



TINGWALL, WHITENESS & WEISDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 18th June 2025

1.0 Present:

Andrew Archer (Chair) Ian Scott
Linda Tulloch (Vice Chair)
Birgit Wagner
Neil Leask
John Clarkson
Martin Randall
Charlie Hodge
Paul Stevens (Clerk)

2.0 Apologies:

Moraig Lyall, Catherine Hughson, Margaret Cooper, Michael Duncan

3.0 Declarations of Interest:

Andrew Archer, as Chair of Win Furt, declared a financial interest in grant decisions for the SCBF; John Clarkson, due to the nature of his employment, declared a financial interest in matters relating to Viking, and a non-financial interest in matters relating to application CGS0042.

4.0 Approval of Minutes

On a motion proposed by Martin Randall and seconded by Birgit Wagner, the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21st May 2025 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

5.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Updates to Wormadale viewpoint: it seems likely that planning permission will be needed for any upgrades to the bench and/or signage, and the work will need to be carried out by a builder with public liability insurance.

6.0 Decisions since last meeting

None.

7.0 Police Report

Police reports covering February to May had now been received and circulated to members. There were no issues which members wished to raise.

8.0 Finance

- The Financial Report, updated to 11th June 2025, was distributed to community council members.
- The SIC grant for 2025/26 has now been received into the bank account.

9.0 Correspondence

- There had been a media enquiry from a journalist writing for *Private Eye*, asking about the potential for a conflict of interest between the CC and Win Furt. An extensive reply was sent explaining Win Furt's role as the implementer of the findings of the CC's survey of local residents, but this was not referenced in the final brief article.
- A notification of a consultation on the draft updated Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind Energy had been received.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to respond on behalf of the CC, to highlight that planning applications need to include plans for onshore support infrastructure from the very beginning.

10.0 Planning

- 2025/148/PPF To site 2no. glamping pods; create new access from existing access track, parking and turning area; install new surface water attenuation device; install connection to public drainage network, Site adjacent to 'Lotrans' Gott
- 2025/122/PPF To erect an agricultural shed and install surface water drainage (Retrospective Application), Cogton Bod Strom Ness Whiteness
- 2025/010/WL To install a new septic tank outfall and associated works, Cogton Binnaness Whiteness
- 2025/123/PPF To construct hill track & tracking of services to serve Shepherd's accommodation (Part Retrospective), Cogton Binnaness Whiteness

Members did not wish to comment on any of the above four applications.

- 2025/137/PPF To reinstate former dwelling including associated supporting infrastructure to provide essential residential accommodation for a full time Shepherd (Part Retrospective), Cogton Binnaness Whiteness
 - ACTION: The Clerk to respond that the CC does not object to application 2025/137/PPF but would prefer that any approval came with the condition that the property is only to be used by shepherds working within the associated business.

11.0 Viking / Statkraft

There were no new developments this month other than to note that Andrew Archer had talked to John Thouless again, and Andrew Blackadder had sent an initial Memorandum of Understanding to Statkraft.

12.0 Win Furt

- The planning application for the TIngwall route is still awaiting a decision.
- SSEN has now sent a Memorandum of Understanding to Win Furt, and articles about the new funds for Win Furt had appeared (16th June) in both the Shetland Times and the Shetland News.
- The Win Furt Trustees will meet to discuss the first steps to be taken to progress the Hellister

route.

13.0 SCBF

[Andrew Archer recused himself from this discussion; John Clarkson did not take part in the discussion]

There was one application this month: CGS0042 (Outings and events/activities for the local 65+ community) from the Whiteness & Weisdale Good Companions for £1,000

→ ACTION: The Clerk to submit approval to SCBF for the full amount.

14.0 Roads

The pothole on the South Whiteness road had been partially filled but there were concerns that the remaining part could quickly deteriorate.

→ ACTION: the Clerk to email Roads to highlight concerns and ask it be looked at again.

15.0 Councillors' Reports

Ian Scott did not wish to report anything.

16.0 AOCB

- It is now confirmed that the RTS switch-off in Shetland will be a staged closure over the next three months (completing by the end of September 2025). It is important that people do book an appointment to have a replacement meter installed where needed.
 - ACTION: Andrew Archer to create a post on Facebook reminding people how to get a new meter.
 - At the recent ASCC meeting: (i) there had been a presentation about the Viking Genes project in Shetland of which members felt it would be useful for the CC to help raise awareness; (ii) it was announced that a consultation on new ferries for the Aberdeen-Northern Isles route would be forthcoming.
 - Members noted that the idea (popular in social media sites) that wind farm benefit money should be used as payments to reduce people's electricity bill was not a possible option. However, there were other ways in which people could reduce their electricity bill: via existing grants and other schemes, and from advice on energy efficiency improvements. Members welcomed the idea that the CC could contribute by holding advice sessions to inform resident of what help was available to them, and will make enquiries with a view to progressing this.
-

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 16th July at the Whiteness and Weisdale Public Hall.
