



Minutes of meeting held at Whiteness Public Hall on Wednesday 21st September 2022

1.0 Present:	Andrew Archer (Chair)	Catherine Hughson
	Dilys Evans	Ian Scott
	Linda Tulloch	Davie Sandison
	Birgit Wagner	Moraig Lyall
	Paul Stevens (Clerk)	Roselyn Fraser

2.0 Apologies: Martin Randall, Charlie Hodge, Patrick Ross-Smith

3.0 Declarations of Interest: Linda Tulloch declared an interest in matters relating to Tulloch Developments, Catherine Hughson and Davie Sandison in matters relating to planning.

4.0 Police Report

There was no police report this month but Sergeant Alex Barry and PC Anna Darnowska attended the meeting to answer questions from members.

5.0 Approval of Minutes

On a motion proposed by Dilys Evans and seconded by Linda Tulloch, the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17th August 2022 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

6.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- Tulloch Developments' trucks: a follow-up email had been sent with photos of uncovered trucks and this had prompted an acknowledgement email, received earlier today.
 - Shetland information on ferries: A response from Steve Mathieson at VisitScotland had indicated that the issue was a lack of information being supplied by Shetland businesses. He will now be acting as coordinator for this as a free service.
 - Cycle groups from cruise boats: there was no clear response as to who took responsibility for advising groups of cyclists, but it was thought that bikes were supplied by the cruise ships, working with local tour guides.
→ ACTION: The Clerk to write to the Lerwick Port Authority to find out who would be the relevant tour guides or other organisations.
 - Weisdale cemetery: Both Andrew Archer and Catherine Hughson had spoken to the landowner, who had pointed out that the responsibility for the entrance lay with the council and not the landowner. The SIC is preparing a report for councillors on the management of graveyards and Andrew and Catherine had said that they would contact the landowner again once this was published.
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7.0 Decisions since last meeting

On behalf of the TWWCC, Andrew Archer had written a letter about the Gremista and Kergord power

cables, sent to both the Shetland Times and Shetland News. Both had been published.

8.0 Finance

- The Financial Report, updated to 14th September 2022, was distributed to community council members.
→ ACTION: The Clerk to simplify the spreadsheet.
 - There is still £1675 in the Christmas fund. Members voted to use this to give two £25 vouchers to local residents aged 80 and over, with the extra funding being supplied from the community council funds. Andrew Archer said that he would put a piece on the Facebook site asking for people to let the community council know of anybody who had turned 80 this year.
 - Grant Application from Whiteness & Weisdale Primary 7 Parent's Committee. The applicants had also applied for this via the SCBF Advance Grants Scheme. Andrew Archer had contacted them for clarification, discovering that the TWWCC funding application alone would be sufficient. After discussion, members noted that the proposal was to supplement fundraising efforts and would benefit a wide range of local children during the current cost of living crisis.
→ ACTION: The Clerk to inform applicants that the full amount of £557.99 has been granted.
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9.0 Correspondence

- Footpaths project training opportunity: Andrew Archer had enquired about the possibility of remote access to the course to reduce costs but had been told this was not possible. However, a Shetland-based in-person course could be provided if there was enough interest (approximately 15 people at around £30 per head). So far, there had been only one expression of interest from the Shetland community councils and three from Win Furt.
 - Tingwall Kirk: Andrew Archer had spoken to Hazel Jamieson (the original contact), who was trying to organise a meeting of interested people. Davie Sandison reported that the matter had been discussed at the last Scalloway Community Development Company meeting but that they were of the same mind as the community council. They were keen to support an initiative to save the building for community use, but any such initiative would have to be backed by a sound business plan.
 - Haggersta Cova Road report: Catherine Hughson had asked SIC Roads to perform a safety audit on the road and the report had been distributed to members. She had also met with Neil Hutcheson. The report stated that only minor changes were possible within the current budget, e.g., additional signs and more verge cutting. Any more substantial work to improve the road would need to be funded from the SIC Capital Projects budget. Catherine noted that one of the problems is that the police only record road incidents if there is injury, with vehicle damage on its own not being reported. The more frequent minor collisions that occur do not appear in the statistics for the safety audit. Catherine stated that she will push the council for a 50mph speed limit on more of the road through Whiteness and Weisdale.
 - National Power of Attorney Day: a post with the supplied information is scheduled to appear on the Facebook page on 29th September.
 - Community Council Elections: members had discussed these online before the meeting and collated opinions had been forwarded to Councillors by Andrew Archer, as well as being brought up at the recent ASCC meeting.
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10.0 Planning

- 2022/080/PPP Reason for refusal: Andrew Archer raised this due to the refusal being due to the planned building being isolated from other houses and so not being considered part of a settlement. This was thought to relate to the "20 minute neighbourhood" concept that is being introduced, but it was unclear how this could be meaningfully applied to more dispersed areas like Shetland. It was noted that a review of planning policies is upcoming.
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→ ACTION: Andrew Archer to ask applicant if they would like a letter of support from the community council for the forthcoming appeal.

