

MINUTE

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Infrastructure Committee
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Tuesday 3 May 2011 at 10.00am

Present:

L Angus	L F Baisley
J Budge	A J Cluness
A T J Cooper	F B Grains
I J Hawkins	R S Henderson
J H Henry	A J Hughson
C H J Miller	R C Nickerson
F A Robertson	G Robinson
J G Simpson	A S Wishart

In Attendance (Officers):

G Greenhill, Executive Director - Infrastructure Services
S Cooper, Head of Environment and Building Services
M Craigie, Head of Transport
I Halcrow, Head of Roads
M Dunne, Service Manager – Environmental Health
J Holden, Service Manager – Development Management
B Hill, Acting Divisional Manager, Legal
D Macnae, Network and Design Manager
L Gair, Committee Officer

Apologies

A T Doull	A G L Duncan
E L Fullerton	W H Manson
C L Smith	J W G Wills

Chairperson:

Mrs I J Hawkins, Chairperson of the Committee, presided.

Circular:

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

Declarations of Interests

Mrs F B Grains declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7

Minutes of Meeting

The minute of the meeting held on 8 March 2011, having been circulated, was confirmed.

Attendance at External Meetings

Mr R C Nickerson	NFLA Steering Committee, Manchester, 25 March 2011.
Mr R C Nickerson	Dounreay Stakeholder Group, Wick, 20 April 2011
Mrs I J Hawkins and Mr L Angus	CPMR Meeting, Gijon, Spain, 13-17 April 2011.

(A briefing note “The Commission for Peripheral Maritime Regions and the Proposed European Union Transport White Paper” was circulated to Members, attached as appendix A). After hearing Mrs Hawkins and Mr Angus provide an overview from the meeting, Members agreed that a report on the Transport White Paper be presented to Council in May to ensure Council participation.

- 25/11 **Shetland Islands Council (Road at Shetland College) (Stopping Up) Order 2011**
The Committee considered and approved the recommendations contained in a report by the Service Manager – Development Management, attached as Appendix 1, on the motion of Mr G Robinson, seconded by Mrs L Angus.
- 26/11 **A971 Haggersta to Cova – Report on Progress and on Upcoming Hearing**
The Committee considered and approved the recommendations contained in a report by the Network and Design Manager, Roads, attached as Appendix 2, on the motion of Mr G Robinson and Mr J H Henry.
- 27/11 **Roads and Transport Capital Rolling Programmes – Proposed Schemes for 2011/12 and Subsequent Years**
The Committee considered a report by the Network and Design Manager, Roads Service, attached as Appendix 3.

The Network and Design Manager provided a detailed introduction to the report.

In response to a plea from Mr L Angus for a traffic management plan for Lerwick, the Network and Design Manager explained that this had not been possible so far, due to staff shortages. He explained however that an information gathering exercise would take place on parking, and on pedestrians on King Harald Street and this would be carried out before the beginning of the summer holidays.

Mr A T J Cooper commented on the importance of monitoring budgets to ensure that projects do not overrun. The Network and Design Manager advised that progress reports are regularly provided to the Member/Officer Working Group – Roads and circulated to all Members.

The Network and Design Manager responded to a number of questions relevant to Ward specific issues. He advised Mrs Miller that land acquisition for the Heogan Road on Bressay could be acquired quite quickly, and that the Kirk to Voeseid footpath will be carried out in two phases.

The Network and Design Manager advised Mr Henderson that he would look to find out for him when the street light would be replaced at Burrafirth and confirmed that the Coutts Mill bridge was now complete.

The Network and Design Manager confirmed to Mrs Baisley that the majority of new streetlights are down facing and explained that there are some occasions where a larger spread of light is required.

The Network and Design Manager also advised Mr Budge that the speed checks indicate that a 30mph speed limit is appropriate from the main road at Dunrossness passed the school, outwith school hours. He said that this would be implemented soon.

Mrs C H J Miller moved that the Committee approve the recommendations contained in the report, seconded by Mr F A Robertson.

28/11 **Air Quality – Update Report**

The Committee noted a report by the Service Manager – Environmental Health, attached as Appendix 4.

Mr J H Henry highlighted his concerns with regard to air quality and emissions from the Power Station and in particular at the marina next to the Port Business Park and surrounding areas, the Committee agreed that SEPA be asked to provide information they hold with regard to emission from the Lerwick Power Station.

The Service Manager – Environmental Health agreed to make contact with SEPA and provide a report to the Members with this information.

(Mr J H Henry, Mr L Angus and Mr J G Simpson left the meeting).

29/11 **Shetland Local Plan: Requirements for Access Arrangements – Roads Authority Procedures with regard to Accesses**

The Committee noted a report by the Network and Design Manager, Roads Service, attached as Appendix 5.

The Network and Design Manager introduced the report and advised that Members had also requested a report on Stopping Up orders. He explained that this had not been provided, as the task had proved more complicated than anticipated. He explained that stopping up orders are carried out when new roads are built and gave the Bixter to Aith road improvements as an example.

(Mr A J Cluness left the meeting)

With regard to the requirement to tar an access 6m back from the main road, the Network and Design Manager advised that this is a condition on new housing applications. This is to ensure that gravel and stones are not thrown onto the main road, which may in turn cause a hazardous surface for passing vehicles and in particular motor cycles. He advised that the Roads Inspectors will pick up on safety issues on the main roads, and urged Members to pass on any concerns raised by the public, who can also contact the Roads Service directly.

Members questioned the need for a tarred access when the access falls down hill away from the main road. The Network and Design Manager explained why this was the case also, and that this requirement had been in the Local Plan since before 2004 but it would not be possible to retrospectively enforce this requirement, unless it had been a condition of a planning application. He said with regard to applications to the Roads Service that there might be occasions where this requirement may not need to be implemented.

The Service Manager - Development Management added that the requirement had a 4-year time limit during which the Council as Planning Authority could no longer take action. He said that the Planning Service try to ensure that the access is tarred before the building of the house begins but explained that this did not have to be a finished surface. He confirmed to Members that non-compliance with this condition within a planning permission would result in a house not receiving a completion certificate under planning.

Mr A T J Cooper gave an example of when a developer had not adhered to this requirement and said that there needs to be the same onus put on developers as well as individual house builders.

In response to a query from Mr J Budge, the Network and Design Manager said that the use of concrete could be considered instead of tar, but that would have to be discussed with the Roads Service and Planning Service to ensure that it was done properly.

Mr Cooper highlighted a problem at Dales Lees where large vehicles are throwing chips from the verge onto the road. He said that he had made contact with the foreman in the area and it had been cleared right away but was concerned that this would be an ongoing issue. The Executive Director – Infrastructure said that Mr A Inkster of Ports and Harbours Operations had been set up as a liaison officer to deal with any issue related to the work on the Total Project and any problems could be directed to him.

30/11 **Minutes of the ZetTrans Meeting – 18 April 2011**

The Committee noted the minute of ZetTrans on 18 April 2011, attached as Appendix 6.

In order to avoid the disclosure of exempt information, Mrs I Hawkins moved, and Mr A S Wishart seconded, to exclude the public in terms of the relevant legislation during consideration of agenda item 7.

31/11 **Foula Ferry Contract**

The Committee considered and approved a report by the Head of Transport, on the motion of Mr F A Robertson, seconded by Mr G Robinson.

Mr R C Nickerson thanked the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for their work on the Infrastructure Committee. Members concurred.

The meeting concluded at 11.05am.

I J Hawkins
Chairperson