

DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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Minute of Meeting of **Dunrossness Community Council** held in Dunrossness Primary School on Monday 18 June 2012.

PRESENT:

Mr D Robertson	Mr J Ridland	Mr S Mitchell	Mrs F Mitchell
Mrs S Malcolmson	Mr R Mainland	Mr M Tregonning	Mr R Nickerson
Mrs E Mainland	Mr J Sinclair	Mr A Duncan	Cllr B Fox (ex-officio)
Cllr G Smith (ex-officio)		PC N MacAngus	

APOLOGIES

Mrs Pat Christie (Community Worker)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs S Leslie (Clerk)

12/10 IAIN GARRICK, FORMER VICE CHAIR

Mr Robertson noted it was very sad to lose Iain Garrick so suddenly and unexpectedly from both the Community and the Community Council. He will be a great miss to both. Mrs Mainland suggested that the Community Council send a sympathy card to his family. This was agreed.

12/11 NEW COUNCILLORS

Mr Robertson welcomed the new SIC Councillors to their first meeting of Dunrossness Community Council

12/12 MINUTE

The Minute of the meeting held on 30 April 2012 was adopted on the motion of Mr Mainland

12/13

12/13 POLICE REPORT

PC MacAngus informed the members that there have been 21 items dealt with by the Police in the Dunrossness area since the last meeting with the notable ones being 3 sudden deaths (one of which was the American student at Westvoe Beach) and the seizure of £10,000 worth of cannabis. The remainder of the items were routine.

Police Board: Mr Duncan reported that things are looking good in relation to crime detection rates in Shetland although there has been a small increase in vandalism recently in Lerwick. With regard to staffing levels in Shetland, there are currently 5 vacancies although 3 are expected to be filled imminently. Two of the vacancies had arisen due to promotion which meant the officers involved moving to a new area. There are still concerns that the Lerwick Police Station could shut for parts of the night but the last Council were unanimous that they wanted the Police Station open to the public as much as possible and this matter is currently in the hands of the Chief Inspector. Cllrs Duncan and Couper will be continuing to attend all meetings to put Shetland's case.

12/14 MATTERS ARISING**1. Road Matters**

a) Fair Isle Roads: Following the Clerks e-mail to the Roads Dept for an update on the Fair Isle Roads, Dave Coupe had replied that *'the yellow marks in question were marking out some works required on the road leading to the airstrip. The edge of the road was collapsing adjacent to a burn and remedial measures in the form of Gabion Baskets was determined to be the best course of action. These works have now been undertaken'. This was confirmed by Mrs Mitchell. Mr Coupe continues by saying that 'the visit into the island was made by the Road Inspector for the area as part of his routine statutory safety inspection. His finds are that the condition of the roads in Fair Isle are fit for purpose and no other works are planned other than occasional routine maintenance as and when necessary.'*

b) 'Devils Elbow', Channerwick: There was nothing new to report.

c) Boddam Road: There was nothing new to report.

12/14 MATTERS ARISING**1. Road Matters**

d) Moull Corner: Neil Hutcheson, SIC Roads, had e-mailed the Clerk regarding their plans for rectifying the failed surface dressing at the Moull. Mr Hutcheson states *'We have been giving consideration to the best means of rectifying the failed section of surface dressing at the Moull. We have recently re-done surface dressing on the A968 at Caldback Hill in Unst, on a length of the road where surface dressing done 3 years ago had failed. The initial reports are that the second dressing has been successful and has produced an even running surface. I will be in Unst on Monday 18 June so will have an opportunity to assess the condition of this length of road. Depending on what I find in Unst I would propose to rectify the surface at the Moull in the same way with a further layer of surface dressing. This should produce a better surface than that in Unst as the 10mm chip will bed into the 14mm chip remaining on the carriageway. Therefore, following a second surface dressing the height difference between the areas which currently have chips and those without will not be as high at Da Moull as they are in Unst.* The members were very pleased that the Roads Dept plan to take remedial action. Mr Hutcheson had stated in his e-mail that he would appreciate an opportunity to discuss the possible solution to the road surface problem with the Community Council before proceeding, however, Mr Nickerson stated that there was no need for the Roads Dept to postpone the works until meeting with Dunrossness Community Council as the members are not suitably qualified to made decisions on the best solution to the problem and the sooner the works were carried out the better. This was agreed and the Clerk will contact Mr Hutcheson regarding the matter.

