

DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chairman

Raymond Mainland
Brekka, Evnabrek
Levenwick
Shetland ZE2 9GY
Tel: 01950 422430

Clerk

Shirley Leslie
Ringesta
Quendale
Shetland ZE2 9JD
Tel: 01950 460922

E-mail: clerk@dunrossnesscc.shetland.co.uk
www.dunrossnesscc.shetland.co.uk

Minute of Meeting of **Dunrossness Community Council** held in Dunrossness Primary School on Monday 27th February 2017

PRESENT

Mr R Mainland	Mrs E Flaws	Mr H Harrop	Mr S Mitchell
Mr G Waddell	Mr R Nickerson	Cllr G Smith (ex-officio)	
Cllr A Duncan (ex-officio)			

APOLOGIES

Mrs S Malcolmson	Mr M Shearer	Mrs F Mitchell	Mrs S Waddell
Ms J Armstrong	Miss J Sandison	Cllr B Fox (ex-officio)	
Mrs P Christie (Community Involvement and Development Officer)			

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms S Leslie (Clerk)	Judith Fenton (Shetland CAB)	Tavish Scott MSP
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16/77 MINUTE

The Minute of the meeting held on 23 January 2017 was adopted on the motion of Mr Mitchell.

16/78 POLICE REPORT

No Police Report was available.

16/79 SHETLAND CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

The Chairman welcomed Judith Fenton, Energy Advisor, Shetland CAB, to the meeting. Mrs Fenton enquired if the members were aware of the level of people considered to be in 'fuel poverty' in Shetland. Someone is considered to be in fuel poverty if they spend more than 10% of their income on energy. SIC research suggests that 53% of households in Shetland suffer from fuel poverty and 49% in the South Mainland, based on those who completed the survey. Mrs Fenton reported that Shetland CAB are funded until December 2018 to offer support and advice to those in fuel poverty. Although CAB cannot offer financial support to their clients, they work with them to improve their situation – and will even pay home visits where it is considered this would be helpful. Financial support for those who qualify, is available through an Area Based Scheme, which is administered by SIC, Warmer Homes Scotland, which is administered by Home Energy Scotland and a Loan Scheme, which is still to be confirmed for 2017/18. CAB can advise clients on all of these options and the SIC carries out the assessments to determine if someone qualifies. Mr Nickerson stated that he would like to see the Government introduce some scheme of low interest loans to assist homeowners with introducing energy efficient measures to their homes. Cllr Smith suggested that the Credit Union could be a means for the provision of low interest loans. Mrs Fenton raised the point of householders being urged to switch energy providers and the fact that many households in Shetland have 3 electricity meters which practically all energy providers, except SSE, are unable to accommodate and therefore switching is not an option. The members enquired why SSE has this monopoly and Tavish Scott replied that this is down to the Energy Regulator and that it is supposed to be rectified by the introduction of Smart Meters. CAB is currently operating regular 'drop in clinics' at various locations throughout Shetland – including the Levenwick Health Centre. Advice and assistance on various subjects can be offered at these clinics. For further information, call Shetland CAB on 01595 694696 or visit them at Market House, Market Street, Lerwick. Their services are free.

16/80 BROADBAND

The Chairman welcomed Tavish Scott, MSP, to the meeting and reminded members that the second phase of the roll out of faster Broadband in the Highlands & Islands is now due to be put out to tender. There is widespread frustration at the delivery method being used for this upgrade because if you happen live within a mile of a new 'green box' it is likely that you can obtain a good level of Broadband speed but this drops off significantly after that. Some improvements have been made to the ADSL system in places, and where this has been done, customers have seen an improvement in their Broadband service. The members wondered if methods to address the black spots could be looked at.

