



# TINGWALL, WHITENESS & WEISDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Whiteness Public Hall on Wednesday 20th July 2022

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## 1.0 Present:

Andrew Archer (Chair)	Moraig Lyall
Dilys Evans	Catherine Hughson
Linda Tulloch	Ian Scott
Neil Leask	Davie Sandison
Charlie Hodge	Angela Sutherland
Birgit Wagner	
Martin Randall	
Paul Stevens (Clerk)	

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## 2.0 Apologies:

Roselyn Fraser.

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## 3.0 Declarations of Interest:

Linda Tulloch declared an interest in matters relating to Viking.  
Catherine Hughson and Davie Sandison declared an interest in matters relating to planning.

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## 4.0 Approval of Minutes

On a motion proposed by Neil Leask and seconded by Martin Randall, the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

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## 5.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- Scalloway-Norway Friendship agreement: Dilys Evans, Davie Sandison, Linda Tulloch, Catherine Hughson and Ian Scott attended the agreement signing event, along with representatives from the Community Councils of Nesting and Lunnasting, Burra and Tronda, and Scalloway. A cheque for £50,000 for the Scalloway slipway restoration was presented by the Norwegian delegation, with the Mayor of Sund in attendance. Davie Sandison signed the agreement on behalf of the Community Councils. There were no immediate events planned but avenues of potential future collaboration will be explored, with a focus on grassroot approaches and the involvement of young people in the communities.
  - Community Council Website progress: Paul Stevens confirmed that the domain name of twwcommunity.scot had been purchased, along with web-hosting, for the next year. Construction of the website was currently underway.
  - Weisdale Cemetery entrance: Catherine Hughson had discovered that the problem with the entrance width was recognised within the SIC but that the primary issue was land ownership, the Council being responsible only for land within the current graveyard boundary. This was a wider issue beyond Weisdale, and council officials were due to produce a report for councillors shortly.
  - Future of Nesbister Böd: Birgit Wagner confirmed that Sue White from the Shetland Amenity Trust had visited the böd but there had been no further communication.
  - Road surface reinstatement: in response to a question from Linda Tulloch, the Clerk confirmed that there had been no reply to the May 2022 letter to the Roads Department other than an acknowledgement of receipt. She confirmed that the road surface problems were ongoing and
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had seen Council representatives at the location.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to write to the Roads Department again to ascertain their plan.

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## **6.0 Decisions since last meeting**

No decisions had been made by e-mail vote since the last meeting.

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## **7.0 Police Report**

A report for April/May 2022 had been circulated to members on 25th June.

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## **8.0 Finance**

- The Financial Report, updated to 13 July 2022, was distributed to community council members.
  - Electronic banking update: the Clerk now has access to the online account.
    - ACTION: The Clerk to look into enabling two authorised signatories for electronic payments.
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## **9.0 Correspondence**

- Tingwall Agricultural Museum & Heritage Centre had requested a letter of support for future funding applications. There was a discussion about the merits of a wider community remit and sustainable income streams, with a general agreement to support the project.
    - ACTION: The Clerk to write a letter of support for the Centre.
  - The Shetland Table Tennis Association had also requested a letter of support. There was some discussion about past interest in table tennis in Shetland and the benefits of promoting sports to enhance community and individual wellbeing. Member agreed to support the project.
    - ACTION: The Clerk to write a letter of support for the Association.
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## **10.0 Planning**

Four applications were reviewed:

- 2022/176/PPF New house at South Whiteness.
    - ACTION: The Clerk to submit a response of 'No comment'.
  - 2022/166/VCON Application to use borrow pit materials to create access track. Members were concerned that, while accessing materials closer to the site might have benefits in terms of lowered transport emissions and road use, approval would both set a precedent for wider use and create bigger pits that would negatively impact visual amenity.
    - ACTION: The Clerk to object on grounds of setting precedent.
  - 2022/191/PPF 2-bedroom dwelling houses with air source heat pumps and access road.
    - ACTION: The Clerk to submit a response of 'No comment'.
  - 2022/075/PPF 8ft x 14ft wooden shed
    - ACTION: The Clerk to submit a response of 'No comment'.
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## **11.0 Viking**

Andrew Archer gave an update:

- Regarding the SSE lines not affecting a peat restoration area, it appeared Viking had referred to the wrong area in their response to the Community Council's letter. However, Sue White had since talked to SSE and is now happy with their revised proposal, which is part of a larger "no net bio-diversity loss" scheme.
  - The Viking CLG meeting of 19th July reported that everything was on time and on budget,
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though an aquaculture consultation event at the Shetland Museum had been very poorly attended. The track from the top of the Scord of Sound up to the hilltop turbines would now not be built and the area already dug out for a compound will be reinstated. Turbine components will not now be transported through the TWW area but will instead use the main North road. Cable laying is due to begin next March in Weisdale Voe, with the transport taking a couple of days and the sea-bed trenching occurring a period of several weeks in April and May. Where the cable trench had been dug on the A971 up the Hill of Sound, the road surface will be reinstated during August and September.

