

**DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP  
SOCIO ECONOMIC SUB GROUP**

**DSG/SESG(2016)M003**

**Minutes of the DSG Socio Economic Sub Group meeting held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2016  
at 1330 hours in the Pentland Hotel, Georgina Suite, Thurso.**

<b>Present:</b>	Derrick Milnes	Thurso and Wick Trade Union Council (Chairman)
	David Flear	DSG Chairman
	Roger Saxon	DSG Vice-Chair (Highland Council)
	Bob Earnshaw	DSG Site Restoration sub group chairman
	Ronnie Johnstone	Church of Scotland
	Eann Sinclair	CNS Regeneration Partnership
<b>In attendance:</b>	Dawn Clasper	DSG Minute Secretary, Dounreay
	June Love	Dounreay Socio Economic & Stakeholder Relations Manager
	Anna MacConnell	NDA Socio Economic and Stakeholder Relations Manager
	Linda Ross	PhD Student, Heritage
	James Gunn	Heritage, Dounreay

**MINUTES**

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Derrick Milnes welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced Dawn Clasper who has taken over as the DSG Minute Secretary. He also welcomed Linda Ross, PhD Student, Heritage and James Gunn, Dounreay, who were attending to update on progress with heritage (see agenda item 6). Introductions were made around the table.

**2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from:

- Debbie Gray
- Matthew Reiss
- Sandy Mackie
- Craig Brown
- Alistair MacDonald
- Trudy Morris
- Shona Kirk

June Love noted that Shona Kirk had been invited to provide an update on the Community Sports Hub. However, due to a family illness it had not been possible for her to attend. June Love noted she had been provided with an update.

**3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Derrick Milnes noted minutes of the last meeting - DSG/SESG(2016)M002 had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. There were no changes made to the minutes and it was accepted as these were a true reflection of the meeting. This was prop

#### 4. STATUS OF ACTIONS

Derrick Milnes noted that an updated status of actions had been circulated to members in advance. Of note:

- **DSG(2016)M003/A017:** Phil Craig Dounreay Managing Director, to provide dates for the last intake of apprentices to the Dounreay site. **Action complete:** Based on the original programme, the final intake would have been in 2014. This had been extended to 2015 and 2016 based on known shortages. A review of the future training needs based on the revised programme was currently being undertaken.
- **DSG(2016)M003/A021:** June Love (Marie Mackay) to review the guidelines for the Dounreay Community Fund to include criteria which precludes funding going to events which donates funding to charity. **Action complete:** Guidelines were revised and further discussion can be found under agenda item 5.
- **DSG(2016)M003/A022:** June Love (Marie Mackay) to provide a summary of all organisations that have benefitted from the Dounreay Community Fund over the last five years. **Action complete:** Information was provided and discussed under the agenda item 5.
- **DSG(2016)M003/A023:** Shona Kirk to provide a written update on the Community Sports Hubs Project for the next sub group meeting. **Action complete:** Shona Kirk could not attend the meeting but provided an update. See agenda item 6.
- **DSG(2016)M003/A024:** Eann Sinclair, CNSRP Programme Manager to provide the CNSRP high priority programme pipeline for projects for the next three years at next sub group meeting.

**Action ongoing:** Eann Sinclair noted that he had held two sessions with the Delivery Group and Executive Board meeting that will provide more clarity. Fairly general agreements had been made at the Delivery Group Table on the potential opportunities that should be focussed on.

June Love noted that the information from the CNSRP review will be considered and incorporated into the Dounreay Socio Economic Plan to ensure the activities align. Eann Sinclair advised that the timetable give to CNSRP advisory board was on track to deliver the outcomes based on the timetable.

- **DSG(2016)M003/A026:** June Love to include budget and current spend in the next socio economic sub group written report. **Action complete** – see report DSG(2016)P024.
- **DSG(2016)M003/A027:** Eann Sinclair to feed comments on tourism into CNSRP for discussion. **Action complete** – Eann Sinclair confirmed that this had been discussed as part of the CNSRP review. The focus on maximising the North Coast 500, cruise ships and speaking to Scot Rail to prioritise the Far North Rail Link.

#### 5. DOUNREAY COMMUNITY FUND

Derrick Milnes noted there had been an action to review the guidelines for the Dounreay Community Fund. This was to revise the fund rules to ensure clarity that the fund will not support

events which lead to money being given to other charities. The funding rules you have received provide a new sentence to make this clear.

A further change was requested on Page 3 under Administration Paragraph 2 the last word “notified”, should be changed to “consulted on with the DSG Socio Economic sub group chairman”.

**Action: DSG/SESG(2016)M003/A001:** June Love (Marie Mackay) update the wording in the guidelines to reflect that the Dounreay Stakeholder Group will be consulted through the DSG Socio Economic sub group chairman.

A review of the funding from 2012 - 2016 was completed and it was agreed that it would be useful to have an additional line in the applications summary report indicating whether the applicant had received funding in previous years.

**Action: DSG/SESG(2016)M003/A002:** June Love (Marie Mackay) to add to the summary has this organisation had money over the past 2 year and how much.

