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| DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL |
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Minute of Meeting of **Dunrossness Community Council** held in Dunrossness Primary School on Monday 26 August 2013.

PRESENT:

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|----------------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Mr D Robertson | Mr R Mainland | Mrs S Malcolmson | Mr J Sinclair |
| Mr J Ridland | Mr R Nickerson | Ms E Mainland | Mr S Mitchell |
| Mr A Duncan | Cllr G Smith (ex-officio) | | |
| PC J McDiarmid | | | |

APOLOGIES

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| Mrs F Mitchell | Mrs B Leslie | Mr M Tregonning |
| Cllr B Fox (ex-officio) | Mrs Pat Christie (Community Worker) | |

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs S Leslie (Clerk)

13/24 HELICOPTER CRASH

The members of the Community Council agreed that they would like to send their condolences to the families and friends of those who lost their lives in the recent helicopter tragedy off Garthsness. PC McDiarmid offered to pass this message to the Chief Inspector who will have the contact details of those concerned. Cllr Duncan paid tribute to all personnel who had gone beyond the call of duty in relation to the tragedy.

13/25 RESIGNATION

The Chairman reported that Mrs B Leslie has resigned as Community Councillor for Levenwick due to increased responsibilities at her work. The Chairman expressed the Community Council's gratitude for her input during her time on the Community Council.

13/26 MINUTE

The Minute of the meeting held on 24 June 2013 was adopted on the motion of Mr Nickerson, subject to the following amendment:

MATTERS ARISING: Bigton Public Toilets – Mr Nickerson stated that when he had made the statement that 'Bigton Community Enterprise's constitution does not permit them to operate anything other than the Shop and Post Office' he was under the impression that this was the case. However, upon further examination this has been found to *not* be the case.

13/27 POLICE REPORT

PC McDiarmid reported that, prior to the recent helicopter tragedy, he had checked the statistics for reported incidents in the Dunrossness area since the beginning of July and there had been 47. The most notable of these had been a minor breach of the peace, a house search in Virkie which had revealed Cannabis plants being grown for the occupants own use, 2 males had been cautioned following a breach of the peace and a male had been charged with drug driving.

13/28 MATTERS ARISING

1. Road Matters: 'Devil's Elbow' – Mr Mitchell stated that in his opinion it appears to be taking a while to apply the white lines to the newly tarred section of the 'Devil's Elbow'. Mr Nickerson and Mr Sinclair considered that the surface could possibly require chipping before having lines applied. It was agreed, however, that the lack of white lines makes for difficult driving in reduced visibility and the Clerk was therefore asked to contact the Roads Dept enquiring of a timescale for the application of the road markings.

13/28 MATTERS ARISING (Continued)

2. Levenwick Graveyard Access: Mr Gilfillan, SIC, had replied to the Community Councils enquiry regarding what he considered the timescale would be for bringing this matter to a close. Mr Gilfillan reported that he has met with the landowner to discuss the details of the acquisition and has since prepared some information for a follow up meeting at which he hopes an agreement on boundaries etc can be reached. However, he is not willing to provide timescales until such time as an agreement has been reached and they (SIC) are fully aware of the detail of the deal and legal issues/consents to be obtained etc. The Landowner is happy to allow the current arrangement to continue until such times as a deal is reached and Mr Gilfillan states that discussions so far have been very encouraging and he is confident that a provisional agreement will be reached soon and this can then be passed to Legal to conclude the sale.

3. Bigton Public Toilets: The proposed closure of the Bigton Public Toilets was discussed again and it was noted that the members remain deeply concerned at the implications this will have on visitors to the south mainland and St. Ninian's in particular. Mr Nickerson stated that although Bigton Community Enterprise's constitution would permit them (as mentioned in 13/26 above) to operate a venture such as the Public Toilets, the management committee have concerns regarding the implications and challenges this would place on such a young business, although the shareholders and community may have another view on the matter. The members noted that St. Ninian's is an extremely popular visitor attraction in Shetland and, along with the many day trip visitors, there are a large number of caravans which take up position in the car park and can use the Bigton Toilet facilities. St. Ninian's beach has also held a Keep Scotland Beautiful award for a number of years. The close proximity of the toilets is a key factor in the gaining of this award and the members voiced their concerns that the closure of them will also put this award at risk. It is appreciated that savings have to be made, and with this in mind, the members agreed to suggest to SIC that the possibility of the toilets remaining open only during the summer season be considered. In the meantime, the Community Council will explore available options which could possibly put them in a position to assist financially with the cost of keeping the toilets open during next summer. It was also noted, that the Community Council are currently aware of only one local organisation/group having been approached regarding taking over the toilets from SIC and they therefore believe that discussions with the local community have not be exhausted so far and to close the facility at this stage would therefore be premature. The Clerk will put all of the above points to Jonathan Emptage, SIC, copied to the South Mainland Councillors.

13/28 MATTERS ARISING (Continued)

4. MV Good Shepherd/Grutness Pier: Ken Duerden had forwarded a copy of the Grutness seabed survey. It was agreed to ask Neil Thomson, Good Shepherd skipper, what conclusions have been drawn from the survey.