- Some questions had been submitted to the VCLG about the recent peat slide at the Mid Kames site. An investigation found that the cable trench alongside the access track had been constructed with the wrong type of foundations, allowing slippage to occur. Assurances were given that no similar projects existed on hillsides above people's houses, and that other similar sites had now been checked.
- TWWCC members had concerns regarding how much confidence could be placed in the stability of similar tracks under future heavier loads, and as to why the incident had not been reported to the relevant authorities at the time. It was decided that writing to both planning and SSE might help clarify the situation, and that a CC site visit would be useful.
  - ACTION: Andrew Archer to draft letters to SSE and to planning, and circulate to members.
  - ACTION: Andrew Archer to contact Aaron Priest to arrange a TWWCC site visit.

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## 12.0 SCBF

Angela Sutherland gave an update on the fund:

- The Audit & Governance group has completed conflict of interest documentation and is now working on a Code of Conduct.
- The Business subgroup has been talking to the IBF survey company about plans to deliver a survey pack to every residential house in Shetland, along with an associated advertising campaign.
- A Community Council-funded project comparison table will be sent to members.
- SCBF was contacted by an Irish Energy Company that does offshore wind farms regarding potential involvement in the community benefit scheme.
- Now that the Peel Energy schemes have been included in the latest contract for difference scheme, they have restarted talks with SCBF about potential inclusion in the SCBF scheme.

Two grant applications were considered:

- 180253 Shetland Amenity Trust. Further information had been received but members still felt that there was insufficient local relevance.
  - ACTION: The Clerk to inform Eleanor Gear that funding had been declined.
- 180271 Shetland Recreational Trust. While the project was sited outwith the local area, members felt that encouraging sporting activity was beneficial and would still be accessible to the local community.
  - ACTION: The full amount of £400 was approved, with the Clerk to advise Eleanor Gear.

Members discussed the recent increase in cross-Community Council funding applications and the associated drop in local relevance. Andrew Archer suggested a useful framework would be to prioritise local projects with a legacy effect, followed by local groups with no effective legacy and Shetland-wide projects that would have local impact. Lowest priority would be Shetland-wide applications which were either simply asking for funds to cover one-off expenses or would only benefit a special interest / hobby group.

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### 13.0 Footpaths

Andrew Archer gave an update on Win Furt:

Approval had been gained for registration as a SCIO.

- Jim Sutherland had talked with an Islay group about their experiences in creating similar paths. They said to expect things to take a long time — in their case, 6 years, though there were multiple, longer paths, involving multiple landowners — and that they had obtained initial funding to allow them to later provide a fully costed proposal to SusTrans.
- Win Furt would launch when the schools go back in September. There will be a public meeting and a consultation exercise. Leaflets will be sent out to advertise the project and direct people to an online consultation, which will include the idea of expanding beyond the footpaths to include planting and play park facilities. The organisation will be looking to recruit more trustees to take them up to their 12 person limit, as well as ordinary members.
- Davie Sandison had met with Elaine Park to look at possible impacts on the school bus route. She confirmed that this would be reviewed and could potentially be withdrawn if the footpath route was now deemed safe. Davie had also talked to Michael Craigie about possible grants available from the Council for the feasibility & design stage.
- As there will be costs associated with the launch (a website, leaflets, hall hire, public liability insurance, employability insurance for volunteers, etc.), it is likely that Win Furt will soon apply for a sum of £500 from TWWCC, although other funding sources are also being considered, such as the Tesco scheme and the Co-operative community fund.

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### 14.0 Councillors' Reports

- Davie Sandison was at a ward meeting with the other Councillors today. They decided that they will have monthly meeting on the last Thursday of each month and seek input from local people before each one. Prior to the Council going in recess, he had attended a planning meeting involving one hearing and one appeal.
- Catherine Hughson had attended more training sessions prior to the recess. She had been heavily involved in constituency work and would be attending some upcoming seminars.
- Ian Scott is a Councillor without portfolio. He expressed concern that residential planning from February had not yet been dealt with as big infrastructure projects like Unst spaceport seem to have been prioritised.
- Moraig Lyall had needed to leave the meeting by this point.

In response to a question from Andrew Archer, general concern was expressed about the effectiveness of the succession process for replacing retiring Planning staff, though it was noted by Davie Sandison that the backlog has recently been improved.

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### 15.0 AOCB

- Charlie Hodge reported there had been good use of local dog waste bins along the roadside, though Birgit Wagner said that there was still an issue with dog waste away from the road e.g., on paths across fields. Angela Sutherland described the Council warning design painted on the road surface around Kalliness and thought this might be useful elsewhere. Linda Tulloch reported that Kergord residents had expressed a desire for a dog waste bin, possibly located at Bonhoga.
- Linda Tulloch raised concerns about the birds making a mess as they fed from waste bins at Wormadale. Catherine Hughson reported that the net covers were now back in place, though possibly not yet weighted down, so hopefully the issue had been resolved.
- Charlie Hodge raised the issue of Ukrainian residents not yet being granted permission to come despite house approvals being in place. Neil Leask suggested this was a Scottish Government issue so the best way forward would be to contract Beatrice Wishart, MSP.

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- Neil Leask raised concerns about the uncovered, loose contents (thought to be lime) of Tulloch Developments' trucks blowing out onto the road on windy days.
    - ACTION: The Clerk to write to George Smith (Director) and Ian Davidge at Tulloch Developments.
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#### **16.0 Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2022, at Whiteness Public Hall (in the small hall).

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