



**Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021 at 7.00pm**

**1.0 Present:** Andrew Archer - chair  
Linda Tulloch  
Dilys Evans  
Neil Leask  
Karl Mills – clerk  
Catherine Hughson  
Moraig Lyall  
Ian Scott  
Steven Coutts  
Theo Smith

**1.1 By invitation:** Lindsay Dougan, Community Investment Manager - SSE

**2.0 Apologies:** Roselyn Fraser  
Michael Duncan

**3.0 Declarations of Interest**

Linda Tulloch declared an interest in item 11 – SSE (Viking Energy).

Moraig Lyall declared an interest in item 14 – Planning.

Neil Leask declared an interest in item 14 – Planning (2021/133/PPF).

**4.0 Approval of Minutes**

On a motion proposed by Dilys Evans and seconded by Linda Tulloch the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

**5.0 Matters arising from the Minutes**

1. The Saltire Award Scheme has now been launched and to date five individuals have signed-up to take part.
2. The community council decided not to send a letter to NHS Shetland on the subject of re-starting clinics, as Beatrice Wishart MSP had already written to them on this matter and received a comprehensive reply.
3. In light of the forthcoming election, Andrew Archer has contacted one member of the community council to discuss their continued membership.
4. Following a letter sent to Scottish Water (Shetland) regarding regular interruptions to water services in South Whiteness, to which an informative reply has not been received, the clerk will pursue this matter further.
5. Following a request at the last meeting, the clerk had contacted Gulberwick, Cunningsburgh and Quarff Community Council to find out more about the hot meals scheme that they run. After discussion it was decided that it would not be feasible for the community council to run a scheme to provide hot meals to local residents in this area.

## **6.0 Viking Community Liaison Group**

Andrew Archer reported on the last meeting of the group:

1. The route of the underground high-voltage cable has now been finalised, and a map showing its path will be sent to us.
2. The Traffic Management Plan is still being developed but is expected to be published soon as work on the cable route will start next month.
3. More detail on the peat slide which occurred on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2021 will be included in the monthly report produced for SIC Planning by Ramboll.
4. On the subject of dust from vehicle tracks in dry weather, it was reported that water sprinklers had been installed. Further, RJ McLeod had carried out trials to assess the level of dust generated by moving vehicles and concluded that at a speed of 15mph the amount of dust was minimal. As a result of this finding cameras will be installed in the cabs of all vehicles to monitor their speed.
5. It was reported that when the current permission for Sunday working comes to an end in July, an extension to this permission will be applied for.

## **7.0 Police Report**

A Police Report was submitted, summarising crimes and incidents that had taken place in the locality during the months of February and March 2021.

## **8.0 Finance**

The latest Finance Report, dated 14<sup>th</sup> April 2021, was circulated to community councillors prior to the meeting.

Andrew Archer outlined the merits of setting-up an internet banking facility, whereby payments authorised by two nominated community councillors could be made electronically. After discussion it was agreed by all community councillors present that internet banking should be adopted.

## **9.0 Correspondence**

1. The community council received a proposal from local resident Colin Morrison to construct a footpath around Hellister Loch. Members and councillors thought that the proposal was a good idea and discussed it in some detail. Members felt that, in order to qualify for grant funding, the project would have to be done in a planned and structured way, and it was decided that the following advice should be given to Mr. Morrison:
  - Set up a formally-constituted Group to manage the project.
  - Compile a detailed plan for the entire project.
  - Split the project into distinct stages, each of achievable size.
  - Consult fully with landowners.
  - Ascertain what planning permissions may be required.
  - Obtain as much advice as possible from other similar schemes.
  - Apply to SCBF for funding.

Andrew Archer will talk to Mr. Morrison accordingly.

2. An e-mail was received from Raymond and Evelyn Jamieson of Sandwick Baking Company outlining their views on a proposal to build a new supermarket in close proximity to their business. The community council decided that it would not be appropriate to respond as, whilst there was some sympathy for the view that the Co-op would damage local businesses, this is not valid grounds for an objection under planning law.

3. A letter, dated 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, was received from Maggie Sandison in response to a letter, dated 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020, sent to her by some of the community council members on the subject of non-disclosure agreements.

### **10.0 Proposed changes to Constitution of Community Council**

The proposed changes to the constitution of the community council were approved by all community councillors present at the meeting.

### **11.0 SSE – Questions for Lindsay Dougan**

Lindsay Dougan, SSE Community Investment Manager, attended the meeting to answer questions on how best to administer funding from Shetland Community Benefit Fund (SCBF).

In summary, the advice given by Lindsay was this:

1. Do not make hasty decisions or rush into premature activity.
2. Tap into the wealth of experience that exists within other groups.
3. Always assess the achievability of an intended action or project, and consider the longer-term impact and consequences.
4. Start in a modest way and expand the scope of projects as confidence and competence grows.
5. Plan in sufficient detail to expose all potential pitfalls.
6. Participatory Budgeting (PB) is a very useful tool, and will provide greater benefits as time progresses.
7. Feasibility studies should be used to establish the viability of projects.
8. Use PB as a communication tool with the local community.
9. Spend as much time as necessary initially to find out what the community really considers important and wants to achieve.
10. Encourage the community to get actively involved.
11. The community council's role should be to advise and facilitate community groups to undertake projects and initiatives.

The idea of projects for paths was discussed and Lindsay offered to put the CC in touch with other groups in Scotland that had undertaken similar projects.

### **12.0 Shetland Community Benefit Fund**

Angela Sutherland was not present and there was no report made to the meeting.

### **13.0 Roads**

The clerk was asked to raise the following questions with SIC – Roads:

1. Roadside development and road maintenance
  - Is there a limit to the number of houses permitted in a single track road, and if a single track road has a large number of houses in it will it get more attention and maintenance due to the resultant higher volume of traffic?
  - What criteria are used to determine the level of maintenance carried out on a road (e.g.: number of houses in that road, or volume of traffic)?
2. Roads signs
  - Following a request from residents to Hjalmland Housing Association, TWWCC would like to request the installation of a 'Children Playing' road-sign at Gaet a Gott.

- What level and type of horse-traffic would justify installation of a 'Beware Horses' road-sign? (in proximity of stables at Veensgarth)

The SIC Roads department are due to attend the next meeting of the Association of Shetland Community Councils (ASCC). Michael Duncan had asked for questions to be submitted in advance and members agreed to submit the following:

1. How does the roads budget work? How is it split?
2. The message for the last few years has been that there is no money. Is this likely to change in the foreseeable future?
3. How are capital projects prioritised?
4. How does the scanner survey work? How is maintenance prioritised?
5. Verges, ditches and the problems that they create for safe walking come up at almost every CC meeting. What can be done to improve the situation?
6. Do you think that our road infrastructure is keeping up with the development that it has to support?

#### **14.0 Planning**

The following planning applications were discussed:

- 2021-133-PPF - Erect dwelling-house with double garage and air source heat pump and erect extension to existing workshop building, north of Midfield, South Whiteness.
- 2021-115-PPF - Proposed commercial display area, at Hatals Self-storage Ltd, Gott, Tingwall.

The clerk will send responses of 'No comment' to SIC Planning in respect of each of these two applications.

Following the community council's objection to Viking Energy Wind Farm planning application 2020/203/PPF, a letter was received from VEFWF explaining their reasons for making the application. After due consideration, the community council decided to maintain its objection.

#### **15.0 Public Transport Fare Policy Review Consultation**

The community council decided that it would not take part in this survey.

#### **16.0 Councillors' Reports**

There were no reports from councillors.

#### **17.0 AOCB**

There was no other business to discuss.

#### **18.0 Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021