

MONDAY 2 APRIL 2018

At a meeting of LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in the Town Hall, Lerwick, at 7.00pm

Members

Mrs A Simpson	Mr P Coleman
Mr A Johnston	Mr E Knight
Mr A Wenger	Mr S Hay
Mr D Ristori	Mr A Carter
Ms K Fraser	Mrs M Hall

Ex-Officio Councillors

Cllr B Wishart
Cllr M Bell

Additional Co-opted Members

Miss L Cluness
Mr P Jones

In Attendance

Ms F Valente, Clerk

Chairman

Mr J Anderson, Chairman, presided.

04/18/01

Circular

Mr Anderson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

04/18/02

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C Smith, Cllr P Campbell, Mr G Robinson, Cllr A Westlake, Mr W Spence, Mr M Peterson, Mrs P Christie and Mr M Duncan

04/18/03

Minutes of the last meeting

The minute of the meeting on 5th March 2018 was approved by Mr Coleman and seconded by Mrs Simpson.

04/18/04

Business Arising from the Minutes

Ms Fraser said that her apologies had been missed off the list.

04/18/05

Police Scotland Monthly Report

The Police were not in attendance for the meeting.

04/18/06

Correspondence

The Chairman read the response from SIC regarding the provision of signposts around the new High School and Stoney Hill. More signposts were being planned for the area.

A letter setting out the timetable for surface dressing for roads around Lerwick was circulated to members. The roads included the junction at Ladies Drive, Knab Road, Sea Road, Seafield Road, Blackhill Industrial Estate, Shetland Marts, Sands of Sound, North Road, and Charlotte Street to Tod's Steps. Cllr Wishart said that the last of these might change in timing to accommodate a new business opening in the area.

04/18/07 **Finance – Core Funding Report as at 28 March 2018**

No comments.

04/18/08 **How can Lerwick Community Council promote reduction of single-use plastics?**

The Chairman introduced the subject of the global need for reducing single-use plastics and asked how Lerwick Community Council could help encourage local businesses and the community to reduce plastics. There was a discussion about the various ideas that some businesses had adopted such as replacing plastic cups and straws with paper ones and installing water fountains so that customers can refill reusable bottles with free tap water which could be adopted throughout Shetland. It was noted that many places such as Islesburgh Community Centre and the High School were still issuing plastic cutlery in the cafeterias. However, it was thought that there wasn't too much that the Community Council could do on its own to promote this cause but it could provide useful support to other organisations who are working with local businesses such as Living Lerwick and Ryan Thomson's No Single Use Plastics - Shetland Group, Facebook campaign. It was decided that the Community Council would contact Living Lerwick and Ryan Thomson to offer support for any projects that might be undertaken in Lerwick. The Clerk was also asked to contact SIC to see whether anything could be done to reduce the use of plastics in cafeterias and the workplace.

04/18/09 **Sumburgh Airport Parking Charges**

There was a discussion about the announcement by HIAL to introduce carpark charges at Sumburgh Airport. There was universal dismay that there had not been any consultation on the issue; not even with the Shetland Transport Group of which HIAL is a member. Mr Knight asked why they were trying this again when the last time HIAL tried to implement charges there had been such overwhelming opposition. He thought that the previous attempt had been halted by SIC because they had owned the land and had contributed so much to the development of the parking area. Mr Anderson said that HIAL only appeared to be picking on Stornoway, Kirkwall and Sumburgh Airport. Benbecula, Campbelton and Wick were not included in the list of airports that would introduce car-parking charges.

Cllr Bell commented on the lack of a dedicated airport bus service, which would add to the problem as many people would not have the option to change from using their cars to taking a bus to the airport.

04/18/10 **Report from the ASCC Meeting**

The Chairman reported back on the ASCC meeting that took place on Saturday 17 March. The main business of the meeting had been about the new constitution for the ASCC. The ASCC would bid for a Community Development Fund grant for a project to increase awareness of the work of the Community Councils and to try to encourage more people to stand for election this year. The new Community Empowerment Act means that it Community Councils could play an increasingly important role in helping local communities attract funding for projects.

04/18/11

Funding Opportunities – National Lottery (Year of Young People) & Sustrans Active Travel

SIC had put in a bid for the Year of Young People funding and a big event is being organised for 14-16 September. £35k had been awarded for the event that would involve young people taking over a number of public buildings such as Mareel, the Clickimin Leisure Centre and the Library for a day.

