

DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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Minute of Meeting of **Dunrossness Community Council** held in Dunrossness Primary School on Monday 29 October 2012.

PRESENT:

Mr D Robertson	Mr J Ridland	Mr R Mainland	Mr J Sinclair
Mrs E Mainland	Mr S Mitchell	Mr R Nickerson	Mrs B Leslie
Cllr G Smith (ex-officio)			

APOLOGIES

Mr M Tregonning	Mrs F Mitchell	Mrs S Malcolmson	Mr A Duncan
PC N MacAngus	Cllr B Fox (ex-officio)	Mrs Pat Christie (Community Worker)	

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs S Leslie (Clerk)

12/37 LEVENWICK WARD VACANCY

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Beth Leslie to the meeting as a prospective Community Councillor for Levenwick. As there had been no applications in the recent by-election to fill the Levenwick vacancy, the Community Council was now in a position to co-opt a member. Mr Nickerson proposed that Mrs Leslie be co-opted, this was seconded by Mr Mainland and unanimously agreed by the remaining members present. Mrs Leslie accepted the post.

12/38 VICE CHAIR VACANCY

Mr Sinclair nominated Mr Nickerson for the post of Vice Chair of Dunrossness Community Council. This was seconded by Mrs Mainland and unanimously agreed by the remaining members present. Mr Nickerson accepted the post.

12/39

12/39 MINUTE

The Minute of the meeting held on 29 September 2012 was adopted on the motion of Mr Mitchell.

12/40 POLICE REPORT

No Police Report had been received. It was agreed the Clerk should request that the monthly incident figures for Dunrossness be forwarded to her regularly.

12/41 MATTERS ARISING

1. Road Matters

a) Devils Elbow', Channerwick: The Clerk stated that there was nothing new to report. Mr Mainland reported that he was aware of 2 relatively recent accidents in the area. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk should contact SIC Roads for an up to date progress report. Mr Nickerson suggested that the Community Council should enquire first if either of these accidents had been reported to the Police. This was agreed. Once the Clerk is in possession of this information, she will write to Phil Crossland, Head of SIC Infrastructure Services, copying in the local Councillors.

b) 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: It was suggested that the Clerk write to Susan Burton, SIC, for an update.

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

5. MV Good Shepherd/Grutness Pier: As Cllr Duncan was absent from the meeting and therefore unable to give any feedback on this matter, it was agreed that the Clerk should write to Ken Duerden for a progress report.

6. Boddam Böd: As there has been no further communication from the SIC regarding this matter, the Clerk will contact them for a progress report.

12/42 FINANCE AND GRANT APPLICATIONS

- 1. Community Council Annual Grant:** The Clerk reported that the second and final part of this year's annual grant had been received. This payment amounts to £6155.00.
- 2. Levenwick Community Hall - To assist with the costs of the Annual Fireworks and Bonfire Night:** Mr Mitchell declared an interest. Mr Sinclair proposed and Mr Mainland seconded that a grant of £300 be awarded.
- 3. South Mainland Community Association – To assist with annual expenditure incurred to provide playing field facilities at Boddam:** Following discussions, Mr Nickerson proposed that, as the Community Council's budget has been cut by a further 10%, the level of funding awarded in this case should be reduced by the same level. Therefore the grant awarded would be £1350. This was seconded by Mr Mitchell. There were no counter motions.

12/43 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING MATTER

- 1. To erect dwellinghouse, Mews, Bigton by Laurence & Caroline Smith, Cro, Bigton –** There were no objections.
- 2. Local Review Ref: 2012/058/PPP – LR12: Erect dwellinghouse and develop existing track, New House, Toab, Virkie by Mr & Mrs W Reid –** Should the Community Council intend to be present or be represented by another person at the public hearing session relating to the above they must inform the Local Review Body in writing of that intention. It was agreed the Community Council have already put their comments on this application forward and therefore do not intend to attend or be represented at the public hearing and the SIC letter was therefore noted.
- 3. Proposed Shetland Local Development Plan and Associated Documents:** The Shetland Local Development Plan was approved as the Council's Settled View on 10 October 2012 and representations for the SLDP are now being sought from 19 October 2012 to 30 November 2012. An electronic copy had been sent to the Clerk and forwarded to the members with internet access. The Clerk had requested paper copies for those without internet access but had been informed that paper copies are not being provided but can be viewed at all rural leisure centres, the Shetland Library and at the SIC offices at Grantfield. Due to the size of the document and the difficulty getting to any of these locations might pose for certain individuals this was not considered satisfactory. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk contact Austin Taylor, SIC Team Leader – Development Plans and Heritage, requesting one paper copy of the parts relevant to Dunrossness for the Community Council so that these can be considered fully at the next Community Council meeting before any comments are put forward.

12/43 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING MATTER

3. Proposed Shetland Local Development Plan and Associated

Documents (continued): Mr Nickerson suggested that the Community Council contact Mr Iain McDiarmid, SIC, and enquire what other mechanisms will be taking over from Local Protection Areas, which are disappearing, to protect such areas from development. Mrs Mainland also suggested that the lack of protection of good agricultural land against development should also be raised with Planning. Both these points were agreed. Mr Nickerson also reported that he had been made aware by a member of the public of an inaccuracy in the SIC map for Bigton which shows areas of land which have been made available for development. Mr Sinclair suggested that this was something the party concerned should raise with the appropriate SIC department. This was agreed.