11.0 Viking

- There had still been no response from SIC to the letter from the TWWCC concerning the peat slide. and the council's monitoring of the project.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to recontact Iain McDiarmid (cc: Maggie Sandison) asking for a response.

- Meeting with SSE on 31st August: Andrew Archer reported that, following the letter sent to SSE expressing the community council's concerns about the peat slide and health and safety, SSE had invited the community council chair and vice-chair to a meeting to discuss the issues raised. Andrew and Dilys Evans had met with Paul Nicholson (SSE Construction Manager) and Aaron Priest (SSE Stakeholder Manager) on 31st August. Andrew reported that the meeting had been a frank exchange of views with the community council explaining why it struggled to take some of SSE's statements at face value and SSE saying why it thought the community council's criticisms were unfair. The meeting had covered peat slides, health and safety and the Community Liaison Group.
 - Recreation plan stakeholder meeting: This has been postponed until 4th October. Linda Tulloch will attend as TWCC representative.
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12.0 SCBF

- Angela Sutherland was not present so there was no update this month.
- The 2022/23 AGS grant of £50,000 is now available.

Four grant applications were considered:

- 180294 Dogs Against Drugs Application - £2,500: refused.
- 180311 Mind Your Head - £1,500: refused.
- 180315 Whiteness & Weisdale Primary 7 Parent's Committee - £500: refused (duplicate of granted TWWCC funding application).
- 180328 Shetland Islands Games Association - £600: refused.

There was a discussion about the general tenor of recent applications. Members felt there had been a marked increase in requests for short-term funding that would originally been supplied by governmental or Local Authority sources. The current applications, while being worthwhile causes, were of this type whereas the members felt that SCBF funding was intended to have wider or legacy benefits for the local community, ideally as part of a longer term strategy.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to inform Eleanor Gear of application outcomes.

13.0 Water supply at South Whiteness

Andrew Archer reported that South Whiteness residents were still suffering frequent disruptions to their water supply due to bursts in the old main.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to contact Scottish Water to ask for more specific dates and timetable for works.

14.0 Footpaths

Andrew Archer gave an update. Michael Duncan had sent round an email about a fund for community

led projects and Win Furt were investigating whether this could be used to expand the consultation work that Systra were scheduled to do at the start of 2023. Robina Barton would be meeting with Systra Ltd. next week to ask about their capacity should funding become available, as one of the conditions of the fund was that the work must be completed by March. The Win Furt public launch would not go ahead until there was more clarity on the above, but discussions are starting with stakeholders such as the schools and halls to make them aware of what is happening.

15.0 Councillors' Reports

- Catherine Hughson had been on school visits, along with Davie Sandison. Council and Constituency meetings have now started.
- Davie Sandison noted that the planning decisions for the new power cables had been referred to Council and was on the agenda for this week. There was also an education committee meeting, including a discussion on the new Brae School.
- Moraig Lyall noted that legislation regarding short term lets will also be on the Council meeting agenda, and had concerns about the costs of carrying out licence checks in rural area like Shetland. This could dissuade much-needed rental provision and, while some exemptions are being considered, these are likely to be short and not necessarily relevant to a Shetland events timetable.
- There were no issues that Ian Scott wanted to raise.

In response to a question from Andrew Archer about drops in the Shetland education league table, Davie Sandison replied that the detail of collected data needs to be better used when considering what resources are needed, and felt that this would mean more emphasis on basic literacy and numeracy). Catherine Hughson noted that there was still a huge problem with recruitment and continuing over assessment. Moraig Lyall suggested there was a misplaced emphasis on pastoral care at the expense of educational basics.

There was further discussion regarding the referred power cables planning decisions, with members reiterating the local residents' preference for buried cables. It was still considered that the additional cost of such measures was small when compared the overall costs, and daily profits, of the power network.

→ ACTION: Andrew Archer will draft a letter to Councillors regarding the community's stated wish to bury cables.

16.0 AOCB

- The new website had been reviewed by members, who felt that it was simple to navigate and effective. After some final tweaks, it will be made public later this month.
- There had been an ASCC meeting last night. Discussions included local place plans, local elections, and Northlink ferry capacity. On the latter point, it was decided to contact the Scottish Government to emphasise the need for an increase in capacity.

17.0 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 19th October 2022, at Whiteness Public Hall (in the small hall).
