

Scottish Borders Tourism Partnership

MINUTE of MEETING of the
SCOTTISH BORDERS
TOURISM PARTNERSHIP held
at the Scottish Borders Council
Chambers in Duns on
Wednesday 10th May 2006.

PRESENT:

Fiona Drane, VisitScotland Borders
Mrs C Tuff, Food and Drink Representative
Mrs Sue Beck, Self Catering Representative
Mr Bryan McGrath, Scottish Borders Council
Catherine Maxwell-Stuart, Attractions Representative
Jeanette Thomson, Chamber of Commerce
John Hamilton, Scoutscoft Holiday Centre
Kevin Keenan, Dryburgh Abbey Hotel

IN ATTENDANCE:

Sandi Hellowell, Strategy & Partnership Executive, VisitScotland Borders
Ms Julie Hogg, Scottish Borders Council
Mr Alan Elliott, Scottish Enterprise Borders
Helene Sinclair, Business Relationship Marketing Manager, VisitScotland Borders
Anne Rutherford, Office Manager, VisitScotland Borders
Susan Mason, Challenge Fund Adviser, VisitScotland Borders
Pamela Lindsay, Scoutscoft Holiday Centre

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Vice Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

It was reported that apologies had been received from Jim Renwick, John Sloggie, Kenny McCartney, John Henderson and John Elliot.

3. Tourism Action Plan

The Tourism Action Plan was discussed. It was agreed that the Partnership should be updated on any actions which have been progressed since the previous meeting and an overall update reported annually.

The method of communicating to the wider tourism industry was also discussed and it was agreed that this should be done through trade reps, Chamber of Commerce, Council Newsletter/press release. Sandi Hellowell to set up an Area Tourism Partnership email address: sb.tourismpartnership@visitscotland.com and arrange for any items to be forwarded to visitscotland.org for inclusion in the Scottish Borders section eg minutes, consultations etc.

Sandi also agreed to update the Action Plan in line with the Tourism Framework for Change and to amend the format so that it is more user friendly.

The Tourism Action Plan was approved.

4. Update on Challenge Funding

Susan Mason explained her role as Challenge Fund Adviser working with groups throughout the South of Scotland. She explained that there were a further three opportunities to bid in for Challenge Funding this year – May, August and November and that the scheme would run until December 07. It was agreed that these dates would be published in the mini bulletin sent to the trade.

5. Update on Waverley Line

Bryan McGrath gave an update on the Waverley Line and copies of an extract from the Parliamentary submission were circulated. He stated that there will be a Parliamentary debate in June followed by Royal Ascent in the Autumn. He thanked the Partnership for their input. It was agreed to have further discussion at the November meeting of the Partnership.

6. Presentation by SBC on Tourism Input

Bryan McGrath gave a presentation on SBC tourism input to the area both direct and indirect. (Copy attached)

A discussion followed and it was agreed that the Partnership meeting should be the forum for feeding back SBC matters to the relevant departments.

7. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 30th August 2006 at 2pm at a venue to be confirmed in Tweeddale.

The meeting closed at 4.10 pm.