategy and Business Plan 2014 – 2020 Update

Tommy provided the LAG with an update on progress of the draft Local Development Strategy (LDS) and Business Plan. He stated feedback had been received which was largely positive. He stated there were still some areas of the business plan that could be developed further regarding monitoring, however, there had not been much guidance regarding this area and the documents had been prepared in line with guidance issued at the time.

Final versions of the LDS and Business Plan must be submitted by the end of September. The current timescale provided by the Scottish Government indicates documents could be approved by the end of the year with LAG's being able to start approving projects in January.

7. LAG Membership

LAG membership has been reviewed. A few members of the LAG have decided not to continue into the new Programme. New members have been invited on from relevant organisations. It was decided new and existing members should be formally accepted onto the Shetland LEADER 2014 – 2020 LAG. Douglas proposed this and Jeemie Smith seconded.

8. LAG Dates for Meetings

LAG members have been asked to reply via email which days they are able to attend meetings on. Wednesday was the most suitable day for the majority of people.

Sheila explained the LAG usually meet every 8 weeks to discuss updates and projects for approval. That may not be necessary at this stage as the LDS and BP have not yet been approved. It was agreed that once further feedback and information is received from the Scottish Government, the LAG will meet again.

9. AOB

It was queried whether applicants would have to contribute funding towards projects in the new Programme. Sheila explained that applicants would be expected to make a minimum contribution of 5% towards any project.

10. Date of next meeting/closure

Sheila will email LAG members with any relevant information. A date for the next meeting was not officially set as it will depend up on approval of the LDS and Business Plan from the Scottish Government.

Meeting closed at 10.35 am.