Derrick Milnes stated that a summary of all funding applications had been provided to members in advance of the meeting. He reminded members to declare an interest where appropriate. The applications were reviewed and recommendations were endorsed.

## 6. DOUNREAY UPDATE

Derrick Milnes noted that a written update had been provided to members in advance of the meeting (see DSG(2016)P024). He invited June Love and Anna MacConnell to pick up the key highlights from the report.

June Love noted that she would take the paper as read and highlighted the following:

- Dounreay SE Alliance were working with CNSRP Programme Manager to support programme development and the CNSRP Review.
- The Business Support development project continued to be managed by the Chamber and was reporting some useful impacts. Funding is being considered to allow this to continue during 2017/18.
- The NDA had approved the carryover of £150K from one financial year to the next (for socio economic budget). This would allow more flexibility in funding activities that align to CNSRP programme.
- As per the action at the last meeting, the annual socio economic funding budget spend is now included in the written report. This will continue to be reported on a quarterly basis.
- Dounreay had agreed to part fund the socio economic baseline study. Ekos had provided a draft report and it was currently going through internal review before being signed off. Some headline messages were quite encouraging and this would be published when the final version was received.
- CNSRP had proposed some potential research projects for Dounreay Graduates to support as part of their personal development training. Scopes for these projects had been drafted and were currently waiting comment before this work could commence.

Anna MacConnell noted:

- The NDA Archives construction work was almost complete and was being handed over to Restore plc shortly. It was noted that Morrisons should be congratulated on keeping to schedule with this project coupled with delivering the socio economic benefits which they had outlined in their contract tender.

Gail Ross MSP along with Lord Lt Anne Dunnett and David Flear had visited the archives earlier that week and it was expected that a public opening would take place sometime into the New Year. At present Restore plc would be taking ownership of the building and undertaking a number of training activities. It was now confirmed that this facility would employ 25 full time equivalents.

The Caithness Archives would be the first records to be placed in the new archives with the Dounreay archives following.

In addition the car park at the airport would be utilised as an overspill parking area for the Archives and signage to signpost the facility was currently under discussion.

- NDA had nominally ring-fenced funding for Wick harbour in relation to the high water gate but was currently awaiting the business plan and discussions with other CNSRP partners for this.
- Funding had also been agreed with Scrabster Harbour to support the ice plant and this was dependent on Scrabster securing European funding.

David Flear asked Eann Sinclair whether the secondments provided by the Dounreay Socio Economic Alliance were useful and whether he expected that these would continue going into the new financial year. Eann Sinclair responded that CNSRP had found the secondments useful, especially in the light of the announcements of SSE for BOWL and believed that Wick harbour would have struggled without support from Shona Kirk.

David Flear asked what the status was with Caithness Horizon funding. June Love noted that the current DSRL commitment of £90K came to an end in 2017/18. Caithness Horizons were in discussion with Dounreay about continued support after 2018. June Love stated that it was difficult to provide a response to CH until the Highland Council commitment was also considered. A meeting between Caithness Horizons, Dounreay and The Highland Council was scheduled for the end of November. It was noted that Caithness Horizons was working on a new business plan which are exploring all avenues of potential funding including the potential to charge an entry fee to visit the museum. Anna MacConnell noted that she had suggested that CH explore a potential funding source from SNH. It was also noted that support from Dounreay Communications to help with a marketing and communication plan had been requested and was currently being considered.

June Love noted that DSRL had held a mini supplier's event in Thurso for the local supply chain. This event had been facilitated through the Chamber of Commerce and over 30 people were in attendance. There had been a presentation by DSRL followed by a question and answer session.

### **Community Sports Hub**

June Love noted that Shona Kirk had been due to attend to provide a verbal update but unfortunately due to family illness could not attend. June Love provided the following update:

Following various discussions with Sports Scotland a response had been received regarding potential funding for this project. The current status was that a business case had been prepared and had been submitted as a Stage 1 application to Sports Scotland in December 2015. A drainage survey had also been completed.

The feedback from the Stage 1 application from Sports Scotland was that the project was too ambitious and suggested a phased approach with priority given to the running track and changing rooms.

The CSH have now gone back to Sports Scotland with a positive response confirming they will proceed with the phased approach but also seeking commitment and timescales for phase 1. In this response it was re-iterated that the CSH are keen to pursue the Stage 2 and again looked for timescales and commitment from Sports Scotland.

At present Dounreay was content to extend the dates for the submission of the planning permission and this would be extended until December 2017. Anna MacConnell noted that NDA were currently awaiting the updated business case to inform NDA Properties that this project was still continuing albeit at a slower pace than was previously anticipated.

David Flear asked if DSG could do anything to help this project move forward. June Love responded that at this time it was important to get a response from Sports Scotland before anything could be considered but that she would keep them informed.

#### **Heritage PhD study**

Derrick Milnes welcome Linda Ross (PhD student) and James Gunn (Dounreay Heritage Officer) to the meeting. He invited Linda to provide an update of her PhD studies.

