



**TINGWALL, WHITENESS & WEISDALE
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 20th May 2026

1.0 Present:

Andrew Archer (Chair)	Ian Scott
Selina-May Miller	Moraig Lyall
Linda Tulloch (Vice Chair)	Catherine Hughson
Martin Randall	
Steve Groom	Michael Duncan (SIC Community Council Liaison Officer)
Paul Stevens (Clerk)	Nicole Sim (SIC Resources Officer, Community Planning and Development)
	Leah Colyer (SIC Community Development Officer)

2.0 Apologies:

Birgit Wagner, Charlie Hodge, Margaret Cooper, Davie Sandison

3.0 Declarations of Interest:

Catherine Hughson declared an interest in Planning matters due to her role as SIC Planning Committee Vice Chair; and Linda Tulloch in the resident involved in a legal dispute, due to a personal connection.

4.0 Resignation/Co-option of Member

Due to other commitments, Neil Leask had resigned from the community council. Members expressed their appreciation of his involvement over the years and wished him well. A new member will be co-opted to fill the vacancy. Members will approach any suitable candidates known to them, and an advert will be placed on the Facebook page asking for expressions of interest before the next CC meeting.

[Linda Tulloch arrived at this point]

5.0 Approval of Minutes

On a motion proposed by Martin Randall and seconded by Linda Tulloch, the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 15th April 2026 were agreed as a correct record.

6.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

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- Nominees for Shetland Partnership Plan (SPP). Members agreed that their priority needed to be on the production of a Local Place Plan, so could not commit to the SPP in the longer term. Linda Tulloch will attend the initial SPP meeting on 21st May, along with Moraig Lyall, and both will report back to the CC.
 - Road issues at the Strand Loch junction, near the Califf junction, and Tingwall crossroads: No reply had been received as yet. Members also noted that the road reinstatement carried out by RRR was of poor quality.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to contact Roads to ask whether they are satisfied with the quality of the road reinstatement at Tingwall, and to prompt for a reply to last month's requests.
 - Follow-up email to Gordon Bell, SSEN: A reply had been received stating that the connection from Kergord to the new substation south of Voe, and onward to the Northern Hub area, is needed so power can flow safely and reliably between north mainland Shetland and the existing transmission network. This provides a connection for planned renewable projects in Northern Mainland to connect to the existing network. The Northern converter station and the second subsea cable create another route between Shetland and mainland Scotland, but they don't replace the need to move electricity around Shetland. Additionally, the new substation south of Voe would involve a stepped up voltage, meaning fewer lines and towers overall. SSEN is proposing 220kV (rather than the standard 400kV) which would allow smaller pylons than would typically be used elsewhere, to reduce visual impact. There will be more community engagement as plans develop, at which point the CC members will consider their response.

7.0 Decisions since last meeting

Members voted in favour of proceeding with the production of a Local Place Plan (LPP).

8.0 Police report

There was no report this month.

9.0 Finance

- The Financial Report, updated to 13th May 2026, was distributed to the members.
- There was one grant application to be considered, from the Whiteness and Weisdale Good Companions for £2,500, as part funding towards arranging events and activities for the local over-60s community. Members wished to contribute something towards the funding, but felt that other sources would be a better fit for this organisation, about which Michael Duncan could advise.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to advise the applicants that they had been awarded £500, and to advise them to contact Michael Duncan regarding other possible funding sources.

10.0 Correspondence

- The CC had been contacted by Shetland Arts, who were seeking to understand how Bonhoga could better connect with and support its community. Members felt that the

immediate priority was merely to reopen the venue, and to reinstate the very popular café.

→ ACTION: Selina-May will have a conversation with Shetland Arts about Bonhoga.

- A local resident had emailed to ask the CC's opinion on whether mains water pressure in the area would be sufficient to accommodate the new housing developments in the Wornadale area, and also to ask for advice on funding to help local businesses install solar panels. Members referred the resident to Scottish Water for advice, noting that the latter would have been consulted as part of any planning applications. Regarding the solar panels, Michael Duncan would be the person to contact for funding advice.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to refer the resident to Scottish Water regarding mains water pressure, and to Michael Duncan at SIC regarding solar panel business funding.

- Another local resident had emailed to ask whether there might be interest in a children's play park in Wadbister. Members felt that this would be a popular idea, and one which had been raised by others in the past. Given the CC had decided to develop an LPP, the resident is encouraged to submit this idea as part of the consultation for that.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to ask the resident to consider submitting the play park idea to the forthcoming LPP consultation.

- Members noted the Community Impact Survey results, sent by the *Save Scalloway Pool Action Group*.

