

SHETLAND CHARITABLE TRUST PRESS RELEASE

Historic day as independent trustees take up seats

For the first time since it was set up more than 35 years ago, the charitable organisation responsible for investing and spending Shetland's oil disturbance money will meet tomorrow with independent trustees forming a majority.

Eight appointed trustees will be joined by seven councillor trustees at the historic inaugural meeting of the newly-reconstituted Shetland Charitable Trust.

Previously, SCT had comprised up to 22 councillors and two independents. However, under a new governance structure approved by the charities regulator OSCR and agreed to by trustees, the SCT board has been slimmed down to 15 members and the balance shifted in favour of independents.

The independent trustees, selected by a panel chaired by former Public Appointments Commissioner for Scotland Karen Carlton, are: Betty Fullerton, Catherine Hughson, Bobby Hunter, Ian Kinniburgh, Keith Massey, Stephen Morgan, Ian Napier and James Smith.

The trustees appointed by Shetland Islands Council are: Malcolm Bell, Peter Campbell, Robert Henderson, Andrea Manson, Drew Ratter, George Smith and Jonathan Wills.

They now have the task of setting the trust's strategic direction to ensure its funds are sustained for the benefit of future generations living in Shetland.

SCT chief executive Dr Ann Black said: "Today is a significant milestone in the development of Shetland Charitable Trust.

"We welcome the new trustees, who will put the best interests of the trust first.

"The newly reformed trust will work to shape SCT's future in difficult economic times so that it can enhance the quality of life for Shetland's inhabitants for many years to come."

After appointing a chair and a vice-chair from among their number, the new trustees will discuss the SCT's recommended budget of £10.48 million for 2013/14.

The trust distributes around £10 million annually to a wide range of community organisations.

Between 1975 and 2000, the trust received £81 million in disturbance payments from the oil industry for the inconvenience of having the Sullom Voe Oil Terminal in the islands. It is now entirely reliant for income on its investments,

both on world markets and in the Shetland economy. At the end of March 2012 these were worth £217 million.

From 1975-2012 the trust's investment returns were £395 million and some £259 million has been distributed for the benefit of people in Shetland over the same period.

Trustee biographical details

Betty Fullerton OBE

An SIC councillor between 2007 and 2012, Mrs Fullerton served as chair of the education and families committee. She is a former chair of the board of NHS Shetland and a current non-executive director of the NHS Health Scotland Board.

Catherine Hughson

Mrs Hughson is executive officer of Voluntary Action Shetland and is responsible for the running of Market House. She is also a member of the Shetland Community Planning and Community Health and Social Care Partnership.

Bobby Hunter

Mr Hunter is Lord Lieutenant of Shetland and by virtue of this position has been a trustee of Shetland Charitable Trust since November 2011. He is a director of Shetland Livestock Marketing Group Ltd and holds several other appointments.

Ian Kinniburgh

Mr Kinniburgh has been chair of the board of NHS Shetland since August 2009 and is a trustee of Shetland Recreational Trust. He ran his own business, 60 North Recycling Ltd, for 10 years.

Keith Massey

Mr Massey runs the Spiggie Hotel and Lodges and is vice-chair of the board of NHS Shetland. He has travelled extensively throughout his career and has worked in the USA, Latin America, the Far East and across Europe.

Stephen Morgan

Mr Morgan, whose background is in social work, is the Children's Reporter in Shetland for the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration. He chaired the Children & Young People's Strategic Planning Group for four years.

Ian Napier

Dr Napier is a senior marine policy adviser at the NAFC Marine Centre in Scalloway. He provides advice and guidance on fisheries and marine policy to local fisheries organisations.

James Smith

Chair of COPE Ltd and chair of the Sumburgh Airport Consultative Committee, Mr Smith is a self-employed chartered engineer. He was a member of SICCT from 1987 to 1999.

Malcolm Bell

Mr Bell, a former police inspector and area commander for Shetland with Northern Constabulary, is convener of Shetland Islands Council and a non-executive director of the board of NHS Shetland. He is also an honorary sheriff.

Peter Campbell

Retired teacher Mr Campbell is a Lerwick South councillor. He is the chairman of Sail Training Shetland and secretary of the Swan Trust. He is also a member of Hjalmland Housing Association.

Robert Henderson

Mr Henderson, a North Isles councillor, is a businessman and director of the North Yell Development Committee. He is also a member of the North Yell Yacht Club and the body that runs the Cullivoe Marina.

Andrea Manson

A Shetland North councillor, Mrs Manson is a trustee of Brae Hall and the Voxter Centre. She is a director of the St Magnus Bay Hotel and a partner in the Mid Brae Inn.

Drew Ratter

Mr Ratter, a Shetland North councillor, has recently served as chairman of Shetland Charitable Trust. He is a former convener of the Crofters Commission and writes the *Landwise* supplement for *The Shetland Times*.

George Smith

Mr Smith, a Shetland South councillor, is former head of Shetland College. He is a member of the Shetland Youth Information Service and of the Sumburgh Airport Consultative Committee.

Jonathan Wills

Dr Wills, a Lerwick South councillor, has recently served as vice-chairman of Shetland Charitable Trust. He is a writer, crofter and businessman who runs the Seabirds-and-Seals wildlife tourism boat *Dunter III*.

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