REDACTED MINUTES of FRASERBURGH DEVELOPMENT TRUST LTD BOARD MEETING - HELD WEDNESDAY 21st SEPTEMBER 2011 AT 5.30PM AT THE HUB, HIGH STREET

- **1. PRESENT** Alan Kennedy, Ian Watson, Robin Mackinlay, Ricky Sheaffe-Greene, Hamish Partridge and Mark Jackson (Manager).
- 2. APOLOGIES Mike Pitman, Ann Bell, Duncan Abernethy and Reid Hutchison.
- **3.** <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u> The Minutes of the Board Meeting on 31st August were approved. This was proposed by Hamish Partridge and seconded by Ricky Sheaffe-Greene.
- **4. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES** A letter of resignation from Virginia Mayes-Wright was read out, in which she thanked the Board for the opportunity to be involved in the Trust's work and wished the Trust well.

It was reported that the first of the Mary Portas retail training sessions had taken place in the Hub. Indications are that numbers attending are set to increase for the next session scheduled for October 19.

The Trust have been informed verbally by officials from Aberdeenshire Council's Economic Development department that a paper is being prepared by Bill Clark that will go to the Area Management Committee and the Area Committee regarding the regeneration strategy. It is understood that included in that paper will be some support for retailers attending the Mary Portas sessions in Fraserburgh. This will be at the same level as enjoyed by those attending the sessions in Banff.

The Trust have received a reply from Wetherspoons indicating that should they manage to acquire the Saltoun Hotel, the company operate a local training and employment policy. They were also very interested to hear of Fraserburgh's strong surfing connections and pedigree.

The Board were notified that one local group that were due to take up a suite at the Hub, have had their current lease extended, so that they would not be moving in at the end of this month.

It was agreed that the Trust speak to them to ascertain their future plans.

The informal engagement meeting with local councillors took place on August 14, 2011. One councillor attended - Councillor Brian Topping.

5. TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION

The Trust will be writing to the Minister for Rural Affairs, Richard Lochhead, in support of Fraserburgh becoming the pilot in a proposed town centre retail regeneration scheme being development by The Retailer Ltd.

The Trust have also made a submission to the 'Way Forward' meeting called by Councillor Michael Watt and will subsequently be circulating these proposals to officials at Aberdeenshire Council's Economic Development Department and other parties. It was reported that the Trust had a meeting with Christine Webster of Economic Development to keep her informed of what the Trust was doing in terms of regeneration. It is hoped to have regular meetings with her to discuss the drafting of a regeneration strategy with officials are understood to be working on.

6. RENEWABLES

The Trust is waiting to hear if its Stage II application for a CARES loan has been successful. It was agreed to keep the local landowner involved in the proposed Joint Venture appraised of the situation.

Efforts to arrange a meeting with Aberdeenshire Council to discuss a possible Joint Venture with them have proved unsuccessful, despite seven separate approaches. It was decided to take the matter further in order to try and facilitate a discussion.

7. SFS PROJECT

The Trust is still awaiting further information from landowner and acquisition target owner. Once this information becomes available a further draft of the business plan can be submitted to SFS for consideration.

8. SEASHORE CENTRE

The proposed sub-lease agreement between Aberdeenshire Council and FDT will be going before the Feuers Managers at the end of this month.

The Trust have kept potential users of the Seashore Centre, such as kite sporting practitioners, surfers and the local Active Sports coordinator informed of the current situation.

9. ENTERPRISE GROWTH FUND

An initial inquiry has been made to the Enterprise Growth Fund, a new funding scheme for Third Sector organisations. The Trust should learn next week if its application is through to stage II.

If successful, a detailed application will have to be submitted in October, 2011. If unsuccessful, the Trust will still receive feedback on the best channels for funding and possible support.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Julie Beedie has joined the Trust from Bridge, in Mintlaw, where she was formerly Administration Assistant.

11. POVERTY ALLIANCE

The Trust met with a research officer of the Poverty Alliance to promote the Trust as a vehicle for a new strand of research in the north of Fraserburgh.

The meeting was a very positive one, which incorporated a tour of the town. The Trust has been informed that Fraserburgh has been shortlisted for this research work is waiting to hear whether it is selected as the research coordinator for this project.

12. SOCIAL ACCOUNTING

A volunteer, experienced in Social Accounting is now working with the Trust on the formulation of this document. It is a considerable volume of work, but the volunteer hopes to be able to work on this with the Trust until the end of October.

It was agreed that the Trust would pay travel expenses incurred on this project. An application for funding has been made to the Voluntary Action Fund to cover the expenses of this volunteer.

13. VOLUNTEER APPLICATION AND POLICY

The Trust has signed up for the Volunteer Friendly Award. The Trust will work towards securing this certificate over the next 12 months. The Trust is working in conjunction with Aberdeenshire Volunteer Centre.

14. VISITOR LEAFLET

The Trusts has sourced three maps that may be suitable. Once a map has been selected, then the final edit can be done. The aim is now to have the document ready for January 2012.

15. CARAVAN PARKS

The Board were presented with a report from the Caravan Park Sub Group.

16. DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The date for the next Caravan Sub Group Meeting was set for Wednesday, 28th September, 2011, in the Hub at 5.30pm.

The date for the next Regeneration Sub Group Meeting was set for Monday, 10th October, 2011, in the Hub at 5.30pm.

The date for the next Board Meeting was set for Wednesday, 26th October, 2011, in the Hub at 5.30pm.

17. <u>AOCB</u>

In view of the resignation of Virginia Mayes-Wright, it was agreed to try and have a meeting with her to get an update of the projects she was involved in.

The Board agreed to a request from Banff and Buchan College that the Trust be entered on their lists to accept potential work experience placements.