- An email was sent to the CC Chair from a resident engaged in a dispute over planning permission. Members felt that they were unable to comment or provide guidance on this, other than to suggest that legal advice is sought regarding any appeal.

→ ACTION: Andrew Archer to respond to the resident to say that the CC cannot advise on this and suggest they seek legal advice.

- Concerns had been raised about the state of the Tingwall placename sign on the approach from the Girlsta direction, especially due to the popularity with tourists of seeing the old Norse names.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to ask Roads to clean the placename and other tourist-oriented signs.

11.0 Planning

- There were no planning applications to be considered this month.
- Regarding the LPP, Andrew Archer, Martin Randall, Birgit Wagner, and Charlie Hodge had met with Diane Cassidy from Planning Aid Scotland. Members felt that an LPP would be useful for the CC as it feeds into the SIC Local Development Plan. The deadline for producing the LPP is 31st October 2026, so this becomes a priority for the members. A poster will be put on Facebook, copied to the website, and forwarded to Parent councils at both local schools, looking for people to join the steering group for the project.

The planned process is community engagement (June), data analysis (July), plan production (August), and a statutory community consultation period (September). As the TWWCC remit covers two distinct communities (Tingwall, and Whiteness and Weisdale), it was decided to

produce two separate plans in parallel, one for each area.

All the TWWCC members at the CC meeting (Selina-May Miller, Martin Randall, Linda Tulloch, Andrew Archer, and Steve Groom) volunteered to join the steering group, with additional input from the SIC Community Development Officer, Leah Colyer. The first meeting will be on 26th May.

As LPP production is being undertaken by many Shetland CCs, members felt it would be useful to investigate the possibility of an online information sharing forum.

→ ACTION: Andrew Archer will compose a message about LPP information sharing, which Michael Duncan will forward to all the Shetland CCs.

12.0 Energy

- There had been a meeting of the Mossy Hill Community Liaison Group (CLG), comprising representative from TWWCC, Scalloway CC, Lerwick CC, and Statkraft. Members were told that enabling works will start soon, in advance of a final decision on the project by the Statkraft board. Statkraft had reported at the CLG that they had recently undergone a financial restructuring and, whilst there was still no final decision from Statkraft on whether to make a community ownership offer, the TWWCC representatives at the meeting felt that the changes made any community ownership plans less likely. Given the planned reduction in size and power of the turbines, any community benefits would be smaller than originally planned. The next CLG meeting will be on 5th June, when Statkrafts plans should be clarified.
- The ASCC has been asked to consider area-specific versus Shetland-wide community benefit funds.
- The item about the establishment of a Shetland Community Councillors' convention on the impact of major energy infrastructure will now be on the July ASCC meeting agenda.
- Statkraft has cancelled the planned meeting regarding the proposed Tagdale ammonia plant due to parts of the project still being under review.

13.0 Win Furt

- It is an ongoing struggle to identify affordable options, with estimates being far higher than anticipated, even for the initial planning process. For the Tingwall path, the construction estimate is very high, so the Trustees are awaiting a decision from ZetTrans to see if plans might be adopted as part of the Scottish government funded Active Travel Scheme.
- For the Hellister path, Win Furt has been looking at whether costs could be reduced by considering a cheaper gravel-path option. This would reduce the construction costs by about 50%, but the design and planning costs would still be considerable. Additionally, SCBF has confirmed that their funds could not be applied for with respect to ongoing maintenance. The Win Furt trustees will need to decide whether to still pursue this project or seek smaller, more affordable, alternatives.

14.0 SCBF

- There were no applications this month.
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- The SCBF AGM will be on 10th June. TWWCC members did not have any issues they wished to raise with their representative.
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15.0 Roads

Two new issues have been reported:

(i) the Kergord road surface and edges are in poor condition, with some areas already marked with traffic cones. Signs indicate that resurfacing is due to start in early June.

(ii) the road surface around the ironwork near Strand Loch is breaking apart.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to write to Roads to ask if the planned works will be sufficient to repair all the Kergord road issues, and that they investigate the road surface around the ironwork near Strand Loch.

16.0 Councillors' Reports

- Along with education matters, Catherine Hughson has been dealing with concerns from the house resident on the promontory off to the south of the South Whiteness road, which is increasingly being encroached by seawater in bad weather. While there is general provision under coastal protection acts for remedial work, SIC is under no obligation to fund this, so there appears to be no recourse other than privately funded works.
 - Moraig Lyall reported that a new head had been identified for Tingwall Primary School, and that she had been busy with transport issues, with the Transport Scotland contracts coming up for renewal soon.
 - Ian Scott did not wish to report anything.
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17.0 AOCB

None.

18.0 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 17th June 2026, at Whiteness & Weisdale Public Hall.
