

DRAFT Minutes of Meeting of Yell Community Council

Monday 17th March 2025, 6.30pm, Mid Yell School

Present: Mr L Odie (Chair), Mrs A Jamieson, Mrs S Williamson, and Ms F Stirling.

Apologies: Mr R Jamieson, Mr K Jenkins, Mr Michael Duncan (Community Councillor Liaison Officer), Cllr Ryan Thomson (Elected representative), Ms Frances Browne (North Isles Community Involvement and Development Worker).

In Attendance: Mrs Johnina Henderson (Clerk), Cllr Robert Thomson (Elected representative) and 2 Members of the Public.

Mr L Odie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

SSEN Distribution Team - Subsea cable replacement Mossbank - Yell (via Teams)

Geraldine Higgins - Strategic Project Liaison Lead (North), Dr Katy Urquhart, Auben Lavery – Project Manager, and Sheena Gallie – Marine Consents Manager.

The distribution team joined on Teams and gave an update and presentation on the Subsea project from Mossbank to Yell which will be carried out in the summer of 2025. Work has been ongoing since the fault in the cable was found in May 2024 and as such requires a full replacement.

Mossbank to Yell (North) subsea cable was installed in 2009 and supplies 1240 customers in Mid Yell, Gutcher, and Unst Primary Substations. Generators were installed on island should the need arise that they are required.

The Team gave the meeting an update on what works had been carried out and must be carried out to replace the cable. The cable will be laid by a vessel and is expected to be done in August 2025.

The team asked for questions and comments regarding this project.

Mr L Odie thanked them for attending the meeting and they left the meeting at 7.20pm

SSEN Transmission (Shetland projects)

Thea Groat - Community Liaison Manager, Kaila McCulloch - Land Manager, Stewart Gilfillan - Project Manager, Alan Kelly - Project Director.

The Transmission team gave an update and presentation.

Introduction to SSENT

- Whole System Solution
- Yell Summary
- Community Benefits
- Next Steps

Timeline of Next Steps

Subsea cable landfall walkover surveys – March 2025

- Yell substation indicative layouts – spring/summer 2025
- Energy Isles OHL alignment – spring 2025
- Bird Surveys – April 2025
- Shetland Wide information events – early planning stage, aiming for June 2025
- Energy Isles OHL Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) events – June 2025 & August 2025
- Marine surveys – Autumn 2025

Mr L Odie thanked the team for attending and they left the meeting at 8.15pm

03/25/01 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Ms F Stirling declared an interest in the Mid Yell Hall CDF application.

Cllr Robert Thomson declared an interest in the Planning application.

Mr L Odie declared an interest in the Beaw Field wind farm discussions as a tenant of land.

Mr L Odie declared an interest in the late ferry applications.

03/25/02 MINUTES

17th February 2025 - The minutes of the February meeting were approved by Mrs A Jamieson and Ms F Stirling.

03/25/03 MATTERS ARISING

BRECKON LIFEBOUY

SIC Environmental Health officers have been up and accessed the lifebuoy and have organised for it to be replaced.

AYWICK POSTBOX

The Post-box has been reported but no update yet. Clerk to follow up.

ULSTA BOTTLEBANK

Bottle bank site reported and SIC have replied.

03/25/04 COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT

The Bi-monthly Report has been received and a summary of most of the reported incidents attended by Police Scotland in Yell during the months of December and January.

There have been four incidents recorded which can be summarised as follows:

Road Safety and Road Crime - Road Traffic Collision with Minor or No Injury

Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder - Threatening or Abusive Behaviour

Protecting Vulnerable People - Mental Health (2)

03/25/05 OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

7.1 TRANSPORT - FERRIES

Community Hire Applications

Four applications have been received for Community Hire Applications, two are from the same person/event. Chair L Odie left the meeting for the discussion. Mrs A Jamieson chaired this discussion. It was noted that although YCC approved the applications it is subject to crew availability. Mrs S Williamson and Ms F Stirling approved three applications, Clerk to contact applicant with two applications for 1st and 2nd night wedding to choose what one that they would like for community hire.

Clerk to send applications to Sellaness.

Community Hire Ferry carryover from 2024/2025

Mr A Inkster (Executive Manager, Ferry & Airport Operations & Port Infrastructure) has responded to the request to carryover the one unused ferry from 2024/2025 allocation. The ferry was requested for a function but was rejected due to crew not being available to carry out the run.

'Ordinarily, his response would be no, as budgets for community runs to each island are quite tightly set, and he cannot set a precedent which exceeds agreed limits. However, on this occasion, he is pleased to say that he can make this work, and we will allow the carry forward.

Please understand this is a one-time arrangement only, and no reliance on any future carry forwards can be made.'

