

# MINUTE

# B

**Special Shetland Islands Council  
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick  
Tuesday 16 March 2010 at 10 a.m.**

**Present:**

A J Cluness	L Baisley
L Angus	J Budge
A Cooper	A Doull
A Duncan	B Fullerton
F B Grains	I J Hawkins
R Henderson	J Henry
A Hughson	W H Manson
C Miller	R Nickerson
F A Robertson	G Robinson
J G Simpson	C Smith
J W G Wills	

**Apologies:**

A Wishart

**In attendance (Officers):**

H Sutherland, Depute Chief Executive  
G Greenhill, Executive Director - Infrastructure  
G Johnston, Head of Finance  
J Riise, Head of Legal and Administration  
R Moore, Head of Ports and Harbours Operations  
P Wishart, Solicitor  
A Cogle, Service Manager – Administration

**Also:**

C Holmes, Vice President – Purvin and Gertz  
D Strachan, Partner - Brodies

**Chairperson**

Mr A J Cluness, Convener of the Council, presided.

**Circular**

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

**In order to prevent the disclosure of exempt information, Mr A J Cluness moved, Mr J G Simpson seconded, and the Council resolved, in terms of the relevant legislation, to exclude the public during consideration of the following item of business.**

Dr J Wills advised that as he had only just received the report for today's meeting, he was not happy to discuss it until he had read it. In this regard, Dr Wills moved that the Council be adjourned for one hour to allow Members more time to read the report. Mr A Duncan seconded.

Mrs C Miller said that whilst she agreed that Members had received the report at short notice, officers and advisers would be taking Members through the report in detail and that hopefully

all concerns would be answered. Accordingly Mrs Miller moved that the Council do not adjourn but continue with the meeting. Mrs L Baisley seconded.

After summing up, voting took place by a show of hands, and the result was as follows:

Amendment (C Miller)	10
Motion (J Wills)	9

Mr A J Cluness ruled that the Council be adjourned for half an hour, confirming that if Members were not content to make a decision today then the meeting would be further adjourned.

The Council adjourned at 10.10 a.m.

The Council reconvened at 10.40 a.m.

### **Declarations of Interest**

Mr W H Manson declared an interest as Chairperson of the Shetland Charitable Trust, but advised that he would remain at the meeting and participate in the general discussion .

### **32A/10 TOTAL Gas Plant Proposal: Update and Request for Authority to Conclude Negotiations**

The Council considered a report by the Depute Chief Executive.

After considerable discussion, Dr J Wills moved, Mrs L Baisley seconded, and the Council agreed to approve the recommendations in the report but that on the basis that the outcome of further negotiations be reported back to the Council, that the authorisation to officers to “negotiate and conclude” be changed to “negotiate the terms“, and that the Convener be in attendance during these further negotiations and consultations.

The Council also agreed that the Convener would write a personal letter to Mr Fester, Managing Director of Total Exploration and Production UK Ltd, acknowledging his company’s position, but explaining the Council’s commitment to negotiating further in order to ensure that the value of the totality of the proposal is in the best interests of the community.

The Council agreed that the meeting be adjourned, and that it be reconvened as appropriate.

The Council adjourned at 12.50 p.m.