16/80 BROADBAND (continued)

Mr Nickerson reported that the 'green box' for Bigton is nowhere near the village, therefore might not benefit a large proportion of the residents. Mr Harrop stated that it was frustrating when there was a 'green box' in situ that it was not active. Mr Scott stated that the current Scottish Government has made a promise to have faster Broadband to every household by 2021, although at the moment they don't know how to provide this, how to put the works out to tender or have the money to carry out the work. Mr Scott hoped that by Easter the Government will have set out how they plan to proceed in order to meet their promise in relation to Broadband and that Fergus Ewing is due to publish a "Where are we now" paper which Mr Scott will forward to the Community Council when he is in receipt of a copy. Mr Scott will also email Brenda Dick informing her he has attended a Community Council meeting to discuss Broadband and ask her to provide an update to the members. Mr Scott concluded that he hoped to have a better update to take to the Digital Forum meeting on 22 April 2017.

16/81 MATTERS ARISING**1. Road Matters:**

a) Levenwick Loop Road, South End: It was noted that works are due to commence on this section of road this week.

b) Farm Traffic Sign, Fleck: It was noted that the missing sign has still not been replaced.

c) Dunrossness Central Public Hall Streetlighting: It was noted that the Streetlighting on the main road through Dunrossness and around the shop area has now been repaired with various lighting columns replaced. Mr Waddell reported that there is now only one light not working

2. Scousburgh Hill: Cllr Smith reported that he had been in contact with Magnus Laursen, SIC Building Standards Surveyor, again on 22nd February. Mr Laursen reported that his department had inspected the Scousburgh Hill buildings again and, although the doors had been secured as promised by BT, nothing had been done regarding the dangerous condition of the roofs. Mr Laursen will contact BT again regarding this matter.

3. Scrap Vehicles: The clerk reported that she had spoken to Mrs Mitchell who was to make enquiries in Fair Isle reference the situation regarding the Vauxhall car which has been at Grutness for months. It was agreed that the Clerk should ask the SIC to have the vehicle removed.

16/81 MATTERS ARISING (continued)

4. Service Bus/Bigton Feeder Service: Mr Mainland and Mr Nickerson plan to meet with Peter Mogridge, SIC, next week to discuss the local bus service and the current review.

Mr Mitchell left the meeting at 9.00 pm

5. Levenwick Doctor's Surgery Opening Hours: Karen Ellis, Practice Manager, had replied to the Community Council's enquiry regarding the possibility of the introduction of more flexible opening hours at the Surgery. Mrs Ellis stated that "there is a shortage of GP's throughout the UK which does not help matters and Shetland is experiencing the same shortages and financial constraints. Levenwick does not have the funding nor the staffing levels to be able to accommodate extra hours in the working week; more funding would have to be provided to the Practice by NHS". Mrs Ellis continues by pointing out that, in order for there to be an early evening and Saturday morning surgeries, as suggested by the Community Council, it would be necessary for the Surgery to close at another time during the day "which would disadvantage other patients as the surgeries are fully booked every day during the current working regime". An independent survey is carried out each year, and the 2015/16 survey, when questioning if the public are happy with the current opening hours at the Surgery, indicated that 72% of patients are. "The Levenwick GP's currently work a 10+ hour day Monday to Friday. They also come in at weekends to deal with the volume of work. Once the Surgery locks the doors in the evening, this then allows the GP's to commence dealing with the inordinate amounts of paperwork (referrals, results, liaising with other professionals, extra visits etc). Any additional hours of consultation introduced to the GP's day would generate further paperwork". Currently prescriptions can be collected from 8.15 am until 4.30 pm (with the exception of a Wednesday afternoon when the Practice is closed for staff training and Friday when the Practice closes at 4.00 pm). As from 1 March 2017, the Practice will open for collection of medication at 8.00 am.

Mrs Ellis concludes by saying that it is hoped that the new GP contract will be introduced this year and at this stage the Levenwick Practice will see if this offers any new mechanism of funding to assist with the Community Council's suggestions.