Mr Wenger asked whether other organisations might be able to make use of the grant and suggested that Filsket Riding Club could use funding. The Clerk was asked to forward the grant information to the riding club.

Mr Hay asked whether the AHS Student Council would be interested in the grant. Miss Cluness said she would pass on the information to the Student Council.

Sustrans had circulated guidance on funding for Community Links projects throughout Scotland which had a budget of £80million. This led to a discussion about what kind of projects would be good for Lerwick, and indeed the rest of Shetland. The new footpath around Clickimin Loch was cited as a brilliant example of Sustrans funding which had led to many more people walking around this area. Mr Anderson agreed that this scheme and the newly improved Sletts Path had were being used and appreciated by the Community. It was suggested that a dedicated footpath or cycle track between Lerwick and Scalloway using the “old road” would be of benefit. One of the disincentives to cycle around Lerwick was fact that cyclists had to share the roads with drivers and some people felt unsafe doing so. Dedicated cycle paths would be desirable. Mr Carter commented on the success of the North 500, which is a circular route around the north of Scotland which has been promoted to great success by Visit Scotland. He wondered whether Promote Shetland could do something similar for Shetland, for example, the Shetland 100 – 100 islands that could be visited. It was concluded that these types of projects were too big for the Community Council to tackle so the Clerk was asked to write to SIC to see if they could progress these ideas and to copy the letter to the ASCC.

04/18/12

Planning Applications Planning Consultations 2018/050/PPF LHD; 2018/038/PPF Dales Voe Decommissioning; 2018/061/PPF Old AHS; 2018/060/PPF Waste Recycling Facility

There were no objections to the planning applications.

04/18/13

Licence Application - Sound Service Station

Cllr Bell and Cllr Wishart declared an interest in this item because of their positions on the Licensing board. There were no objections to the licence application.

04/18/14 **Shetland Transport Strategy**

The Shetland Transport Strategy had been circulated for comments. Essentially the strategy was about to be refreshed rather than rewritten and comments were requested on whether it needed updating in any way. There was a discussion about the bus services, around the town, to the college, and to the airport and it was clear that many people felt the service was inadequate. The bus service to the airport in particular might need improving if the move towards introducing car-park charges goes ahead. Ms Fraser also commented on the information on timetables that is available on the website as it is not easy to understand. There was a discussion about the future of transport in Shetland and whether App based services such as Uber or car sharing schemes, or driverless cars would be adopted in Shetland. It was felt that the Strategy needed to be flexible enough to deal with the future and also to promote sustainable travel methods. The Clerk was asked to submit comments on the Transport Strategy.

03/18/14 **A.O.B.**

a. Ms Fraser asked whether anyone was volunteering for the annual Voar Redd Up which takes place the weekend of 28/29 April. It was agreed that volunteers would meet at 2pm at the weighbridge cafe.

b. Mr Knight reported that the drystone dykes had been repaired around the Knab.

c. Mr Wenger asked whether SIC Housing and Hjaltland Housing Association had taken any measures to ensure that tenants would be ready for the introduction of the new wheelie bins and recycling collection service that will be introduced in the summer. He was concerned that some flats don't appear to have enough space for multiple bins and that this might pose a problem. Mrs Simpson said that there were well developed plans to negotiate with householders and that this system had been rolled out already in Brae where there are also similar issues and it appears to have worked well. Cllr Bell added that SIC had been behind in recycling and need to catch up. Each residential area was been dealt with on a case by case basis and there were plans to help residents as needed. SIC had different locking mechanisms available and clamps to protect against the wind. Mr Wenger said he appreciated that, but he was concerned at the lack of space near entrances to houses, especially blocks of flats. Mr Anderson commented that it would be the responsibility of each householder, owner or tenant to take responsibility for their household waste.

d. The Community Council had received a package of free wildflower seeds for the Clickimin rewilding project. Volunteers were required to help sow the seeds. The Clerk would arrange for distribution of the seeds.

There being no further competent business the meeting concluded at 8.25 pm.

Minute ends.

MR J ANDERSON
CHAIRMAN

LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chairman.....

Date.....