

# MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SHETLAND COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND (SCBF)

Minute of the meeting of the Management Committee of Shetland Community Benefit Fund on Thursday 12 November 2015 at 7pm in the Conference Room, Market House

**Present:**

Chris Bunyan (Chairman)  
Alan MacDonald (Vice Chairman)  
Barbara Cheyne  
Alan Ockenden  
James David Garrick  
Kenny Pottinger  
John Dally  
Dan Thomson  
Arwed Wenger

**In Attendance:** Catherine Hughson, Executive Officer VAS

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Hubert Hunter, Neville Martin and Gordon Thomson

**2. Minute of the previous meeting**

The minute of the meeting held on 17 March 2013 were approved by Barbara Cheyne and Dan Thompson.

**3. Matters Arising**

No matters arising

**4. Chairs report**

Chris, Neville, Alan (SCBF) had met with Arron Priest (VEP) Graham Keddie (SSE) they lead the negotiation for VEP. Draft agreement hopefully by the end of the year (2015), the government ruling on subsidies does not affect the subsidies for island developments. in the draft agreement VEP has agreed to include an index linked increase per year. The group asked for an initial award of income in the region of 300K this would allow for some monies to be allocated to each community councils however VEP oppose this idea.. There may be slight changes to initial wording in the agreement but the chair indicated that this was to our benefit. We now have to await a new draft from Graham Keddie, we will also need to seek legal advice once received.

**5. Financial**

There was discussion around tax liabilities and how we can minimise our tax liability, some members were worried if the cooperative model was the best for

this, but it was explained if we had gone down the charitable route this would limit what we could award benefits for. Chris undertook to look at overview of financial structures re tax issues.

**Action: Chris to speak to Bob Yuill**

## **6. Business Plan**

Discussion took place on the types of financial assistance the fund would consider once we are up and running. Chris suggested we keep the list to 1 – 6 priorities; these could include broadband and mobile phone coverage, energy efficiencies, and fuel poverty. He asked for a small group to meet and develop a discussion paper for the management board, he asked for volunteers and the members of the group are Wendy Hand (VAS) Chris Bunyan, James David Garrick and John Dally.

End of year vision looms we need this in place by May 2016, with Business Plan to support it. We need to email community councils asking for ideas and input

**Action: Set up group meeting  
Set up management committee meeting**

## **7. AOCB**

There was no other business

## **5. Date of the next meeting**

No date has been set at this time.

**Items on Shetland Partnership and other renewable developments held over to next meeting**