12/44 FEEDBACK FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

There was no feedback from external meetings.

12/45 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from Alistair Carmichael MP ref. Digital Forum: Mr Carmichael writes that the Digital Forum met for the second time in Shetland on 17 September. 'The focus of the meeting was internet provision. The discussion was wide-ranging and especially as it related to the services provided by BT locally, shared concerns were expressed. Beyond the immediate issue of the quality of the local service there was a good discussion about how this would develop in the future. In this regard Mr Dick, Director of BT Scotland, announced that £8m of funding has been made available to BT Scotland to light up a fibre cable to Orkney and Shetland to improve the reliability of broadband in the main settlements both in Orkney and Shetland. This is an encouraging start but more work has to be done in order to drive provision out beyond towns and to the country areas and outer isles'

Mr Carmichael asks that people continue to write to him and BT if they are experiencing problems with their connection as it is very important to maintain pressure on BT to improve services locally. The letter was noted.

12/45 CORRESPONDENCE (Continued)

2. Message from Tavish Scott emailed by Sally Ritch: Tavish felt that the Community Council may be interested to see the following information which was received from Highlands & Islands Enterprise regarding the Exchange Activate (EA) Exchanges:

'One of the objectives of our New Generation Broadband (NGB) project is to get everyone at least 2Mbps by 2015. This would effectively mean that all the Exchange Activate exchanges would be upgraded. We are not yet able to assess if this will be possible with our current funding but we are very mindful of the need to improve people's broadband experience even if we don't achieve NGB speeds. It may be that the Community Broadband Scotland initiative may have a role but we are also looking at whether BT could increase the bandwidth to EA exchanges and potentially introduce up to 8Mbps or ideally up to 20Mbps ADSL.' The email was noted.

3. Scottish Government letter from Fergus Ewing MSP, Minister for Energy, Enterprise and Tourism ref. 'It Pays to Work Together: The Opportunities of Community Joint Venture for Renewable Projects': Mr Ewing invites the Community Council to attend the above event being held in Glasgow and hosted on behalf of the Scottish Government by Community Energy Scotland. The letter was noted.

4. St Ninian's Isle Road Sign: Mr Nickerson declared an interest. The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from Bigton Community Enterprise Ltd requesting that the Community Council contact SIC Roads to ask if St Ninian's Isle could be signposted from the south Bigton junction only. Bigton Community Enterprise Ltd feel that this would be beneficial as beach-bound traffic would therefore not be directed through the village. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to SIC Roads informing them that the Community Council have received this request.

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

- Hjalmland Housing Association Annual Report 2011/12

12/46 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Dunrossness Primary School Parent Council: Mrs Mainland raised the subject of the lack of a Community Council representative on the Parent Council. However, none of the members present were able to take on the post. Mr Nickerson pointed out that the Community Representative does not necessarily have to be a Community Council member.

12/46 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2. Council Spending (Education): Cllr Smith reported that the main theme within the Council currently is the financial position. There are to be a series of seminars at the end of November and SIC Managers will have to produce proposals on how they would spend their budgets. The Councillors will then review this. Discussion then turned to the proposed closure of schools within Shetland. Mr Mainland reported that at recent public meetings held by SJHS Parent Council there had been an air of inevitability that the School would close and therefore a lack of 'fight'. Mr Sinclair stated that he did not think people should sit back and not make their concerns known to the Council. Cllr Smith stated that in the 'plan' the proposed closure of SJHS would take 5 years to implement and would only close once the new AHS is completed and ready for use and the consultation process would probably only commence in 2015/16. However, if the school was earmarked for closure, the view might be to close it sooner rather than later and thereby avoid having the inevitable hanging over everyone. Mr Mainland reported that there had already been enquiries from parents of Primary 6 and 7 pupils currently at DPS whether they should send their children direct to Lerwick schools rather than Sandwick. Mr Smith reminded members that the reality was that £3.5 million of savings have to be found and if it doesn't come from education it will have to come from somewhere else. Mr Nickerson pointed out that the Council cannot control the closure of schools and has to prove to Government Ministers why any school should be closed. Mr Nickerson considered that the timing of the proposed closures of the Aith and Sandwick schools could well swop and asked Cllr Smith at what point the Community Council should let its feelings on the subject be known to the Council. Cllr Smith replied as soon as the Community Council wanted. It was therefore agreed that the Proposed closure of SJHS be put on the Agenda of the next meeting of this Community Council.

3. Bigton Shop: Mr Nickerson reported that the official date of transfer of the Post Office in Bigton to Bigton Community Enterprise Ltd is 5 November 2012.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Chair

29 October 2012

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**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
WILL TAKE PLACE IN DUNROSSNESS PRIMARY SCHOOL AT 7.30 PM ON
MONDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2012.**