
MINUTES**Public**

**Special Shetland Charitable Trust
Bressay Room, Lerwick Hotel, Lerwick
Monday 15 October 2012 at 10.00am**

Present:

M Bell	P Campbell
G Cleaver	A Cooper
R Henderson	B Hunter
A Manson	V Nicolson
D Ratter	F Robertson
D Sandison	M Stout
J Wills	V Wishart
A Wishart	

Present by Telephone:

S Coutts

Apologies:

A Duncan	G Robinson
G Smith	T Smith
A Westlake	

In Attendance (Officers):

A Black, Chief Executive - SCT
J Goddard, Financial Controller – SCT
E Mainland, Office Administrator – SCT
A Cogle, Team Leader – Administration - SCT

Chair:

Mr D Ratter, Chair of the Trust, presided.

Circular:

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

In accordance with section 10.7 of the Administrative Regulations, the Trust noted that a quorum existed, and that Mr S Coutts was attending the meeting by telephone.

Declarations of Interest

None.

49/12 Establishment of a Selection Panel

The Trust considered a report by the Chief Executive (Report No: CT1210051), which sought agreement to the establishment of the

Selection Panel for the First Appointed Trustees, in terms of Para 7(b)(i) of the Schedule of Governance Arrangements.

The Chair advised that the meeting was to consider this single issue today, and that before proceeding to consider the report, he advised that the Chief Executive, under delegated authority given by the Trust, had appointed an independent Chair of the selection panel. He advised that the appointment was Dr Karen Carlton, who was Scotland's first Commissioner for Public Appointments, a position she held from June 2004 to May 2012. Dr Carlton wrote the first and subsequent Codes of Practice for Ministerial Appointments to Public Bodies in Scotland and scrutinised the appointment practices of the Scottish Ministers to make sure they were open, fair and based on the merit of applicants. She also wrote the first equality and diversity strategy for ministerial public appointments. She has extensive experience of board appointment practices. Dr Carlton is a Chartered Fellow of the Institute of Personnel and Development, a Trustee of the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland, where she chairs the Nominations and Remuneration Committee, and is a member of the Appointments Panel for BBC Scotland.

The Chair went on to say that when he had offered to take part in the Trustee selection process, and he had done so on the basis that he felt that under normal circumstances the Chair would be involved in such a process by default. However, he thanked those Trustees who had disagreed with his view, and who had taken the time to explain, and he accepted that these were not normal circumstances and it was perhaps right that the Councillor Trustee representative should not be the Chair. The Chair rejected any notion that the media had of a 'backbench revolt' in this matter.

After hearing the Chief Executive introduce the report, Dr J Wills moved that the recommendations in the report be approved, and that Mr D Ratter be the second Trustee on the Selection Panel. Mr A Wishart seconded.

Mr A Cooper moved that Mr Ratter should not be appointed. He said that his reason for this was that Mr Ratter was an ex-Board member of Viking Energy, and he was concerned this could give rise to a perception of Viking Energy being in the process. Mr Cooper said that he had every confidence in Mr Ratter's abilities but that the second representative should be someone who was seen to be in neither one camp or the other with regard to Viking Energy. In this regard, Mr Cooper moved that the recommendations in the report be approved, and that the Council's Convener, Mr M Bell, be appointed as the second Trustee. Mr F Robertson seconded.

Mr Ratter said that if Mr Bell was willing to accept the appointment, he would withdraw, as he was confident that the result would be same because of the process to be followed.

Mr Bell accepted the appointment, and Mr Ratter withdrew his acceptance.

Decision:

The Trust **RESOLVED** to:

- Endorse the appointment of Ms Valerie Nicolson as the non-Councillor Trustee on the Selection Panel; and
- Select Mr Malcolm Bell as the second Trustee to participate on the Selection Panel.

The Trust meeting concluded at 10.10 a.m.

CHAIR