## FRASERBURGH DEVELOPMENT TRUST LTD BOARD MEETING- REDACTED HELD WEDNESDAY $31^{TH}$ AUGUST 2011 AT 5.30PM AT THE HUB, HIGH STREET

- 1. **PRESENT** Mike Pitman, Ian Watson, Alan Kennedy, Hamish Partridge, Ricky Sheaffe-Greene, Duncan Abernethy, and Mark Jackson (Manager)
- 2. APOLOGIES Reid Hutchison, Robin Mackinlay, Virginia Mayes-Wright and Anne Bell.
- 3. <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u> The Minutes of the Board Meeting on 27th July were approved. This was proposed by Ricky Sheaffe-Greene and seconded by Alan Kennedy.
- 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES There were no matters arising.
- 5. REPORTS -

**<u>5a. REGENERATION</u>** The Board were advised that FDT's six point plan for the regeneration of Fraserburgh Town Centre had been submitted to Aberdeenshire Council and that a strategy was now being developed. It was hoped to have a meeting with Christine Webster of Economic Development in due course. The Fraserburgh Business Association and Fraserburgh Community Council have both indicated that they are supportive of the FDT plan and their efforts.

A total of 20 retailers had attended the Mary Portas retail training taster session. The FDT have written to Aberdeenshire Council requesting that Fraserburgh retailers be accorded the same subsidy arrangements granted to traders in Peterhead. FDT are waiting to hear the outcome of that request.

FDT have written to Wetherspoons welcoming their interest in the Saltoun Arms Hotel and stressing the importance of local employment and training opportunities. The FDT have also contacted agents for the Cooperative in respect of the former Haldanes Supermarket at Saltoun Square. The agent was very interested to hear of developments regarding the Saltoun Arms Hotel.

**5b. Renewables** The Board were advised that a CARES Loan Stage II application has been lodged regarding developing a wind turbine joint venture with a landlord in the AB43 area. FDT are also going to meet with representatives of a company interested in setting up a wind farm development in the AB43 area.

It was also agreed to arrange a meeting with Aberdeenshire Council to discuss working in partnership with them on a renewable energy project.

- <u>Sc. Social Firm Project</u> FDT have met with our legal representatives to discuss the structure of the proposed subsidiary company that would run the target business post acquisition. The Board were also advised of further meetings with both the target business' owner and the landowner to pencil in some details regarding the proposed purchase. This information is being used to redraft the business plan.
- - The FDT also met with Bill Clark to discuss the current financial position of the trust and the projected position in March 2012. The FDT is making progress towards self sufficiency and will be exploring all opportunities to generate income and secure funding support.
- 7. **<u>RETAIL TRAINING SESSIONS</u>** This matter was discussed under item 5a. As a related issue, it was agreed that FDT work in partnership to investigate establishing a regular farmers market in Fraserburgh in order to boost the retail sector. It was felt that any support the FDT could give would help given the current economic climate.

- 8. **TOWN CENTRE STRATEGY** The FDT are still awaiting a response to the six point plan submitted to Aberdeenshire Council's Economic Development Department. This matter was discussed under item 5a.
- 10. <u>HEALTH DEVELOPMENT</u> The Board were presented with a report from Andrew Mackie, Community Health Development Officer. It was felt that his position has having a significant impact in the area. It was decided that Andrew be invited to the next Board meeting.
- 11. <u>SEASHORE CENTRE</u> The Board were advised that FDT have had discussions with potential users of the Seashore Centre. The FDT had been advised that a draft lease would be forwarded to our legal representatives, but to date none has been received.
- 12. SPORTS HUB Initial discussions have taken place with representatives of Sportscotland and the local Active Sports Coordinator regarding the possibilities of Fraserburgh having a Sports Hub established. The meeting was very positive with Fraserburgh's southern Links, James Ramsay Park and Beach areas being discussed. However, indications are that Aberdeenshire Council have already decided the location of pilot hubs for this new scheme. FDT are to press for Fraserburgh to be included in the pilot scheme.
- 13. **CARAVAN PARKS** A reported was presented to the Board on the latest position regarding this potential asset transfer.

FDT have received a draft lease agreement from Aberdeenshire Council.

This follows a meeting with representatives of Aberdeenshire Council, where they outlined their proposals and FDT requested a significant amount of further information.

It was agreed to form a small caravan sub group to collate the information as it became available. Further assessment work would be carried out on the logistics of the site to try and plug gaps in the information provided to enable FDT to outline its position to Aberdeenshire Council.

It was agreed that the caravan sub group meet directly after the Board Meeting.

- 14. OTHER REPORTS Reports were presented on the following topics:
  - **a. Visitor Leaflet** three possible maps were being assessed. Once selected, a brief final edit would be conducted and then a quote for printing the leaflet sought.
  - **b. Volunteer Policy** FDT plan to register for the Volunteer Friendly Award, working in conjunction with Volunteer Centre Aberdeenshire. The FDT are applying for £1,000 grant from Volunteer Action Fund to help cover expenses of volunteer who will be helping with Social Accounting. She is due to start working on this during the coming month.
  - c. Farmers Market matter previously discussed under item 7.
  - **d. Meeting of Four Trusts** FDT welcomed Banff and Macduff Development Trust and Peterhead Projects to the Hub and discussion centred on caravan parks.
  - **e. MSP visit** Stewart Stevenson MSP is to visit the Hub on October 7. This is an opportunity to show him what FDT has achieved to date and outline future plans and concerns to him.
  - **f. Late Night Shopping** An enquiry was received as to what is happening with regards to this event this year. It was pointed out that this event is run by the Fraserburgh Business Association.
  - **g. Growth Fund** This new fund along with European Fisheries Fund is to be explored and assessed in relation to the FDT current and future projects.

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** The date of the next FDT Board Meeting was set for Wednesday, 21st September, at 5.30pm at the Hub.