e) Levenwick 30 mph speed restriction extension: There was nothing new to report.

2. Grutness Car Park: There was nothing new to report.

3. Levenwick Graveyard Access: There was nothing new to report

4. Scousburgh Sand Public Toilets: There was nothing new to report.

5. MV Good Shepherd/Grutness Pier: The members were unsure whether the promised seabed survey had ever been carried out at Grutness so Mr Duncan offered to make enquiries.

12/14 MATTERS ARISING (Continued)

6. Hardbrakes Place, Quendale: Mr Duncan reported that the purchase of 5 houses by Shetland Islands Council is now complete as is the necessary refurbishments and their allocation will also be complete within the next few days. Mr Tregonning enquired if they are to be kept for any target group. Mr Duncan replied that he did not know. Mr Tregonning stated that he was concerned that if they were kept for emergency occupation that this would mean they would not be available for families. Mr Mainland enquired of the remaining 9 houses and Mr Duncan replied that some of these are already occupied through sub-let. Mr Mainland stated that it was good that there were now 5 additional public sector houses available in the area. The members agreed. Mr Tregonning enquired of Mr Duncan what was happening with the vacant Police Houses. Mr Duncan replied that as neither SIC or Hjaltland were interested in purchasing them, they were to be put on the private market. Mr Tregonning stated that he knew of a private party who had written to the Police Estates section in Inverness regarding these properties but had not received a reply. Mr Duncan offered to pursue this. Mr Tregonning will consult the party involved and get back to Mr Duncan.

7. Levenwick Beach Refuse Bin: Mrs Mainland enquired if anyone knew if the new larger bin had been installed yet. The Clerk will contact SIC for an update on this.

12/15 FINANCE AND GRANT APPLICATIONS

1. Community Council Grant Guidelines: The Clerk reported she had received a reply to her enquiry on guidelines for the awarding of grants and she would forward a copy of the guidelines to the members for their information.

2. South Mainland Community Association Senior Citizens Group – To assist with the costs of providing monthly meetings for senior citizens in the area: A decision on this application had been deferred from the previous meeting in order to seek further information from the SIC regarding the payment of the second instalment of the Community Council's annual grant. Jacqueline Johnson had replied stating that it is proposed to pay the second tranche of the grant in September or whenever the review of Community Councils is complete. The review is currently on going, in conjunction with the ASCC. The letter states that the situation will continue to be monitored to endeavour to complete the review as soon as possible and, should the Community Council find themselves in financial difficulty before September, they are asked to let Ms Johnson know. As the members considered it quite likely that the Community Council will receive their full budget (5% less than the previous year) by September it was agreed, as proposed by Mr Mainland and seconded by Mr Duncan, to award the sum of £600 as requested.

12/15 FINANCE AND GRANT APPLICATIONS (Continued)

3. Unadopted Roads: Mrs Mitchell enquired if there would be any financial assistance towards the up-keep of peat roads this year. The members noted that due to severe budget cuts over the last few years, no such financial assistance had been available from Dunrossness Community Council. Mrs Mitchell agreed to obtain further information on the road in question and report back to the Community Council.

12/16 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING MATTERS

1. Installation of an Evance R9000 5kW wind turbine on a 12m tubular tower, Burnside, Ellister, Bigton by Mr Andrew Fullerton – There were no objections

2. Change of use from Chalet to Health Centre Surgery and form new Entrance Ramp and External Stairs, Chalet North of Barkland, Fair Isle by Mr Lawson Bisset – Mrs Mitchell requested the copy of the plans as the Fair Isle Community have not seen them to date and will report back to the Clerk in due course.