Cllr Smith pointed out that the Levenwick Surgery is in fact the second lowest (after Lerwick Health Centre) for patient satisfaction when it comes to obtaining appointments. Following further discussion, and as Mrs Ellis had stated that it is hoped the new GP contract will be introduced this year, the members agreed this would be a good time to write to Ian Kinniburgh, NHS Shetland Chairman, regarding the desire to have more flexible hours at the Levenwick Surgery.

16/82 FINANCE AND GRANT APPLICATIONS

1. Shetland Clay Target Club – To assist with costs of attending the Island Games in Sweden: Mr Nickerson proposed that a grant of £300 be awarded and Mr Harrop suggested £500. Mr Mainland seconded Mr Nickerson's proposal which would be in line with the previous level of support offered for such applications. This was unanimously agreed.

2. Community Council Core Funding: Michael Duncan, SIC External Funding Officer, confirmed by email that, following the SIC meeting on 15th February, the Community Council's Core Funding budget for 2017/18 remains unchanged from last year at £9546. The Clerk will send the necessary email to draw down this funding.

3. CDF Grant Scheme: Michael Duncan, SIC External Funding Officer, confirmed that, following the SIC meeting on 15th February, a standstill budget of £68,000 has been approved for the CDF scheme. The first bidding round closes on Friday 24th March. As per last year, it was agreed that an application would be made for the maximum £3000 for a Distribution Fund Grant and a second application would be made for the maximum £1000 for a Project Grant which would be to help with the funding of St Ninian's and West Voe Beaches Seaside Award Schemes.

16/83 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning applications for consideration

1. Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) – Grid Development as part of the Fair Isle Low Carbon Electricity Storage and Generation Project, Fair Isle, Shetland: Mrs Mitchell had emailed informing the Community Council that a pre-planning application for the above project has been submitted to the Council, with Dunrossness Community Council named on the document as the applicant on behalf of the Fair Isle Electricity Project. The Electricity Project members hope that the Community Council are happy with this. Mrs Mitchell also states that the Project legal team will be responsible for submitting all relevant documents/paperwork/applications etc – with no liability on the Community Council. Mr Nickerson stated that, although he fully supports Fair Isles plans to improve their electricity supply and had indeed supported various projects relating to the Isle during his time as Councillor and Community Councillor, he had concerns in relation to the Community Council being named as the applicant in this case. Cllr Fox had obtained information from the Planning Dept on 9 November 2016 which stated "*while the project does not have to be totally within the Community Council's control they should be made aware that it will be their name against the planning application and they will be our first point of contact should any further contact be required for example for enforcement. Ultimate responsibility does however lie with the land owner*".

16/83 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING MATTERS

1. Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) – Grid Development as part of the Fair Isle Low Carbon Electricity Storage and Generation Project, Fair Isle, Shetland (continued): However, with the difficulties the Community Council had experienced a few years ago when they had taken on a project at Westvoe in mind, Mr Nickerson had sought further clarification from SIC Planning Enforcement Officer Norman Sineath on what the Community Council's position would be should they agree to pose as applicant on this project and had been informed that ultimately the applicant, the developer and the landowner would be jointly liable to ensure that the project proceeded as permitted within any planning permission granted. Mr Nickerson stated that he was therefore not comfortable with any burden this could place on the Community Council Clerk because as first point of contact the workload would dramatically increase on a project this size, the possible precedent agreeing to be applicant on this Project might set for any future projects which might apply to the Community Council for a similar approach and the fact that logistically the Community Council cannot monitor the project in person. He was also not content to burden any future members or Clerks with the 10 year period where any planning conditions would be in force. The members agreed. However, in Mrs Mitchell's absence, Mr Nickerson suggested that further discussions, and any final decision on this matter, should be deferred until the Community Council's next meeting in order to give Mrs Mitchell the opportunity to participate. This was agreed and the members reiterated that they are more than happy to offer the Project their support in some other way.