Yell Sound Docking Timetable

The Docking Timetable on Yell Sound is in operation from Monday 3rd March to Friday 28th March 2025 while Daggri undertakes her annual docking. The February meeting agreed to complain that YCC is not happy with just one ferry on and not adopting the 25-minute turnaround. This was noted by Sellaness. This was discussed at length with Cllr Robert Thomson about the bus connections and passengers missing their onward connections, especially Fetlar passengers. Clerk to send proposed timetable for 25-minute turnaround and to accommodate the bus passengers to Cllr Robert Thomson. This same timetable will also be in place when the Dagalien goes to drydock from 4th May to 2nd June when there will be more traffic including tourists.

Ferry Fares 1st April 2025 - 31st March 2026

Ferry Fares for this period were noted and are the same as last year.

Bluemull Sound Timetable

Concerns were raised following the incident which happened on the Bigga 3 or 4 months ago and now the summer timetable is being changed to accommodate tying down vehicles over 3.5 tons when they

have managed with a few disruptions through the winter months. There needs to be improved dialogue between the SIC and MCA over this. The customers and residents in the North Isles especially Unst and Fetlar are being neglected over this. A lengthening discussion was held with Cllr Robert Thomson.

Ferry Resilience Report

Cllr Robert Thomson was asked if any reports have been received following the Ferry resilience investigations. He gave an update on the positive discussions taking place regarding replacement ferries.

7.10 INTER-ISLAND TRANSPORT CONNECTIVITY PROJECT

Several members attended the event in the Mid Yell Hall. The presentation was particularly good and can be viewed on SIC link, Clerk to post the link on Facebook page. Concern was raised that the presentation did not cover commuters to Unst from Yell, of which there are several but this has now been noted.

7.2 ROADS UPDATE

Burravoe Footpath

No further update on this project.

New Cullivoe Road

An update will be put to full council in May, the project is being retendered due to issues raised regarding the appointed tender.

Bus Shelters in Yell

Still no update, Clerk to follow up.

Cullivoe Bus Shelters damage

Damage to both bus shelters in Cullivoe have been repaired.

West Sandwick Graveyard Road

Following a previous meeting with Kenneth Mackenzie (Burial Services Supervisor) and Robert Jamieson regarding further improvements to the road leading to from the adopted road to the West Sandwick Burial Ground in February 2023. Burial Services have been in touch regarding any update in securing funding for potential improvements to the road. The West Sandwick Community have recently had a meeting regarding the West Sandwick Beach and Road and have set up a local group to manage the beach and road, once the group is fully constituted, they will investigate funding towards the road.

The step at the carpark steps has been repaired but another is also needing repair. Chair of the group Karl Graham is going to ask the men's shed to look at and repair it.

Old Burravoe School Parking/Passing Place

Following the February meeting, the clerk reported the issue and Colin Gair (Team Leader – Asset & Network Management, Roads Service) has been in touch with Mr L Odie and will organise a site meeting to discuss the options.

Breckon Beach Carpark Extension

Following the February meeting, SIC Roads was contacted regarding this extension and it does not seem to be something that they have been aware of. They fully appreciate that there may well be a lack of parking at Breckon, but this is not something that the Roads Service is normally responsible for and so have no funds for carrying out such improvements – even when land is being made available. And suggested that this is something that the Community Council may wish to take forward? In which case, SIC Roads would do what they could to offer advice and guidance.

The meeting discussed and agreed to write back to landowner to ask NYDC to look at this as a potential project.

7.3 STATKRAFT WIND FARM DEVELOPMENTS

CLG MEETING UPDATE

A CLG in person meeting was held on 10th March in Cullivoe Hall Mrs A Jamieson, Mrs S Williamson, and Mr L Odie attended and gave feedback from the meeting. A new MOU has been issued. The

meeting agreed to speak to Unst and Fetlar Community Councils regarding the MOU. An update to the steering group to be issued.

DRINKING WATER IN YELL

A comprehensive reply has been received prior to the CLG meeting from Statkraft regarding the protocols regarding the Energy Isles – Water Supply Query.

7.4 NET ZERO CARBON NEUTRAL ISLAND (YELL) PROJECT

No update.

7.5 FIXED LINKS - TUNNEL ACTION GROUP UPDATE

A major milestone in the plan for subsea tunnels between the Shetland mainland and Yell and between Yell and Unst has been reached with the commissioning of sonar investigations and a report which will make recommendations for the seismic survey locations that will contribute to the determination of the alignments of the tunnels.

The Unst and Yell Tunnel Action Groups (UTAG & YTAG), which have spearheaded efforts to advance the tunnel project, have successfully raised the necessary funds to initiate the commission of this vital investigative work. Norwegian consultancy Norconsult has been engaged to carry out the project, thanks to financial contributions from local businesses, individuals, and community supporters who have backed the initiative.

Site visits are set to begin at the end of March, with fieldwork expected to take up to three months, followed by a report within six weeks of completion.

7.6 COMMUNITY HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE IN YELL

No update.

