

I am so glad to hear how positive the meeting was.  
Deirdre

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**Sent:** 26 January 2006 10:07  
**To:** John WJ (E-mail); Lavinia Bristol; Paula DS (E-mail); 'Peter Isaacson' (E-mail); Peter Mackay (E-mail); 'Simon Wellock' (E-mail)  
**Cc:** Rhona Sutherland (E-mail); MacDonald, Kenneth; Jacqui MacLeod (E-mail); Gillies, Ian; Hughie Donaldson (E-mail); Forsyth, Deirdre; Janet Crook (E-mail); 'James HILL' (E-mail); Andrew Campbell (E-mail); Mark Jennison (E-mail)  
**Subject:** Initiative at the Edge event follow-on

Dear all,

Thought I would pen some thoughts while they are still fresh as well as throw some action points into the mix.

First, I have a few bits and pieces here left over- few forms, pens, TDP stuff etc, you may want Paula.

A thought from that is that you might want to look into some business cards for yourself (Seeing Mark's here). CGL in Oban might quote, or I know Ross here has made some good ones for staff.

Incidentally, Ross gave us some samples of a logo idea yesterday, which Lavinia, Paula and I all thought was excellent. I will try and get it circulated for approval. I also mention to Paula about the possibility of getting letterheads preprinted by the likes of CGL.

As to last night itself- lots of things came out.

For one, I was genuinely delighted with the turnout. Only perhaps half a dozen households weren't represented, more than half of whom aren't on the island anyway. I think John counted 51. It was a great result and the fact that there seemed to be very minimal negativity was great. All our fears went unrealised, as we hoped they might. I even had one member of the community come and tell me she had arrived in antagonistic mode and left with a positive attitude! (no, not that one)

Many thanks to all our guests, especially to Mark and Hughie for their talks.

As for actions.

We need to make sure that our helpers are paid for- Alex will bill us for the use of Ballyhaugh and the wine etc separately, but we need to pay Laura and Louisa, who both did a great job and something for Paula Smalley too who drove the bus. Catriona doesn't want to take anything for her part- we said £30 for the crèche- what about the bus and bar?

We need to jump! Onto the wave of positivity. Immediately and if not sooner. My suggestions:

- 1) Get the development plan out to the electoral roll as soon as we can. Put a covering letter in to explain next steps as well as a form for people to list projects they want to get involved in and give their contact details. If they object to any plans, we need to know why.

I think people will almost be expecting us to be slow on this one and not expect to hear from us for months- let's give them a surprise! We can incorporate any concrete results from the "post it" exercise too.

- 2) The proposed noticeboard for our "up to date" news needs to be produced sharpish. For the same reason as above, we want information to flow regularly and productively. For all

we offer an “open door” policy at the middle pier office, the reality is that few will make the effort.

- 3) Follow up those that haven't had a visit while they are still in a good frame of mind. I realise logistics play a part, but again, we need to be proactive. Paula- talk to Colin as soon as you can- get his take on the path idea. I think he'll be positive towards it.
- 4) Things like Cal Mac- warrants, timetables- can be started on immediately. We don't necessarily need a committee to start the process on that one. The warrant idea is a great one. Apparently an ongoing campaign which we weren't aware of.

I don't want to give people the excuse they are waiting for, i.e. not a thing is going to happen for another six months.

Finally, well done everyone- I think we did an excellent job and have given ourselves a great platform to build on.

Many thanks

Doug

Doug Young  
Project Trust

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