3. Erect Garage and Utility Room adjoining existing Dwellinghouse, Glenview, Ireland, Bigton by Mr Steve Fordyce, Glenview, Ireland, Bigton – There were no objections.

4. Erect Conservatory onto West Elevation, Caergarth, South East of Sandblister Place, Scatness by Mr Michael Greaves, Caergarth, Scatness – There were no objections.

5. Erect Garden Room extension, Timber Deck and new Dormer Window, Laebrack, Ireland, Bigton by Mr & Mrs R Morrison, Laebrack, Bigton – There were no objections.

6. Retrospective Planning Permission – Mr Tregonning informed the members that it had come to light that a house that was on the market in the Dunrossness area had had 3 significant planning violations which had now been rectified by means of retrospective planning permission being granted by what he considered delegated authority as the Community Council had not seen the retrospective planning application. None of the members could, however, confirm either way whether the application(s) had been included on the SIC Weekly Planning List. Mr Tregonning considered that this sort of thing gave the impression that you could build or alter a house in any way without bothering to apply for planning permission as obtaining it at a later date would just be a formality as there appears to be no public scrutiny on retrospective applications. Mr Nickerson suggested that the first thing to be done would be to confirm whether the application was actually included in a Weekly List. This was agreed.

12/17 REFRESH OF THE BLUEPRINT FOR EDUCATION

Mr Tregonning reported that the Dunrossness Primary School Parent Council had agreed not to complete the 'tick box' document but to put their points in a written statement. Hansen Black, Parent Council Chair, had taken on to produce this statement and to circulate it to parents for comment but this duty had now been taken on by Mr Tregonning. The Community Council members agreed that they were in support of not using the 'tick box' format. Mr Nickerson stated that he was not in favour however of rejecting the consultation and it was agreed that a written response should be made. Mr Nickerson suggested that the findings of the South Shetland Vision on education could be used in the Community Councils response as it had been endorsed by the community by a 10 month consultation. This was agreed. Mr Robertson enquired how financial savings were going to be made. Mr Tregonning replied that the challenge would be to come up with a response that saves money and preserves the best parts of the education system and the Parent Council intend to voice their concerns regarding how this consultation is being done. Mr Mainland stated that he considered the process to be 'all wrong' and instead of picking and choosing what should stay and what should go, the whole education provision should be looked at and then decisions taken on what can be afforded. It was agreed that this whole consultation was flawed. Cllr Duncan suggested Cllr George Smith as Vice Chair of the Education and Families Committee update the members. This was agreed. Cllr Smith stated that the reality is that what was asked of the officers at the last meeting of the previous Council wouldn't have found favour with the new committee, however, the officers were only doing what was asked of them. Following the current consultation, a report is to be put to the August meeting of the Education and Families Committee. The Report is to be based on the strategy of what education is to look like across Shetland. However, Cllr Smith believes the new Anderson High School is pivotal to education in Shetland. A funding application for assistance with the building of the new AHS has been put to the Scottish Government and he believes a strategy is required until the new high school is built and then possibly a second strategy would be necessary. Cllr Smith's personal opinion is that there should be as little change to education provision within Shetland at the moment until the situation with the new AHS is known. Cllr Smith would like there to be dialogue with all communities on education provision and an ideal situation set out and costed. This could then be considered and what was realistically financially possible taken back to the public. Cllr Duncan pointed out that £30 million in savings need to be found over the next 2 years. This was noted. Cllr Smith considered that the Council is 'going the wrong way' about making savings in the education budget and a pause in proceedings to enable this to be thought through would be worthwhile. Cllr Smith stated that he does not expect that there will be enough 'tick box' responses and therefore the current procedure will have to be reviewed. Mr Mainland and Mr Nickerson stated that they recognised that there is a need for savings on a strategic level rather than the 'tick box' approach.

