What is a Community Council?

This definition is from the Scottish Community Councils' Website http://www.communitycouncils.scot/what-is-a-community-council.html

A Community Council is a voluntary organisation set up by statute by the Local Authority and run by local residents to act on behalf of its area. As the most local tier of elected representation, Community Councils play an important role in local democracy.

As well as representing the community to the local authority, Community Councils facilitate a wide range of activities, which promote the well-being of their communities. They bring local people together to help make things happen, and many Community Councils protect and promote the identity of their community. They advise, petition, influence and advocate numerous causes and cases of concern on behalf of local communities. Here are some examples of their work from across the country:

- Carry out projects to enhance their community for all types of citizens – elderly, single mothers, minority groups, youths etc.
- Issue community newsletters
- Conduct local surveys
- Campaign on local issues
- Organise community events (such as local galas)

Community Councils are the strongest means of becoming involved with your local area. It will give you a good understand of the workings of local government and what is going on locally and nationally. All local authorities in Scotland encourage citizens to become a member of their Community Council.

http://www.communitycouncils.scot

More information can be found at: http://www.shetland.gov.uk/communitycouncils/