

<b>DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL</b>
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**Chairperson**

Fiona Mitchell  
Stackhoull  
Fair Isle  
Shetland ZE2 9JU  
Tel: 01595 760314

**Clerk**

Shirley Leslie  
Ringesta  
Quendale  
Shetland ZE2 9JD  
E-mail: dunrossness.cc@gmail.com

Minute of Zoom Meeting of **Dunrossness Community Council** held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025 in Dunrossness Primary School

**PRESENT**

Fiona Mitchell (Chair)          Helen Moncrieff          Vicky Tylsar          Irvine Burgess  
Dawna Phillips          Cllr Robbie McGregor (ex officio)  
Cllr Alex Armitage (ex officio)

**APOLOGIES**

Aileen Brown          Agnes Tallack          Allen Sinclair          Ana Arnett (SIC)

**ABSENT**

Cllr Bryan Peterson (ex officio)          Cllr Allison Duncan (ex officio)  
Michael Duncan (SIC)

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Shirley Leslie (Clerk)

**25/001 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Robbie McGregor declared an interest in any Planning matters.

**25/002 MINUTE**

The Minute of the meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 was adopted on the motion of Irvine.

**25/003 POLICE REPORT**

There was no Police Report available.

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#### **25/004 MATTERS ARISING**

- 1) **Road Matters:** There was nothing new to report.
- 2) **Kirk Yard Bench:** There was nothing new to report.
- 3) **Church of Scotland Brigades Fund:** There was nothing new to report.
- 4) **Dunrossness Kirk Yard Gate:** There was nothing new to report.
- 5) **Bus Shelter Bike Racks:** No update had been received, however, Cllr McGregor stated that he was fairly confident that the sourcing of funding and the provision of bike racks would be successful.

#### **25/005 FINANCE AND GRANT APPLICATIONS**

- 1) **Community Council Core Funding –** The Clerk reported that she had submitted the application to the SIC for Dunrossness Community Council's Core Funding for financial year 2025/2026. Following the recent Community Council Review, the sum on offer this year is £14766.71.

#### **25/006 DUNROSSNESS EMERGENCY FUND**

The Clerk reported that she had contacted Edna Flaws who had confirmed that she was one of the Trustees, along with the late Raymond Mainland. Edna will check if she has any further details relating to the fund and the constitution.

#### **25/007 FEEDBACK FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS**

- 1) **Marine Space:** Helen and Cllr Alex Armitage had attended a Civic Mediation meeting recently relating to the development of a framework for development of marine space around Shetland. Various relevant bodies are involved, and it is still a work in progress.

## **25/008 COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS**

- 1) **Fair Isle Ferry Project:** Cllr Robbie McGregor expressed his delight at the commencement of the infrastructure works at Grutness for the new Fair Isle ferry. During these works, the Good Shephard will be sailing to and from Lerwick. Fiona stated that sailing to Lerwick might be a bit tricky due to the distance and therefore length of day for the crew and therefore there were likely to be only two trips to and from Fair Isle in a week compared to the normal three.
- 2) **Bigton Bus Shelter:** Cllr Alex Armitage reported that he had been contacted by a Bigton resident ref the proposed site of a new Bus Shelter in Bigton. Concerns were raised that the proposed site by the Bigton Farm access could possibly obstruct visibility for traffic (including buses) accessing St. Ninians. An alternative site by the Shop had been suggested to Neil Hutcheson, SIC Roads, who had replied that this was on the wrong side of the road. Alex had enquired who had requested the additional bus shelter and had been informed that it was the Community Council. The members agreed that they could not recall making such a request recently. Alex will investigate further.

## **25/009 FAIR ISLE**

- 1) **Bird Observatory:** Fiona reported that the Fair Isle Bird Observatory is currently housing construction workers who are working on the infrastructure for the new ferry project.
- 2) **Direct Flight:** Fiona reported that flights to and from Fair Isle will be using Sumburgh Airport for the majority of May while resurfacing works are carried out at Tingwall Airfield.

## **25/010 COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLANS**

It had been planned to hold a meeting in April, but the proposed venues had not been available on the agreed date. Ana will contact Irvine to reschedule.

## **25/011 LOCAL PLACE PLAN**

Irvine reported that the planned letter drop to update a wider section of the community regarding the Local Place Plan is still at the draft stage due to other commitments. It was also reported that Cllr Bryan Peterson's plan to apply for funding to engage an admin person to assist with the Local Place Plans for the South Mainland had not been able to be taken forward at this stage due to the requirements still being too vague.

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## 25/012 CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) **Core Paths:** Liam Drosso (SIC Outdoor Access Officer) had emailed a reminder that the deadline for submitting any feedback and/or comments relating to the Core Path Plan Review is 11 May 2025. It was agreed to put a post on the CC Facebook page asking for the community's input.
- 2) **Burial Grounds:** Correspondence had been received from the SIC Burials Service regarding "Burial Grounds where Pre-Purchase of Exclusive Right of Burial is Unavailable". The letter states:

*"To ensure the long-term availability of burial space within our communities, Shetland Islands Council has a policy restricting the pre-purchase of Exclusive Right of Burial (EROB) in burial grounds with limited capacity. This approach follows best practices across burial authorities to ensure fairness and sustainability in managing burial space.*

*In burial grounds where the remaining capacity is estimated to be less than 10 years, pre-purchasing an EROB is not permitted. This policy prioritises immediate burial requirements and helps maintain future availability for those requiring interment at the time of need.*

*At the time of burial, families will have two options:*

1. *Shetland Islands Council lair allocation at no extra cost.*
2. *Assisted specific lair selection for an additional charge.*

*Exceptions to the pre-purchase restriction may be considered in specific circumstances, such as when parents wish to secure a lair alongside their child, including adult children. We recognise the importance of family wishes and will accommodate such requests where possible.*

*We understand that burial arrangements are deeply personal, and we appreciate your understanding as we manage this essential community resource."*

- 3) **Community Council Elections:** The next Community Council elections are due to take place later this year and the SIC are keen to raise awareness to encourage a good number of candidates.

## 25/013 ANY OTHER CURRENT BUSINESS

There was no other current business for discussion.

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Cllr McGregor left the meeting at 7.45 pm.

## **25/014 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING MATTERS**

- 1) To demolish existing shed and erect storey and a half dwellinghouse within curtilage of existing dwellinghouse; install air source heat pump; install new foul water drainage connection; install new surface water soakaway, Harpslie, Dunrossness by Ms Samantha and Julia Adamson – There were no objections.**

Due to the March 2025 meeting not being quorate, the below decisions were discussed again and duly ratified.

- 2) To erect single storey dwellinghouse; install air source heat pump and solar panels; erect separate workshop building; install new septic tank and land infiltration system; install surface water soakaway, Durigarth, Skelberry, Dunrossness by Mr Chris Johnson – There were no objections.**
- 3) To erect single storey dwellinghouse with integral garage and install air source heat pump; create new access, parking and turning; install new septic tank and land infiltration system; install new surface water soakaway, Northwest of Lindale, Ireland, Bigton by Mr Owen Jamieson – There were no objections.**
- 4) Installation of subsea fibre optic telecommunications cable system connecting the US and Denmark, Fair Isle Channel from West to East within Scottish Territorial Seas by Polina Vasileve – There were no objections.**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.00 pm.

Chair

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> JUNE 2025 IN DUNROSSNESS PRIMARY SCHOOL.**