

**Minutes of the Unst Partnership meeting held on 5th May 2008
at 6.30pm in Unit 2, Hagdale Industrial Estate, Baltasound**

Present: Gordon Thomson, Chairman
Anna Niven, Maggi Reyner
Fiona Stirling (HIE) (7pm) Patrick Ross-Smith

Apologies: Duncan Gray, Brian Hunter

Previous Minutes, Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th January 2008 were approved.

UP Trailer – Payments on the trailer were still due for Jan – March but the company responsible were having difficulty meeting bills. It was decided to allow them more time to pay, with the situation reviewed at the end of May.

Leasing of Equipment Agreement with PEC

PEC had not been willing to sign up to a three year lease but they had made a substantial payment towards this year's lease and it was decided to let this continue. They found it difficult to commit to a legally binding contract - but had given assurances that they would assist UP in clearing the Partnership debt whenever possible.

Resignation

Josie MacMillan had resigned as Admin Secretary at the end of the financial year. The group thanked her for her many years' work in supporting the Partnership.

Units 1 and 2

Gordon and Fiona outlined a discussion held in April with Shetland College regarding their requirements for next session.

Some discussion took place on Units 1 and 2 as the lease on Unit 1 was due up at the end of July and Unit 2's lease was due up at the end of June. It seemed a good time to review prospects. Anna felt that we should vacate both properties; Maggi and Gordon felt we should look for someone else to take on the vacant Unit. Fiona pointed out that HIE were not happy with sub-letting. They wanted whoever held the lease to occupy and use the building.

As Brian was absent, it was decided to wait until he had been consulted. But unless there was a clear use for the premises, it was felt that we should vacate them. This would leave Shetland College and any other potential users to negotiate directly with Graham and Sibbald, HIE's solicitors.

Future Renewables Projects

Gordon had invited Patrick to look at future Renewable Energy projects. Patrick pointed out that these would need clear Community backing. Yell had made some progress on this by setting up "focus" groups on different aspects of renewable energy, in Cullivoe (North Yell Development group looking at Wind Turbines.) and in Mid Yell (Possible District Heating scheme incorporating the new School, Leisure Centre, Care Centre, etc.). Any projects would require discussion with similar groups in Unst.

A.O.C.B. No further business.

Next Meeting: To be decided, but some time early in June.