5. Horseshoe Close Street Lighting Columns: There was nothing new to report.

6. Fair Isle Doctor's Visits: Ralph Roberts, Chief Executive, NHS Shetland, had replied over the summer to the Clerks email regarding the matter of the recent lack of doctor's visits to Fair Isle. He stated that the 'needs assessment' work which was previously referred to has been completed and reviewed internally. They had then planned to meet with the Levenwick Practice to discuss this in more detail and then the local community. Cllr Duncan reported that a doctor had visited Fair Isle on 23 July. Further attempts to visit the Isle on 9 August and 18 August had failed due weather conditions. A further attempt at a visit is to be made this week. Mr Nickerson stated that the Community Council supports the South Mainland Councillors in their efforts to resolve this issue of irregular doctor's visits to Fair Isle. It was also agreed that there are strong feelings within the Community Council that this needs to be resolved for the benefit of the Fair Isle residents. Cllr Duncan reported that he intends to meet with Ian Kinniburgh, NHS Shetland, to discuss the Fair Isle Dental Service in an attempt to keep up the pressure to have a regular service.

13/29 FINANCE AND GRANT APPLICATIONS

1. Community Development Fund: Mr Mainland reported that he and the Clerk had prepared and submitted an initial funding application to the Community Development Fund for a package of items. A further application will be made for a specific project.

2. Community Council Accounts: The Clerk reported that the Community Council's Annual Accounts have been completed by Voluntary Action Shetland and that she has signed them on behalf of the Community Council as a copy was required to be submitted as part of the above Community Development Fund application. Mr Nickerson and Mr Duncan supported this and the remaining members agreed.

13/30 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning applications for consideration.

13/31 FEEDBACK FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

1. Sandwich Junior High School: Cllr Smith reported that the Sandwich School Closure Action Group have held a series of meetings over the summer regarding the SIC's proposal to close Sandwich JHS. It had been noted that concerns in relation to this proposal increased the further south you went. Sandwich and Aith, the other Junior High being considered for closure at this time, are against any consultation commencing before a decision is taken on whether an S1-3 model is an option which should be considered for either school. The Action Group are trying to gather the views of as many parents as possible but so far there is no clear mandate of what parents want with regard to Sandwich JH. Cllr Smith considered that the consultation process could be complete by Christmas and he was sure the Education and Families Committee would be in favour of the S1-3 option. However, it is unclear so far whether parents would like a consultation to start from a point of considering closure or from a point of considering an S1-3 model and a clear mandate is really needed. Mr Nickerson reminded the members that the Community Council has always said it has to be guided by the Dunrossness Parent Council. This was agreed. Mrs Malcolmson stated that the next DPS Parent Council Meeting is on Monday 2nd September.

2. Public Partnership Forum: Mr Ridland had recently attended a PPF Meeting and reported on the following points which had been discussed.

- i) **New Fair Isle Surgery** – There are some electrical issues to be resolved before the building can be used
- ii) **New Foula Surgery** – It is hoped that this will be completed by September
- iii) **Community Care** – Changes in the provision of Community Care are due to be introduced on 2nd September. Cllr Duncan stated that he considered this date would be 'pushed back'. The changes will mean the provision of a lot of the services will depend upon personal assessment but the full details on how this will be calculated is still unknown.
- iv) **Dental Services** – It had been reported that some people have tremendous problems getting an appointment

13/32 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Citizens Advice Bureau letter ref. AGM: The CAB AGM will be held on Tuesday 3rd September 2013 at 7.30pm in Market House. The Clerk reported that she had renewed the Community Council's membership.

2. ASCC letter ref. Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Association of Shetland Community Councils will take place on Saturday 5th October 2013 at 11 am in The Shetland Hotel.

13/32 CORRESPONDENCE (Continued)

3. Scottish Fire and Rescue Service letter ref. Strategic Plan 2014-2017:

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service has published its draft Strategic Plan and a consultation in relation to this has been carried out.

4. Police Scotland letter ref. Review of Traffic Warden Provision and public Service and Opening Hours at Police Offices:

The letter states that *'the Chief constable has commissioned a review of the Traffic Warden service provision throughout Scotland. This service has been carried out differently by the legacy police forces and local authorities and we are taking this opportunity to review, in partnership with local authorities, how this service is best delivered in the future'*. The letter continues to say that *'the Chief constable has also commissioned a review of the level of public service that occurs at police offices and to determine the most efficient opening times to the public and the services provided. This will ensure that we provide a service to match the demand from the public and may give opportunities to work more often in partnership to achieve a suitable public contact point.'*

13/33 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Sumburgh Head Lighthouse Project: Mr Mitchell enquired about the possibility of the Community Council making another visit to Sumburgh Head to view the progress being made on the Lighthouse project. Mr Mainland will obtain a couple of suggested dates for a site visit.

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

Chair

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL WILL TAKE PLACE IN DUNROSSNESS PRIMARY SCHOOL AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2013.