

DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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Minute of Meeting of **Dunrossness Community Council** held in Dunrossness Primary School on Monday 25 November 2013.

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES

Mrs F Mitchell	Mr M Tregonning	PC J McDiarmid
Mrs Pat Christie (Community Worker)		

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs S Leslie (Clerk)

13/50 MINUTE

The Minute of the meeting held on 28 October 2013 was adopted on the motion of Mr Mitchell subject to the following amendment which was requested by Ms Mainland

Item 13/44 Matters Arising – Road Matters 1a) Transportation of Rocks to Sumburgh Airport should read Cllr Smith reported that under the *Roads Scotland Act 1984*

13/51 POLICE REPORT

PC McDiarmid was unable to attend the meeting but had reported via email that there had been 12 routine items dealt with in the Dunrossness area in the past month.

13/52 MATTERS ARISING**1. Road Matters:**

a) Vehicle Width Restriction, Levenwick to Robins Brae: Cllr Fox had received confirmation from SIC Roads that anyone wishing to transport 'one off' oversized loads on the temporary width restricted section of road between Levenwick and Robins Brae will be able to do so by obtaining permission from the Police. Anyone who finds that they have a load which will be over the 2.6m width restriction should simply get in touch with the Police to arrange for permission. They will also have to use an escort vehicle for the load. Ms Mainland enquired why the restriction was for a period of 18 months. Cllr Fox was unsure but would enquire if it can now be lifted since the transporting of large rocks to Sumburgh has been completed. Mr Sinclair enquired if the road had been inspected for damage. Cllr Duncan replied yes and that he had recently spoken to Dave Coupe, Head of SIC Roads, who had informed him that there is proof that the haulage contractor had caused damage to the verges and therefore repair costs can be claimed from them however he thought the SIC would be responsible for financing any repairs to the infrastructure. With regard to the verges at Levenwick which have been damaged, Mr Sinclair enquired if it could be suggested to the roads engineers that they be replaced by hard shoulders as in their current state they are dangerous, especially at this time of year when they are so wet. This was agreed. Mr Nickerson stated that there are really 2 issues which have resulted from the recent rock transportation and that is that the road and verges in the area need reinstating to at least their original condition initially and it has been highlighted that this is a very dangerous section of road, especially after recent activities.

b) Scatness: The Clerk confirmed that had notified the Roads department of the presence of large pothole in the road south of Colonial Place. Mr Robertson reported that this has now developed into several potholes. The Clerk will report it to the Roads Dept.

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

3. Bigton Public Toilets: As promised previously, Mr Nickerson had brought a copy of the petition against the toilet closure for the members to sign. Mr Sinclair enquired if the toilets are now closed as the road sign is still in situ. Mr Nickerson confirmed that they are closed and the door is locked although there is no notice on the building to inform the public of this. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact infrastructure Services regarding this.

4. MV Good Shepherd/Grutness Pier: There was nothing new to report.

13/52 MATTERS ARISING (Continued)

5. Horseshoe Close Street Lighting Columns: Cllr Fox reported that he had received an update on the Horseshoe Close Streetlighting situation. Although they had previously not been included in the Gateway 2014/15 for funding for upgrading, funds are to be made available from the Capital Programme and this scheme will now be included in the Gateway 2015. Letters have once more been sent to the residents of the area detailing the Council's proposals for Streetlighting in the area and inviting comments. The Clerk enquired on behalf of Mr Tregonning what the situation is with regard to Streetlighting in Central Dunrossness. Mr Nickerson thought that Streetlighting on main routes was not to be affected by the SIC's new policy and this was confirmed by the Councillors.

6. Lerwick Bus Station and Freight: Mr Nickerson requested an update on the situation regarding freight and the closure of the Viking Bus Station. Cllr Smith reported that it seemed large items of freight would be handled at Gremista but that the party taking over the Viking Bus Station building were willing to handle small items on the proviso that should it not work out other arrangements would be investigated. Cllr Smith was unaware of a definite date for the transfer of the building and freight service but stated that he would try and obtain an update before the next Community Council meeting.

13/53 FINANCE AND GRANT APPLICATIONS

1. Community Development Fund: The clerk reported that the Community Council had been unsuccessful with its application for funding to assist with the upkeep of the Boddam Playing Fields. According to the letter from the SIC, this was because *'under the scheme criteria, Community Councils may apply for up to £1000 to assist with the costs of delivering a specific project. Therefore to be eligible for grant aid, the applicant must deliver the project. Applications received that are applying for a project funding to support another organisation, facility or project cannot be considered'*. It was agreed that clarification on the criteria was required as this was not how it had been read by those who had completed the application. The Clerk will forward a copy of the letter to Cllr Fox.