12/17 REFRESH OF THE BLUEPRINT FOR EDUCATION

Following further discussions, it was agreed that the Community Council would not participate in the 'tick box' response but would write pointing out the findings of the Shetland South Vision on education provision and stating that they feel that a more strategic approach considering a vision for education across all ages and across the whole of Shetland should be the starting point for determining the budget requirements.

12/18 FEEDBACK FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

1. Dunrossness Primary School Parent Council: Mrs Mainland had attended a recent Parent Council Meeting and reported that they had raised over £1000 at their recent Sunday Teas. The Refresh of the Blueprint for Education had been discussed. The Head Teacher is also facing continued cuts in the school budget which impacts on what can be provided in the School. The Head Teacher has the local knowledge (ie how savings can be made in her school without being detrimental to the children's education) but it is felt that this knowledge is not being 'captured' by the Education Department. Mr Sinclair enquired who pays for school trips. Mrs Mainland and Mrs Malcolmson reported that these used to be paid for out of the school budget but the school now does fund raising in order to continue to provide these additional learning experiences. Finally, Mrs Mainland informed the members that the AGM of the Parent Council is to be held in August. Mrs Malcolmson reminded the Clerk that it had been agreed previously that the August Community Council meeting would be held a week early on 20 August 2012 to avoid clashing with the Parent Council AGM. This was noted.

2. Sumburgh Head Lighthouse Project: Mr Mainland reported that the contractors have started work on the project. It is proposed to hold a public meeting next week (possibly Wednesday) while the contractors, architects and designers are all in Shetland. Mr Garrick had been the Community Council's representative on the project team so it was agreed it was necessary to nominate a replacement. Mr Duncan enquired if Mr Mainland was willing to take on the task of reporting back to the Community Council but Mr Mainland replied that as he is an Amenity Trust employee this may not be appropriate and anyhow the initial idea had been to engage the community in the project. Mr Nickerson proposed that Mr Duncan take on the role. Mr Tregonning stated that he would be willing to fill the post and Mr Duncan therefore suggested it be put to a vote. Mr Tregonning however withdrew and Mr Duncan will therefore attend the meetings on behalf of the Community Council.

12/18 FEEDBACK FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

3. Quarterly Police and Fire Board Meetings: Mr Duncan had attended these meetings and reported on the Police Board meeting in item 12/13 above. Regarding the Fire Board, Mr Duncan reported that there is to be an increase in work for the new Training Facility at Sumburgh Airport. There is to be an increase in Breathing Apparatus training following a previous poor report on the training provided to retained Fire Fighters in Shetland.

4. Public Partnership Forum Meeting: Mr Ridland had been unable to attend the recent Public Partnership Forum meeting but had received the Minutes and reported from them as follows:

- **Patient Transport:** Discussions are underway with ZetTrans and SIC regarding provision of transport in remote areas.
- **Community Nursing Out of Hours Service:** This service had 'gone live' on 2 April and appeared to be going well.
- **Stepping Stones to Recovery:** Ms Gill Hession gave a talk on the work of the Community Alcohol and Drugs Services Shetland (CADSS). The consensus of the group was that the way to combat misuse of drugs was punishment – those caught in possession, use or supply of illegal drugs should be dealt with harshly and to the full extent of the law. However, this approach has been well tried and tested and often does not work. Prevention is considered a much better approach – use the testimony of rehabilitated drug addicts to 'scare' young people away from drugs. Because Shetland is such a small community, former drug addicts often have difficulty in 'reinventing' themselves, therefore the vast majority of reformed addicts leave Shetland to start a new life elsewhere.
- **Draft Healthy Weight Strategy by Ms Elizabeth Robinson:** There is a serious nationwide obesity issue most prevalent amongst children with 20% of all 5 year olds now classed as obese. It was noted that people are getting larger over the generations but the problem is not physical size but BMI (Body Mass Indicator). Reasons for overweight is the consumption of more high energy foods and less physical activity eg if you consume 100kcal per day more than you 'burn off', this will increase your weight by approximately 5kg over a year. Common 100kcal foods are 1 chocolate biscuit, 1 glass of whole milk, 1 scoop of ice cream or 25g of cheese. Graphs show that more men are overweight than women. A smaller percentage of overweight men than women are considered obese with a few of those men considered morbidly obese and considerably more overweight women considered morbidly obese.

