

# Equestrian Association Of Shetland



## *Shetland Equestrian Facilities Working Group Minutes of meeting*

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2008  
7.00pm Market House, 14 Market St, Lerwick**

### **PRESENT**

Bob Kerr – Shetland Islands Council  
Olga Smith – Equestrian Association of Shetland  
Donna Cameron – Equestrian Association of Shetland  
Susie Nicolson – Equestrian Association of Shetland  
Elaine Laurenson – Clickamin Open Riding Club  
Karlín Moar – Clickamin Open Riding Club  
Helen Thomson – Pony Breeders of Shetland Association  
Sonja Flaws – Pony Breeders of Shetland Association  
Vaila Stevenson - Whiteness Riding Club  
Marion Slater – Whiteness Riding Club  
Graham Wishart – Shetland Riding Club  
Marianne Hughson – Shetland Riding Club  
Abigail Robertson – Dunrossness Riding Club  
Susan Goodlad – Dunrossness Riding Club & SPRDG

### **APOLOGIES**

Michael Duncan – Shetland Islands Council  
Vikki Polson – SPRDG  
Louise Sales – Filsket Riding Club  
Dorothy Sales – Filsket Riding Club

Dorothy Sales sent the following:

Can you please give my apologies and pass onto the group that Filsket Riding Club have an interest in an indoor venue as do Disability Shetland who I am an administrator for. We are hoping to start up RDA in Shetland again and obviously an indoor venue for this would be fantastic as it means that the sessions could operate all year round. Disability Shetland have already entered talks with Filsket Riding Club to try to have 6 sessions running next summer at Trondra.

Dorothy also requested that in the terms of reference Burra Riding Club was changed to Filsket Riding Club.

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

It was decided to make the following amendments / additions to the terms of reference that Bob Kerr had initially proposed.

### **Shetland Equestrian Facilities Working Group** **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Deleted: Indoor Riding School

#### **Objectives**

- To investigate options for the long-term management and operation of an indoor riding facility in Shetland.
- To co-ordinate the planning, design and funding of an indoor riding facility in Shetland.
- To ensure regular consultation with and involvement of all parties who may be considered to have an interest in the development of such a facility.

#### **Proposal**

- To establish a multi-organisation working group to achieve the above objectives, including representatives of all known local equestrian organisations.
- This working group will be a sub group of the Equestrian Association of Shetland, who have received funding to carry out a feasibility study into the development of an equestrian facility.

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#### **Membership**

Membership of the working group would be expected to include at least:

- *Equestrian Association of Shetland*
- *Shetland Riding Club*
- *Pony Breeders of Shetland Association*
- *Shetland Pony Riding and Driving Group*
- *Filsket Riding Club*
- *Clickimin Open Riding Club*
- *Dunrossness Riding Club*
- *Whalsay Riding Club*
- *Whiteness Riding Club*

Deleted: Shetland Pony Breeders Association

Deleted: Burra Riding Club

Each organisation shall be eligible to have up to two representatives present at each meeting.

#### **Operating procedures & Voting rights**

- Each organisation shall carry one vote in total, and this vote shall be cast by representatives present at meetings of the group. In the event of a tie the chair shall have the casting vote.
- All decisions of the working group shall be by a simple majority vote of those present at any meeting of the working group.
- Other individuals who are able to help to achieve the objectives of the working group may be invited to attend meetings, although such individuals will not have any voting rights.

Unless otherwise agreed, committee members of the Equestrian Association of Shetland will undertake to keep minutes of meetings of the working group; handle any necessary correspondence; and manage financial affairs relating to the tasks of the working group.

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- Five groups shall form a quorum

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Bob Kerr suggested that a representative from all groups should sign and date the amended terms of reference. **Olga / Donna** to prepare this document for signing at next meeting.

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#### **APPOINT OFFICE BEARERS**

Graham Wishart was appointed as chair.

Vaila Stevenson was appointed as minute secretary.

Elaine Laurenson was appointed as general secretary.

All financial affairs will be recorded by Equestrain Associaton of Shetland treasurer, Donna Cameron.

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

#### **Girlsta Hatchery** (being used as a temporary indoor riding venue at present by SRC)

Marianne told the group that a salmon company has shown an interest in buying the building so the temporary venue might be lost in the near future. The SRC had learned that part of the building sits on land that is not owned by the owners of the building therefore there may be issues with the title deeds / planning for the building. The salmon company have entered into talks with the land owner regarding this issue. As everyone thought this building was proving large enough for an equestrian facility it was decided that the group should see if there was anything they could do secure it. The SRC had previously asked roughly how much the building would cost and had got a figure of around £300,000. They had also enquired on how much a new building of similar size would cost and had received a figure of no less than £500,000.

Marianne to speak to land owner Joanna Davidson to find out if she would consider waiting and allowing time for the equestrian community to see if they could raise the funds to put in an offer on the land/building. Marianne / Susan to speak to Frank Johnston to find out exactly who own the building.

#### **Broonies Taing**

Susan told the group that warehouses at Broonies Taing were up for rent / sale that may be suitable for an equestrian facility. It was decided that Susan should find out more about these incase the Girlsta venture didn't work out.

#### **Compare to Orkney**

Bob Kerr thought it would be a good idea if someone from the group could find out information from the Orkney Riding Group on how they went about getting their facility and how much it was used and cost to run. Graham volunteered to find this out as he had contacts in Orkney.

#### **Funding**

It was commented that the group may be able to get money from Scottish Rural Development Grant to fund the project. Bob Cree-Hay had previously started to look into this on behalf of the SRC. Marion to contact Bob and find out more about this money.

Bob Kerr told the group they should all make contact with local councilors and let them know about the project so that if the council had any money to put towards the project the councilors would be able to know the equestrian community were serious about getting a facility. The EAS had been in talks with the SIC previously and were 99% sure

that an equestrian facility was on the councils capital projects list. Bob Kerr to double check how long it had been on the list for.

Marianne enquired that if the money the EAS had been awarded for a feasibility study could be used for legal services to investigate the Girlsta situation. Bob thought that this may be ok but Michael Duncan would have to be consulted on this issue.

**Comminucation of working group progress to public**

Graham felt that it was important to let the public know what the group were doing. As the group is a sub-group of the EAS it was decided that progress of the group should be reported at the EAS A.G.M. Minutes of the meetings would be passed to all equestrian groups on the working group and they should communicate the progress to their members.

**Next Meeting**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 7pm at Islesburgh room 11.

*Graham Miller*  
*Bob Kerr*