2. Rotary Club: The Clerk confirmed that the Community Council had been successful in securing a donation of £100 from the Rotary Club to be given to the 2 Senior Citizen's groups in the area to help with the costs of their Christmas Parties. The Clerk will write a letter of thanks to the Rotary Club.

3. SMUHA – To assist with the costs of purchasing additional tools for galley building and torch making: It was agreed, as proposed by Mr Nickerson, seconded by Mr Ridland, that the Community Council cannot support this application due to severe budget cuts this year.

13/53 FINANCE AND GRANT APPLICATIONS

4. 2014 Schools' Music Festival: The 2014 School's Music Festival takes place from 17 – 20 March 2014 and it is particularly exciting this coming year as it is the 70th anniversary. The Festival works in partnership with the SIC in terms of staff time during the week of the Festival, however, the Festival does not receive any funding from the SIC. The Schools' Music Festival working group is therefore seeking donations to help fund activities during the Festival. The members agreed that Dunrossness Primary School always does well in the Festival. However, it was agreed to defer a decision on the request for a donation until the Community Councils December meeting to enable the Clerk to prepare an estimation of the level of funding the Community Council actually has available for grants/donations.

13/54 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning applications for consideration.

13/55 FEEDBACK FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

1. Proposed Closure of Sandwick Junior High School: Mr Mainland reported that he had attended a meeting with Prof. Ledingham, along with others, as representative for Dunrossness Community Council. Not much had come out of this meeting but those present had gone away to digest the content.

On 11 November, Mr Mainland had attended a meeting which had been called by SIC Councillors. Those in attendance were Parent Council members, parents, Community Council representatives etc. The purpose of the meeting was for those present to express their views to the Councillors before the SIC meeting to discuss the future of secondary education in Shetland and the possible closure of Sandwick Junior High School (SJHS). The papers generated for the SIC meeting were for the closure of SJHS but Mr Mainland stated that he was thankful that the Councillors had listened to the views of those at the meeting as the body of those present expressed a desire to keep the school open and if this wasn't possible in its current form then maybe a S1/S2 facility would be the best option. This had been accepted as an option by the majority of those present and Mr Mainland was very pleased the Councillors had managed to 'pull this through' at the main SIC meeting. It is now a case of waiting for the SIC Schools Service to announce when the consultation on making SJHS an S1/S2 facility will take place although it is expected to be in the New Year as there are already consultations on education taking place. Cllr Smith stated that it is very important that people express their views. If the S1/S2 proposal is rejected, it will be necessary to carry out a further consultation on another option.

13/55 FEEDBACK FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

1. Proposed Closure of Sandwick Junior High School (continued): Mr Mainland reported that there are now an additional 2 parents from the Dunrossness area on the Sandwick Parent Council and that one thing that this whole process has shown is that Curriculum for Excellence is not suitable for rural areas. Cllr Duncan reported that in order to demonstrate to Prof Ledingham the unsuitability of bussing young pupils all the way to the Anderson from Dunrossness, he had collected him from the airport and taken him to almost all of the areas in Dunrossness that pupils would be expected to travel from. Mr Nickerson stated that he considered the Community Council should have a formal view on the proposals for SJHS as part of the consultation. This and the fact that the time for this should be during the consultation, was agreed. Once again, the members thanked the local Councillors for all their hard work in relation to secondary education in the South Mainland.

2. Joint Liaison Group Meeting: Mr Robertson had attended a Joint Liaison Group on 1 November at which the Community Development Fund had been discussed. It was reported that there had been a high uptake and that it was oversubscribed. Vaila Simpson will be sending out a consultation for feedback on the Community Development Fund.

3. Dunrossness Primary School Parent Council Meeting: Mrs Malcolmson had attended a Parent Council meeting on 12 November and reported as follows:

- There are currently 104 pupils in primary and 24 in nursery
- The school are again providing a Christmas card delivery service for the Dunrossness area. Cards are to be in school by Wednesday 11 December
- Plans for the play area are progressing and grants are being applied for
- As reported recently in The Shetland Times, the school has recently been awarded its 4th Eco Flag (books with photos and information on how this has been achieved were left out for the Community Council members to have a look at)
- Filming with pupils has been done for the new Sumburgh Lighthouse project

Mrs Malcolmson had also recently attended the schools Fjana (peerie foy/get together) for which the school had worked together with Shetland Forwards, and reported that it was fantastic and the pupils did extremely well performing songs and poems in Shetland dialect. She had also attended the Winter Fayre on 24 November and this had been as busy as ever.