12/18 FEEDBACK FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

4. Public Partnership Forum Meeting (continued)

- **Dementia Services by Mr Stephen Mulla and Mrs Ann Williamson:** It was noted that Mr Mulla's position is a new post created by Alzheimers Scotland in partnership with NHS Shetland. He is one of 30 clinical nurse specialists in dementia in Scotland.

There are various types of dementia. The most common are:

Vascular Dementia – which can be connected to heart conditions or strokes caused by a build-up of cholesterol.

Lewybody Dementia – similar to Alzheimers it is caused by a build up of abnormal cells within the brain.

Huntington's Disease – a genetic disorder

Alcohol Dementia

HIV related dementia

There are approximately 82,000 people currently diagnosed with dementia in Scotland and, based on those figures, it is thought 170 of those are in Shetland. UK wide there were approximately 600,000 diagnosed cases in 2005 and this is expected to increase to approximately 1,800,000 by 2051. There is little evidence of an increase in dementia due to use of illegal narcotics as this is a relatively new phenomenon. However, it is thought there will be more alcohol related dementia in the future. It was noted that there had been a massive increase in dementia services recently as the government realised potential future developments.

- **Viewforth Residential Unit:** There is to be no reduction in the provision of care of individuals with dementia. However, this care is likely to become more community focused in future
- **Ronas Ward, Gilbert Bain Hospital:** The current Clinical Strategy Review indicates it would be possible to reduce beds in Ronas Ward from 16 to 12. These proposals are being taken forward on a pilot basis for 6 months from the end of May 2012. It was noted that Ronas Ward is primarily for rehabilitation purposes although a small number of cases (less than 5) are on a more long term basis.
- **Next Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 25 June 2012

12/19 CORRESPONDENCE

1. E-mail from Bigton Community Enterprise Ltd ref. Official Opening:

The official opening of the Bigton Community Shop will be held on Saturday 23 June 2012 at 1:30 pm. The Bigton hall will be hosting their famous teas and everyone is welcome to attend after the ceremony. Mr Duncan noted that Mr Nickerson had put a lot of hard work into the project and requested that this be noted. Mr Nickerson also requested that the community effort in the project be noted.

12/19 CORRESPONDENCE (Continued)

2. Serco letter ref. Northern Isles Ferries Operator: Serco state that they are *'delighted to be confirmed as the new operator of the Northern isles Ferry Service'* and plan to *'build on the strengths of the current NorthLink operation and will introduce a variety of improvements to the services'*.

3. Voluntary Action Shetland AGM: The AGM of Voluntary Action Shetland will be held on Tuesday 19 June 2012 at 7 pm in Market House.

4. Draft Shetland Partnership: Kate Massie, ASCC, had forwarded a copy of the Draft Shetland Partnership Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement and Partnership Guide.

