



TINGWALL, WHITENESS & WEISDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 17th September 2025

1.0 Present:

Andrew Archer (Chair)	Ian Scott
Linda Tulloch (Vice Chair)	
Birgit Wagner	Matt Mason (SFRS)
Neil Leask	Public attendee (1)
Margaret Cooper	
Charlie Hodge	
John Clarkson	

2.0 Apologies:

Martin Randall, Moraig Lyall, Catherine Hughson, Davie Sandison, Michael Duncan, Roselyn Fraser

3.0 Declarations of Interest:

Linda Tulloch declared an interest for planning application 2025/215/PPP due to a family connection.

4.0 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) consultation

Matt Mason from the SFRS attended to talk about the consultation on the future of the service, with a focus on fire prevention strategies. Climate change has produced longer, drier summers and these have increased the risk of moor fires. Funding for Shetland-based services has been an ongoing challenge, especially in terms of the upkeep of some fire stations and provision of the vital decontamination measures needed to safeguard fire-fighters.

[Ian Scott arrived at this point]

The Shetland service continues to have a good relationship with SIC, and with the Coastguard and RNLI, to enable them to deal with the logistics of island life. Home fire safety visits are available and details will be posted on the Facebook page. Matt highlighted the 2019 legislation that requires Scottish homes to have interlinked (wired or wireless) fire alarms: at minimum there should be one smoke alarm in the room most frequently used for daytime living, one smoke alarm in every 'circulation space' (e.g., hallway, landing), and one heat alarm in the kitchen.

[Matt Mason left at this point]

5.0 Planning *(brought forward for the convenience of the member of the public attending)*

There were two applications to be considered this month:

- 2025/226/PPF To erect a single storey dwellinghouse with detached garage; create associated parking, turning and access; install private septic tank and surface water drainage system; install air source heat pump. Site At Breiwick, Gott.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to submit "No comment" for application 2025/226/PPF.

- 2025/215/PPP Erection of 5no. dwelling houses, creation of access road, excavation of drainage ditch, Wormadale.
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A local resident was present to outline their objections to the proposal: overbearing scale and massing, traffic and parking concerns, danger to children, and being outwith with the current Shetland Development Plan (2014). Members agreed that there were substantive issues with the application, and had also heard additional concerns from other residents about road safety — including visibility issues and winter conditions — and demands on the water supply.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to submit CC members' objections for application 2025/215/PPP.

[The member of the public left at this point]

6.0 Approval of Minutes

On a motion proposed by Charlie Hodge and seconded by John Clarkson, the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20th August 2025 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

7.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- South Whiteness pothole: there has still been no reply.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to contact Roads again about looking at the unrepaired part of the pothole.
- Cott Road verge reinstatement quality: Roads have said that they will look at the verges on the Cott road, and remove stones and spray the weeds as necessary.
- SIC Roads Ragwort policy: Neil Hutcheson had responded to say their policy was to act upon complaints from affected landowners by removing “injurious” weeds from the roadside verge where they are likely to spread to adjacent agricultural land and present a high risk of poisoning to horses and livestock, or where the land is used for the production of forage. They note that Ragwort is an important plant for wildlife in the UK and only hazardous in very specific situations.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to reply to the resident who had contacted the CC about the verges and Ragwort concerns.
- It was noted that an agreement has been reached to relocate the problematic bus stop in Tingwall *[refers to item 9 in July 2025 minutes]*
- It was noted that the Environment and Transport committee have decided not to give permission for the relocation of the disabled space in Kalliness *[refers to item 9 in May 2025 minutes]*
- The replacement pads have arrived and will be installed in the E&H Building defibrillator.

8.0 Decisions since last meeting

None.

9.0 Police Report

There was no police report this month.

10.0 Finance

The Financial Report, updated to 10th September 2025, was distributed to members.

11.0 Correspondence

- More concerns had been expressed by Kalliness residents about ongoing parking issues at Kalliness, especially with a recent increase in new residents.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to contact Roads again to ask for an update on any plans for additional parking at Kalliness.
 - A local resident had contacted the CC about speeding issues in Wornadale.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to contact Roads to ask what could be done to reduce speed and improve road safety on the upper Wornadale road.
 - A letter had been received asking whether TWWCC would provide a letter of support for the Viking Gene project. Members were happy to agree to this.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to send a letter of support from the CC for the aims of the Viking Gene Project.
 - A request had been made by the donor of the defibrillator situated at the Whiteness shop for the CC to take over the maintenance and registration of the unit. Members decided that they were willing to do this but that would be the final one (this being the third defibrillator maintained by TWWCC).
 - ACTION: Linda Tulloch to let the donor know that TWWCC will adopt the defibrillator.
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12.0 Viking / Statkraft

It had been noted that a lot of groundwater was seeping out by the Kergord road, near the converter station on the inside bend at the top of the hill, between the old and new roads.

- ACTION: Andrew Archer to contact SSE Renewables to ask about the surface water on the road.
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13.0 Win Furt

There were no updates this month.

14.0 SCBF

There were no applications this month.

15.0 Roads

Members had concerns about the quality of the verge reinstatement between the Veensgarth staggered junction uphill to Windy Grind.

- ACTION: The Clerk to enquire of Roads whether they consider the verge reinstatement programme to have been completed, highlighting members concerns.
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16.0 Councillors' Reports

Ian Scott did not wish to report anything this month.

17.0 Community Council governing documents

SIC had produced a final version of the Community Council governing documents. These were adopted with a majority vote, with Andrew Archer signing on behalf of the council.

18.0 AOCB

Members decided to continue the Christmas card scheme again this year.

→ ACTION: Linda Tulloch to contact local businesses about donations.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 15th October at the Tingwall Community Hall.
