**LoN Centre project workshop**

**7 February 2019**

**Introduction**

At the previous workshop (15 January) we discussed the background to the LoN Centre project. As follow-up we agreed that the next steps would be:

* A short-term action plan
* A revised brief for the production of a Project Development Plan
* A workshop to discuss ideas leading to a vision for the LoN Centre and the prioritised characteristics of the Centre. Determining the project scope in this way will lay the foundations for the completion of OSCAR documentation and an Awards for All application to obtain the funds required for the next stage of the project.

**Participants**

Peter Needham CAW

Ian Ricketts CAW

Bill Turnbull CAW, Westray Golf Club & Westray Development Trust

Eileen Woodhouse

Margaret Tulloch, (standing in for Elizabeth Drever) Westray Heritage Centre

Hazel Moore CAW, Westray and Papa Westray Tourist Association & Ease Archaeology

Graeme Wilson CAW, Ease Archaeology

Cameron Taylor (Facilitator)

**Who is the Centre for?**

We brainstormed ideas and then, while recognising that all the ideas are important, participants voted for their preferred priority.

**Which one word sums up the Centre?**

We brainstormed ideas and then, while recognising that all the ideas are important, participants voted for their two preferred words.

**How do you hope the Centre will be described in five years’ time?**

We brainstormed ideas and then, while recognising that all the ideas are important, participants voted for their preferred priority.

**What could the Centre comprise, potentially?**

We brainstormed ideas and then, while recognising that all the ideas are important, participants (and the facilitator) voted for their three preferred words.

Overall, we agreed that the Centre must be authentic, and must complement other provision on Westray

**A proposed interim vision**

Taking the workshop discussion into account, the following interim vision is suggested -

*The Centre will provide an authentic, inspirational and accessible practical archaeological experience in a purpose-designed, environmentally and financially sustainable building next to the Links of Noltland archaeological landscape.*

The vision will be refined further and finalised as part of the preparation of a Project Development Plan.

**Historic Environment Scotland**

At the conclusion of the meeting, Hazel summarised the current position regarding HES. The archaeological site is owned by HES, reflecting its archaeological significance. HES has funded archaeological investigation for a number of years, but the focus is now shifting from field-work to post-excavation. HES has no statutory responsibility for the consolidation of the site but is sympathetic to it in principle. It is not clear yet, therefore, whether the site will be covered over leaving no visible remains, or whether a programme of consolidation will begin. The eventual decision regarding this will have an impact on the Centre.

**Cameron Taylor**

**10 February 2019**