5. Community Councils Savings Review: This review follows on from the Councils decision on 9 February 2012 to reduce spending. The Council was provided with options for savings and they agreed to an option which was to save £11,000 in 2012/13 and £13,000 in 2013/14 by reviewing services and activities that could be delivered by Community Councils rather than by the Council but at a reduced cost at least equivalent to the saving identified. If Community Councils undertake the delivery of some services in their area which are currently being delivered by the Council, they will receive payment for this but it has to be remembered that an overall saving of £11,000 is required to prevent cuts to Community Council budgets. Comments are to be returned to the ASCC by 29th June and responses will be collated and taken to the Joint Liaison Group in July 2012. Mr Tregonning stated he would be reluctant to go down this route due to what he had seen happen in cases like this on the Mainland where provision of services had been handed out to community groups which ultimately ended in the group being unable to continue to provide the service for financial reasons. Mr Nickerson expressed concerns that taking on to provide services currently delivered by the Council raised issues with capacity, employment and training, to name a few. Mr Mainland stated that he did not think the Community Council were in a position to identify areas of saving as they do not know how much services being provided in the community cost. This was agreed. The Clerk will forward the comments made to the ASCC.

Mr Nickerson, Mr Duncan and PC MacAngus left the meeting at 10pm

6. Infrastructure Services Review: The Council is undertaking a number of service reviews across its various departments to identify inefficiencies and potential cost cutting measures in order to reduce spending to affordable and sustainable levels. As part of that, the Council's Infrastructure Services Department is undertaking several reviews.

12/19 CORRESPONDENCE**6. Infrastructure Services Review (continued)**

To meet the cost cutting target, Council staff have been working on making internal savings, and have taken on board the ideas, views and suggestions from the Council's recent "Have Your Say" exercise to generate a range of measures which could bring down service costs. The Infrastructure Dept states it is very important that they are fully informed of how communities and businesses might be affected by these, and get good feedback from anyone who uses these services. Their aim is therefore to provide everyone with the information they need to understand the nature and detail of the various measures, and invite them to take part in a programme of consultation events. The South Mainland event will be held in the Cunningsburgh Hall on Tuesday 26 June and it was agreed as many members of the Community Council as possible should attend. Mrs Mitchell stated that Fair Isle need Infrastructure Services to visit Fair Isle in order for them to put their case directly. It was therefore agreed that the Community Council should meet again once Infrastructure Services have been to Fair Isle in order to formulate their response to this review and therefore will not meet on 25 June as originally planned.

12/20 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. St. Ninian's Seaside Award Notice Board: It was noted that both St. Ninian's and Westvoe Beaches had once more gained their Keep Scotland Beautiful Seaside Awards. The Clerk reported that she had been approached by James Tait of Islands Trails regarding the possibility of placing an advertisement notice in the Community Council's notice board at St. Ninians. The members were happy to allow this providing there was adequate space.

2. Betty Mouat Memorial: Mr Robertson reported that there is a figure missing off the Betty Mouat Memorial stone. The Clerk will contact Goudies Funeral Directors regarding getting it repaired.

3. Shetland Community Benefit Fund: The Clerk reported that the Community Council had been requested to nominate a replacement for Mr Garrick on the Management Committee of the Community Benefit Fund. Mr Tregonning volunteered and this was agreed.

4. Bigton War Memorial: The Clerk reported that Malcolm Smith, SIC, had contacted her to inform the Community Council that they plan to add the name of Alfred Leask to the War Memorial in the Bigton Kirk Yard following a request from his family. Cpl Leask originated from Bigton but died in the First World War and is buried in France.

12/20 ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Continued)

5. Meeting Dates: Mrs Mainland had noted that Dunrossness Community Council's meeting dates are no longer reported on The Shetland News radio programme or on the SIC website. The Clerk will rectify this.

6. Sunday Teas: Mr Tregonning informed the members that the 'left overs' from recent Sunday Teas in the area had been donated to the Staneyhill Drug Project. This project offers meals to those involved in drugs twice a week, takes care of them and steers them towards rehabilitation.

5. The following are available from the Clerk on request:

- Scottish Natural Heritage Spring/Summer 2012 Newsletter
- The A9 Newsletter

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.20 pm.

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Chair

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
WILL TAKE PLACE IN DUNROSSNESS PRIMARY SCHOOL AT 7.30 PM ON
MONDAY 20 AUGUST 2012.**