Linda Ross noted that she was now into her 2<sup>nd</sup> year and split her time between Dornoch and Edinburgh. The research overview included:

- What was Dounreay's impact on the built environment of Thurso?
- How did Dounreay and its influence on the built environment of the area shape the local community?
- What was Dounreay's impact at local, regional and national level with regard to the idea of the Highlands as an agricultural, rural and 'wild' landscape?

David Flear suggested that Linda may like to also look at Vulcan as he believed Vulcan would not have been built if it had not been for Dounreay.

Eann Sinclair asked whether Linda's thesis would be published as a book at some point. Linda Ross responded that this was something she would like to accomplish.

Roger Saxon asked what reaction Linda was getting from people she was approaching. Linda responded that the reaction by everyone had been extremely good and helpful.

Ronnie Johnston suggested a couple of people that may be of use with Linda's research. June Love agreed to pass on those contacts.

Ronnie Johnston also noted that he had written a paper some time ago on the 'Them and Us' scenario but that overtime the 'atomics' had married the locals and it became a more integrated county.

Linda Ross noted that she had developed a work plan and was happy for this to be distributed to the sub group.

**Action: DSG/SESG(2016)M003/A003: June Love to circulate work plan for PhD heritage study to DSG members.**

Derrick Milnes thanked Linda for taking the time to provide an update to the sub group and congratulated her on the work she had carried out so far. He looked forward to her coming back a sub group meeting in the future to hear how this project was progressing.

There being no other business Derrick Milnes thanked everyone for their input.

## **7. CNSRP UPDATE**

Derrick Milnes noted that a written update had been provided for the meeting (DSG(2016)P025 refers) and had been circulated in advance to members. He invited Eann Sinclair to provide the key highlights from the paper. Of note, Eann Sinclair reported:

- The BOWL project was progressing well and SSE were planning to hold another public event shortly.
- Atlantis (Meygen project) had generated the first power last week with distribution into the grid. This work had included local supply chain firm JGC providing the ballasts for the turbines. At present the ops and maintenance of the first four turbines would go to Nigg but CNSRP was looking to understand Atlantis' strategy for operations and maintenance into the future.

Members had no further updates to add and therefore Derrick Milnes thanked Eann for his written update.

## **8. CORRESPONDENCE SINCE LAST MEETING**

Derrick Milnes noted a number of correspondence including:

- DSG(2016)C038: HIE / UK Vertical launch

David Flear noted that he had seen an article in the P&J about the Western Isles and Vertical Launch and felt that given the Sutherland site had so much potential it was useful to ask for clarity within HIE as to what was happening. The letter had been sent to HIE and a holding response had been received. The formal response to the letter had not yet been provided. He also acknowledged that it was time for a meeting to take place between the DSG Chairman and HIE Area Manager.

**Action: DSG/SESG(2016)M003/A004: June Love to organise meeting between DSG Chairman and HIE Area Manager.**

**Action: DSG/SESG(2016)M003/A005: June Love to progress response to letter to HIE regarding Vertical Launch.**

Derrick Milnes noted two further pieces of correspondence for noting.

- DSG(2016)C031: A Vision for Caithness, Land of the Norse Yarls
- DSG(2016)C030: NHS Highland, Caithness briefing

## 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

June Love noted that the DSG Chairman had received an email regarding the Armed Forces Reserve Service who were looking to rebuild numbers within the Caithness platoon. The email had been cascaded to all DSG members encouraging organisations to cascade as appropriate.

David Flear noted that, as DSG chairman, he had been invited to the Caithness Community Partnership. It appeared this was yet another group set up to discuss similar issues that already being discussed at other meetings.

June Love noted that a scope of work for the DSG review had been provided and members had provided comments. This work would be carried out by David Collier who had undertaken the last review and comments from members had been incorporated. The updated scope would be discussed at the Business meeting for final agreement.

Anna MacConnell noted that the NDA would be holding a national stakeholder event sometime around March 2017 which would focus on socio economics.

Roger Saxon noted he would be attending a workshop in Manchester on 28<sup>th</sup> November which was looking at the UK Government's discussion paper on the regulation of nuclear sites in the final stages of decommissioning and clean-up.

## 10. CLOSE

There being no further business, Derrick Milnes thanked everyone for attending and formally closed the meeting.

**Derrick Milnes**  
**DSG Socio Economic Sub Group Chairman**  
21<sup>st</sup> November 2016

**ACTIONS ARISING**

DSG/SESG(2016)M003/A001: June Love (Marie Mackay) update the wording in the guidelines to reflect that the Dounreay Stakeholder Group will be consulted through the DSG Socio Economic sub group chairman.

DSG/SESG(2016)M003/A002: June Love (Marie Mackay) to add to the summary has this organisation had money over the past 2 year and how much.

DSG/SESG(2016)M003/A003: June Love to circulate work plan for PhD heritage study to DSG members.

DSG/SESG(2016)M003/A004: June Love to organise meeting between DSG Chairman and HIE Area Manager.

DSG/SESG(2016)M003/A005: June Love to progress response to letter to HIE regarding Vertical Launch.



Endorsed on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017