4. Sumburgh Head Lighthouse Project: Mr Mainland reported that the project is 'coming on at a pace'. The main interpretive items are being installed between now and Christmas.

13/56 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Email from ASCC ref Launch of Consultation on Community

Empowerment (Scotland) Bill: Mr Nickerson reported that the link included in the email does not work. The Clerk will inform the ASCC. However, the consultation paper can be accessed at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Consultations/Current> and is open until 24 January 2014.

2. Email from ASCC ref national Planning Framework 3 / Scottish

Planning Policy – Update: The responses to the consultations on the Draft Scottish Planning Policy have been analysed independently and the reports of this analysis are available at:

- Full analysis: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0043/00437083.pdf>
- Report of main findings: <http://scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0043/00437087.pdf>

3. Notice ref Community Minibuses: The current 3 SIC Community Minibuses will be transferred to Voluntary Action Shetland (VAS) from 1 January 2014 and existing SIC service will stop as of this date. VAS will establish their own community transport service and further information on this is available by contacting VAS on 01595 743900. Booking arrangements for the community buses will also change, therefore anyone wishing to book a community minibus before 1 December 2013 should contact Islesburgh Community Centre on 01595 745100 and after 1 December 2013 they should contact VAS on 01595 743900 or VAS@shetland.org

Mr Tregonning had informed the Clerk that he had pursued his idea of taking on one of the buses for the Dunrossness area but the transfer of the 3 buses had been a 'bulk deal' and individual expressions of interest had not really been entertained.

4. Loganair and Edinburgh Airport Check-In: The Clerk had emailed customer relations regarding the confusion with check-in for island flights at Edinburgh Airport. A reply had been received which stated that Loganair had been unaware there was a problem. When the new self-service machines were set up for Loganair passengers to check in, Flybe initially thought they would be able to use the Flybe check-in desks to drop off bags but the baggage belt behind the desks runs in two different directions and the baggage cannot be mixed due to the different areas. Flybe are aware of the problem and are trying to change the technology to give the correct information to Loganair passengers but have said this will take a couple of months to change and it has been requested that signage be placed at the self-service machines to direct Loganair passengers to the correct desks. Mr Nickerson suggested that a quicker solution would be to change the notice boards at the main door to tell passengers which gate to use for Island flights. It was agreed that the Clerk should put this suggestion to Loganair, copied to Edinburgh Airport Authority.

13/57 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 1. Meeting Dates:** Ms Mainland commented that there had been some errors in Radio Shetland's advertising of Community Council meeting dates. The Clerk agreed to investigate
- 2. Bigton Kirk Yard Road:** Cllr Fox reported that SIC Roads had obtained a costing to rectify the erosion affecting the Kirk Yard Road at Ireland, Bigton. It is proposed this would be achieved by the addition of extra rock armour with another top coat at an estimated cost of £25,000 which could possibly be found from the underspend on another project.
- 3. Burial Ground Officers:** Mr Robertson enquired what the current situation is with Burial Ground Officers. The Council had previously proposed discontinuing the posts. Cllr Smith offered to make enquiries.
- 4. Dog Fouling:** Mr Mitchell reported that there is a serious problem with dog fouling for a length of approximately 50 metres along the Levenwick road from the South Levenwick junction.
- 5. Wall at Horseshoe Close:** Mrs Malcolmson had been informed that there is a part of a wall starting to fall down at Horseshoe Close. The Clerk will report this to SIC.
- 6. Scatness:** Mr Mainland reported that Shetland Amenity Trust are submitting a funding application to the Lottery to develop Scatness. He hoped to get a letter of support from the Community Council to help support the application. Mr Nickerson moved that the Community Council support the Scatness project and this was seconded by Ms Mainland and agreed by the remaining members.
- 7. Solar Powered Bus Shelter Lights:** Mr Robertson reported that neither of the solar powered lights at the Toab and Robins Brae bus shelters are working. The Clerk will report this to SIC.

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 THE SPIGGIE HOTEL AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY
16 DECEMBER 2013.**