



TINGWALL, WHITENESS & WEISDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 15th July 2026

1.0 Present:

Andrew Archer (Chair)	Moraig Lyall
Linda Tulloch (Vice Chair)	Catherine Hughson
Birgit Wagner	Davie Sandison
Charlie Hodge	Ian Scott
Margaret Cooper	
Steve Groom	
Selina-May Miller	

2.0 Apologies:

Martin Randall, Michael Duncan

3.0 Declarations of Interest:

Catherine Hughson and Davie Sandison for planning matters due to their roles on the SIC Planning Committee.

4.0 Approval of Minutes

On a motion proposed by Birgit Wagner and seconded by Margaret Cooper, the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17th June 2026 were agreed as a correct record.

5.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- Co-option of new CC member. No potential members had been forthcoming. The advert will be periodically placed on Facebook.
- Report from second Shetland Partnership Plan meeting: The theme for this meeting was “inequality”, with a factual presentation and some discussion.
- Road closure webpage issues: the [road closure page](#) has now been updated (albeit with the wrong “last updated” date). One weekly road report had been received by email.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to query whether the ‘weekly’ road report email is actually weekly or just issued when new works are planned, and to highlight again the need to include the “last updated” date on the webpage.

6.0 Decisions since last meeting

- None.

7.0 Police report

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- Members were pleased to see only one crime item listed in the April/May report, but very concerned about more recent reports from residents in Gaet-a-Gott that there had been damage to cars, eggs being thrown, and late night disturbances. Residents have reported incidents to the police.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to contact police to ask if there is any official advice that they could provide on deterrent measures, to be shared with residents. Additionally, to request that they could increase their presence in the Gaet-a-Gott area.

8.0 Finance

- The Financial Report, updated to 8th July 2026, had been distributed to the members.

9.0 Correspondence

- Members noted a resident's email expressing dissatisfaction with the new location of the Tingwall bus stop.
- A resident had contacted the CC regarding their concerns about the derelict Scottish Water building in Nesbister, especially with regard to the safety of children playing in the area.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to write to Scottish Water to say that concerns have been raised by the community that the building is in a dangerous state, and ask that they please either make it safe or demolish it.

- Administration of Mossy Hill Community Benefit Fund: Birgit Wagner and Martin Randall had attended the latest Mossy Hill Community Liaison Group meeting, and Birgit reported that Statkraft had made the decision to go ahead with the Mossy Hill development, although the grid connection is still to be resolved. They have not yet made a decision on whether a community owned stake might be an option, and the mooted discussion with the relevant CCs has yet to happen. More generally, there will be an item at the next ASCC meeting on the role of the SCBF in any future community benefit payments. After discussion, members agreed that the SCBF was the most practical body to administer community benefit payments for Mossy Hill. There were different opinions as to how any funds should be split amongst CCs, but an allocation of 90% of funding shared amongst the three most affected CCs (TWW, Scalloway and Lerwick) and 10% to be split between the other Shetland CCs would be a starting point for further discussion.
- Westings premises licence application: there were no objections to this being granted.

10.0 Planning

- There was one planning application to be considered this month: 2026/119/LBC Replace all existing double glazed sash and case windows with Nordan triple glazed lookalike sash and case windows, 1 Veensgarth, Gott. Members did not wish to submit any comments.
- Overview of Local Place Plan events: the LPP survey had returned 52 responses in total (31 from the Whiteness and Weisdale area, and 21 from the Tingwall area). Both LPP events had seen interest from local residents and landowners. A further post will be on Facebook to ask for any final respondents before the survey closes and the data are analysed.
- Members noted that the resident engaged in a dispute over planning (*see item 10 in the May*

2026 minutes) had now put in an appeal to the Scottish Government Environmental Appeals Division.

11.0 Energy

- Report on 2nd Mossy Hill CLG: this was covered earlier under item 9.
- SSEN consultations: Steve Groom and Andrew Archer attended the Voe event. While one small section will now have buried cabling, plans still include the large-format pylons for much of the Kergord-Northern interconnector route, contractually tied to the consenting of the two proposed wind farms in Yell. One reason given for the pylons was grid resilience for Shetland, although local problems are more often attributed to the local 11kV network which the mooted 132kV/220kV transmission infrastructure would not address. Alternative reasons included the electrification of offshore oil and gas operations, and a proposed hydrogen plant.
- Energy moratorium: at their most recent meeting, the ASCC agreed to organise a convention of community councillors, to call for a pause to energy developments while a planning inquiry commission is held. Andrew Archer will write to all the Shetland CCs to request they confirm who will be attending and presenting, and Local MSPs have been invited along with other relevant groups.

12.0 Report on ASCC meeting

- At the 2nd July ASCC meeting, Maggie Sandison (Chief Executive SIC) and Paul Fraser (Executive Manager, SIC Finance) attended to give an update on council finances and the ongoing restructuring process. Paul presented on the Council's financial position: a total expenditure of approximately £220 million against income of approximately £180 million. The shortfall of approximately £40 million needs to be addressed in the current year, partly through sustainable use of reserves and partly through less sustainable measures. Maggie provided a brief update on the restructuring process. After discussion, ASCC members had concerns about the robustness of the plan to address the shortfall and resolved to invite the SIC Convener to attend a future meeting.
- Other discussions included the aforementioned energy moratorium convention, and the resources which would be needed to allow CCs to hold hybrid (in-person plus remote videolink attendance) meetings.

13.0 Win Furt

- As agreed last month, the Trustees are progressing the planning application for the potential routes north of Shetland Jewellery and they have been researching surfacing options. There were concerns that non-tarmac (type 1 aggregate) surfaces are prone to washing out — leading to maintenance requirements that Win Furt would be unable to fund — so they decided to use wheelchair-accessible stabilisation products (e.g., a grid plus membrane plus gravel infill).
- Andrew Archer will stand down as Win Furt Chair, with Rozanne Jamieson taking up the role. Members expressed their appreciation for all the work he has put into the organisation over the last two years.

14.0 SCBF

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- There were no applications this month.
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15.0 Roads

- Tingwall valley verges: there had been concerns about visibility for drivers along the road, but the verges have since been cut shorter along the inside of the bends (leaving the longer, wildlife-friendly grass on the outside bends where it doesn't interfere with sightlines).
- Reporting bad drivers to police: recently there had been posted videos of inconsiderate driving (e.g., overtaking cyclists without leaving a safe distance) and members wondered whether the Shetland police were able to act on the basis of such video evidence, similar to West Midlands' *Operation Snap*.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to enquire whether the Lerwick police operate a scheme wherein video evidence of unsafe driving could be submitted.

16.0 Councillors' Reports

SIC is now on recess, although transport planning and operations are currently being restructured, with associated changes in staffing, and there are ongoing discussions about inter-island connectivity.

17.0 AOCB

- Steve Groom was the ASCC representative at a well-attended Shetland meeting on resilience for communications, held by the Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology. Feedback was given about the issues faced by islanders (e.g., that communications could be knocked out by a power failure, or that mobile signals were still poor or absent in some areas). They mentioned that there were online community resilience hubs at <https://resiliencehubs.org.uk> and <https://prepare.campaign.gov.uk>
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18.0 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 19th August 2026, at Whiteness & Weisdale Public Hall.
