

## **NOTE OF PETERHEAD DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP MEETING**

**Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

**Chamber, Buchan House, Peterhead**

Present: Councillors Norman Smith (Chair), Anne Allan (sub for Stephen Smith), Dianne Beagrie and Stephen Calder; Martin Danziger, Craig Finnie, Alison Gardner, Morna Harper, David McCubbin, Robert McGregor, Terry Moran, Phyllis Mundie, Stephen Paterson, Theresa Ritchie (sub for Karen Day), Suzanne Robertson, Iain Sutherland, Christine Webster, James Welsh and Chris White.

Apologies: Councillors Alan Fakley and Stephen Smith; Simon Brebner, Karen Day.

### **Action**

#### **Welcome and apologies**

Councillor N Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Councillors Fakley and S Smith; Simon Brebner and Karen Day.

#### **Minutes of Last Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

The Minute of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018 was approved.

#### **Action Plan : Review of Priority Theme 1 – Peterhead Economy – Open to the World**

A copy of the Action Plan – Action Theme 1 : Peterhead Economy – Open to the World was circulated with the agenda. The Peterhead economy performs better than other small communities and is continually building on its assets – which in turn creates a greater contribution to the wider community. One of the key strengths is the locally owned and managed key businesses.

James advised that across the City and Shire we are beginning to see some stabilisation – house prices have settled and the oil prices are increasing.

Suzanne added that the Seafood sector have buoyant figures, while the smaller processors are still struggling slightly. The Peterhead Energy Hub is showing signs of improvement. North Connect, Equinor Buchan Deep and the AWPR are all having a positive impact on the local economy.

A partnership project linking schools with local business is about to be launched. The project will encourage children to start thinking about the industries on their doorstep, which can sometimes be difficult to recruit into.

James added that visitors from China, Japan and California have been to visit the hywind project which is a world first and has captured a lot of international interest.

#### *1.2 – Peterhead Learning Campus*

Chris advised that the Peterhead Learning Campus is now included in the Capital Plan. A full options appraisal will be carried out. There is a lot of negativity surrounding the Learning Campus, but there is a process which needs to be followed. Peterhead Academy Parent Council have created a sub-group.

#### *1.3 - International Maritime Industries and 1.4 - Harbour Development*

Peterhead Port are nearing the end of their 4 year project. Peterhead continues to be Europe's number 1 fishing port. The Port Authority will be encouraging more boats to Peterhead and working on decommissioning and renewables.

The Peterhead Energy Hub is an effective way to market Peterhead as a maritime supply chain, however, more general marketing would help. The RGU Decommissioning Report should help and once the final report has been received it will be shared with the Peterhead Development Partnership.

#### *1.5 – Food and Drink : Sector Development*

Food and drink is a strong sector across Buchan.

#### *1.6 – Energetica : Attracting Inward Investment to Peterhead*

James advised that Energetica has changed slightly but still present and now falls under Invest Aberdeen. Enquiries are still being generated. Work is ongoing with Scottish Enterprise on the Energy Park at Upperton and funding to take services to the site is currently being investigated.

A new marketing sign has been erected to test the water and work is being carried out on the best strategy for the sites – size of plots etc. The AWPR will make a huge difference and we need to be promoting the site and make people aware of what is available.

#### *1.7 – Connectivity and Infrastructure*

Nestrans are looking at various options for overtaking lanes north of Ellon and the feasibility of dualling the section of road from Ellon to the Toll of Birness.

#### *1.8 – Develop connections and linkages with international communities*

There have not been twinning exchanges arranged through the schools or clubs for a number of years, however, it would be good to keep the link alive.

#### *1.9 – Tourism Product Development*

The Tourism Strategy for the City and Shire has been produced for 2018 – 2023. Golf, tourism, business events, cruise, culture & historic and food and drink are amongst the top attractions.

Visit Aberdeenshire are very active in Buchan and are keen to work with others. David advised he gets a lot of referrals from both Suzanne and Business Gateway. The Visit Aberdeenshire website advertises events free of charge – please promote this to your network contacts.

Rediscover Peterhead has a new website and will be promoting the town as widely as possible. There is also the North East 250 which is attracting a lot of visitors.

Anne added that ancestry tourism is also very popular in Peterhead and the Family History Society have a lot of visitors from abroad.

A copy of the Tourism Strategy 2018-2023 will be circulated to the Peterhead Development Partnership for information.

Christine asked everyone to let her know if they have any further thoughts on priorities under this theme of the Action Plan.

### **Terms of Reference Update**

An updated Terms of Reference was circulated with the agenda and the changes were agreed.

### **Drummers Corner Update**

The Drummers Corner design was agreed back in July '18. TGP Landscape Architects have been working on the technical details of the design and the Buchan Area Committee approved the tender in August '18. The Regeneration Team are working with Property and the QS Team. The design was shared with the shop owners and they were fairly positive with the changes. Works will be carried out in 2019.

BID are currently looking at options for CCTV in the town centre, which is an item on their Business Plan. Working alongside Inspector McDougall from Police Scotland, the best locations, prices, funding streams etc are being investigated at the moment.

It was agreed that Brewdog moving into Drummers Corner will have a positive impact for the town centre and will generate more people.

A query was raised regarding the greening aspects of Drummers Corner. Christine will have a separate discussion with Theresa following the meeting.

CWeb/  
TR

### **Clerkhill Shops Update**

Revised designs have been completed and have been sent to the contractor to be re-priced. There have been a few issues regarding the landownership and a report will be presented to the Buchan Area Committee regarding adopting the land.

## **A.O.C.B.**

*6 Monthly Report* - the Developing Excellence in our North Coast Communities – 6 Month Report will be presented to the Buchan Area Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

*Tourism Development* – various activities are currently ongoing which could benefit from a joint Tourism Strategy for Buchan. BID, Fit Light, Community Council, Artventure, Scottish Week etc are all working hard to bring visitors into the area. It would be good to see a facebook page to promote all the events.

Councillor Beagrie added that the Sports Hub have a directory which helps signpost people.

### **Date and time of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Peterhead Development Partnership will be held on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 12noon in the Chamber, Buchan House, Peterhead.

ALL

Note – the meeting scheduled to take place on the 18<sup>th</sup> December was postponed until Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019.

ALL

Approved