## MINUTES OF FRASERBURGH DEVELOPMENT TRUST LTD BOARD MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 26th OCTOBER 2011 AT 5.30PM AT THE HUB, HIGH STREET

- **1. PRESENT** Ian Watson, Hamish Partridge, Ricky Sheaffe-Greene, Duncan Abernethy, Alan Kennedy, Ann Bell, Mike Pitman and Mark Jackson (Manager)
- **2. APOLOGIES** Reid Hutchison and Robin Mackinlay.
- **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** The Minutes of the Board Meeting on September 21, 2011, were approved. They were proposed by RSG and seconded by HP.
- <u>4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u> MSP Stewart Stevenson made an informal visit to view the Hub and met with Board members.
- **<u>5. RENEWABLES</u>** A report was given outlining the current situation with regard to two renewable projects:

Project 1

The consultants have met with the landowner to assess the site and been provided with the information they have requested.

The Trust received an application form Southern and Scottish in order to make a request a formal connection charge costing.

It was agreed that the consultants be asked to produce a feasibility study on this project and that a Joint Venture agreement be drafted and entered into with the landowner.

Project 2

A more detailed map of the area identified under project two has been requested from the landowner's representative to aid in any feasibility study. At a meeting held last week, it was felt to be more positive about the possibility of working with the Trust on such project. However, it was explained that there would need to be a look into the issues of planning and other aspects would have to be looked at before further discussions take place.

<u>6. REGENERATION</u> The second Mary Portas retail training session was held in the Hub on Wednesday, October 19. Nine local retailers attended. The Training Room at the rear of the Hub was used and the feedback was very positive.

The next session is on November 2, 2011.

A report was to have been put before the next Banff and Buchan Area Committee to secure some funding support for the participants on the remaining courses. However, it was noted that the agenda for that meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> November shows no such report had been submitted. It was resolved to speak to council officers as to the current situation, but concern was again expressed that Fraserburgh retailers were once again missing out and being treated unfavourable compared to Peterhead and Banff shop owners.

It was agreed to try and arrange a meeting with Gordon Bell of The Retailer Ltd prior to the Mary Portas session on Wednesday, November 2, to discuss our regeneration strategy and for an update on the retail revival pilot scheme.

The 'Way Forward' Meeting, organised by local councillor Michael Watt is scheduled for Thursday, November 17. It was noted that there had been no feedback on the first meeting

and the ideas put forward has been received, although it was indicated that a list would be made available.

It was agreed that Councillor Watt and/ the council officials dealing with this be contacted regarding this matter.

The Trust's written submission and regeneration strategy document have been circulated to Stewart Stevenson MSP, local councillors and other community groups.

**7. SOCIAL FIRM PROJECT** The Trust had a progress review meeting with SFS last week. It was a very productive meeting.

The Trust has identified a project manager and a specialist advisor. The Trust is in the process of applying for development funding through SFS to move the project forward. An interim project manager has been appointed.

The business plan has to be completed by November 17 so that SFS can approach funders.

- **8. SEASHORE CENTRE** The Board heard that the proposed sub lease went before the Feuers Managers at the end of September, but have yet to hear back from Aberdeenshire Council. It was agreed to contact Aberdeenshire Council to ascertain the current position.
- <u>9. FUNDING APPLICATIONS</u> The Board were advised that an application to the Enterprise Growth Fund proved unsuccessful. There were 600 applications requesting grants totalling £50million from a £4million pot.

## (REDACTED -financial and contractual information).

The Trust has also registered interest in the Climate Challenge Fund, the new Health Lottery, the Lloyds Bank Foundation and the European Fisheries Fund.

**10. SPORTS HUB** The Trust is calling a meeting of local sports groups and clubs for Monday, November 21, at the Hub.

A communication from Sportscotland has indicated that Fraserburgh has been put forward as a possible Sports Hub.

**11. POVERTY ALLIANCE** The Trust was unsuccessful in its application to take part in a research project aimed at the north of the town. However, the case officer from the Poverty Alliance was very impressed with the Trust and indicated that the Poverty Alliance are very keen to have a discussion to see if we could work together in the future.

The case officer rang this week to arrange a meeting with the Trust to work towards a partnership and prepare the ground work for a combined approach on a future project.

- **13. SOCIAL ACCOUNTING** A specialist volunteer has been working on the Trust's Social Accounts. Progress is being made on drawing this up and the Trust's volunteer policies. The Trust is waiting to hear if an application to the Volunteer Action Fund has been successful.
- **14. DTAS CONFERENCE** A report will be circulated via email on this topic by Reid Hutchison, who attended the event on behalf of the Trust.
- <u>15. CARAVAN PARKS</u> The Trust has indicated to Aberdeenshire Council that only a purchase of Fraserburgh and Rosehearty Caravan Sites would be workable. Our draft business plan is being prepared based on the intention to buy both sites under transfer of assets. The Trust Caravan group are due to have a meeting on Friday, October 28, with officials from

Aberdeenshire Council to progress this further. The draft business plan has gone to the lead official at Aberdeenshire Council.

Initial contact has been made with representatives in the Rosehearty community, however, family commitments of a key contact have meant that the meeting will take place in the next couple of weeks.

**16. DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS** The date of the next Regeneration sub group has been scheduled for Wednesday, November 9, in the Hub at 5.30pm.

The date of the next Board Meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, November 23, in the Hub at 5.30pm.

**17. AOCB** It was agreed that a regular meeting be set up with user groups of the Hub to allow a platform for discussion and to work together to improve the operation of the building.