16/84 FEEDBACK FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

No external meetings had been attended.

16/85 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Email ref. Northern Isles Digital Forum: There will be a Northern Isles Digital Forum – Shetland event, hosted by Alistair Carmichael MP and Tavish Scott MSP, held on Saturday 22nd April from 11.30am – 13.30pm in the Auditorium of the Shetland Museum. Mr Mainland confirmed his intention to attend.

2. SIC email ref. Developers Workshop: The next Developers Workshop will be held on Tuesday 28th March in Room 16, Islesburgh Community Centre

16/85 CORRESPONDENCE (Continued)**3. SIC email ref. Review of Support to Association of Community**

Councils: The SIC has produced a report with the purpose of consulting Community Councils on the options for future support of the ASCC. This review is reportedly taking place because Community Councils are using the SIC more and more for assistance and therefore the role of VAS, as the suppliers of the ASCC admin support, is diminishing. VAS have not been offered any further grant meantime so the future after 1st April is unsure. A copy of VAS's response to the SIC report had also been provided. Having only just received the report and VAS's response, and as the consultation is open until 30 April, Mr Mainland suggested that this matter be deferred until the next Community Council meeting on 27th March to enable the members to study the documents. This was agreed.

4. Email ref. Safer Shetland: Safer Shetland is an alliance of the Shetland Adult Protection Committee, the Shetland Child Protection Committee and Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership. Safershetland.com has just launched a new document library for their website, where you can find a wide variety of useful documents on issues ranging from child protection to domestic abuse to self-harm. For more information visit www.safershetland.com/documents

5. Email ref. Shetland Charitable Trust 'consultation' by OSCR:

Gulberwick, Quarff and Cunningsburgh Community Council had contacted the ASCC with regards to submitting a response to the consultation. The ASCC has responded to OSCR on this matter but Jim Gear had confirmed that each Community Council can make representation should they wish but that the ASCC does not require them to do so.

6. 'Thank You' letter from Macmillan Cancer Support for Voar Redd Up Donation: The letter was noted.

16/86 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Councillor Elections: The next SIC Councillor Elections will take place in May 2017. On behalf of the Community Council, Mr Mainland thanked all three South Mainland Councillors for all their hard work serving the South Mainland Community over the past 5 years.

2. Community Council Facebook Page: Mr Harrop and Mr Waddell reported that they had created a Facebook page for the Community Council. Information which the members consider might be of interest to the Dunrossness Community will be posted on the page, but it will not be open for comment. The members agreed that they were happy for the page to 'go live.'

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There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.55 pm.

Chair

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
WILL TAKE PLACE IN DUNROSSNESS PRIMARY SCHOOL AT 7.30 PM ON
MONDAY 27TH MARCH 2017.**

External Funding Sources: For more information on current external funding sources, see below:

- **Equally Safe Violence Against Women and Girls Fund**

<http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/funding-and-support/violence-against-women/>

- **HLF Announce Second 2017 Deadline for Parks for People Grants**

<https://www.hlf.org.uk/looking-funding/our-grant-programmes/parks-people>

- **CashBack for Creativity**

<http://www.creativescotland.com/funding/funding-programmes/targeted-funding/cashback-for-creativity>

- **Armed Forces Covenant Fund: Local Grants Scheme**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covenant-fund-guidance-on-how-to-apply>

- **Scotch Whisky Action Fund**

<https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/scotch-whisky-action-fund/>

- **Swimathon Foundation Announces 2017 Funding (UK)**

<https://swimathonfoundation.org/>

- **Growing a Greener Britain Small Grants Programme**

<https://www.growingagreenerbritain.org/small-grant-programme/>

- **Comic Relief Levelling the Field (UK)**

<https://www.comicrelief.com/grants/initiatives/levelling-the-field-uk>

- **BBC Children in Need Main Grants Programme**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/60DXIxYvbtcTDm79Mjryj/main-grants-should-i-apply>