7.7 SCOTLAND'S BEACH AWARDS 2025 APPLICATIONS

An application to SCBF for funding for Scotland's Beach awards 2025 applications for West Sandwick Beach and Sands of Breckon has been successful. Clerk to confirm funding and to complete applications before the closing date of 5pm on Friday 28th March.

The meeting agreed to make the areas involved aware that this would not be possible without outside funding.

7.8 DOG FOULING IN MID YELL

Officers have been monitoring the area in Mid Yell and will be attending the April meeting to discuss options. Clerk has posted a Facebook post regarding Dog Fouling in Yell and has had a comment regarding issues in Burravoe, this will be discussed at the April meeting.

7.9 ASCC MEETING FEEDBACK - 11TH MARCH 2025

Mr L Odie and Mrs A Jamieson attended the ASCC meeting and gave feedback to the meeting on the following topics:

OPEN Project – Research on Alcohol & other Drug Use in Shetland, Core Paths Plan Review, ASCC November minute & matters arising, Mothballing of schools, Community Council Scheme Review – update and Community Council Elections – 2025

03/25/06 NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Proposed Redevelopment & Expansion of Fish Holm Fish Farm

An email has been received from Andrew Barrie (Principal Consenting Officer) regarding the proposed redevelopment and expansion of Fish Holm Fish Farm and promotion of the Heart of Community Fund. This was noted.

8.2 SEPA Consultation - Proposed Changes to the Environmental Regulation (Scotland)

Guidance on Public Participation and Fit and Proper Person Test

An email regarding the latest SEPA consultation on proposals that will change how they authorise and regulate waste management, water, and industrial activities. The consultation on proposed changes to the Environmental Regulation (Scotland) guidance on public participation and Fit and Proper Person test, is the next step in implementing the Integrated Authorisation Framework (IAF) and a simpler, integrated system for environmental regulation across Scotland. The consultation is open until 30th March, this was noted.

8.3 Public & School Bus Business Case

An update on the continued development of the Public and School Bus Business Case was discussed and noted.

8.4 LPP Spring workshop

A LPP workshop is being held in Islesburgh on Friday 4th April, any member available is encouraged to attend.

8.5 Da Voar Redd up 2025

Registration is open for Da Voar Redd up 2025 and will take place from 19th to 25th April, this was noted.

8.6 New Building Warrant Fees effective 1st April 2025

New Building Warrant Fees effective from 1st April 2025 was noted.

8.7 VoiceAbility

Vikki Parry, an Advocate with VoiceAbility in Shetland has been in touch regarding meeting up.

8.8 Picnic Benches in Yell

Damage to Picnic Bench at Mid Yell Pier

Damage to the Picnic bench at Mid Yell Pier was reported to YCC, it was discussed with members of Yell Men's shed and Graham Stiles has kindly repaired the bench at no cost. Clerk to thank Graham for his repair work.

Gossabrough Beach Bench

Mr L Odie has been to Gossabrough to check the bench, it has been relocated to a opposite side of the beach but the access to that end is very muddy and requires welly boots to access the area.

It was agreed to reallocating the bench to a different part of the island as that beach is not used as much as before. A decision for a new site was not made just now. Members will discuss at another meeting.

8.9 Conservation area proposals for Lerwick and Scalloway

Shetland Islands Council is inviting the public to comment on proposals relating to the three conservation areas in Lerwick Lanes, Lerwick New Town and Scalloway.

The public consultation period will run from Monday 10th March to Thursday 10th April 2025, this was noted.

8.10 Neshion Energy Park stakeholder engagement

Yell Community Council is invited to the first public engagement to be held on Thursday 27th of March at Mossbank Public Hall between 2pm and 7pm. Community Councillors are encouraged to attend if available.

8.11 Community Conversation - Community Benefits from Renewable Energy Developments

This local community conversation is a chance to share your views in an island's focussed conversation as the Scottish Government consults on the Community Benefit Good Practice Guidance. There is an online session next week if anyone would like to attend.

8.12 NYDC Consultation Invite

NYDC will be hosting a community carvery and inviting people to take part in two consultations. One will be to update our existing development plan which will form the basis of NYDC's development priorities for the next few years. The other will be regarding a Local Place Plan for North Yell which will be submitted to the council and outline the community's proposals and priorities for development and use of land in North Yell. Online survey version and paper copies are available if interested.

8.13 Galtigarth Track Sea Erosion

Mr L Odie has been contacted by local users of this track regarding the erosion and has contacted L Drosso (Outdoor Officer) from SIC and a site meeting will be organised although it is not included on the core path plan. It is unlikely to receive funding.

8.14 Brunthill Footpath (Fairview to Well Gate)

The gate on this footpath has been damaged and replaced and now the replacement has been damaged. Mr L Odie has arranged a site meeting with L Drosso to discuss options although it is not on the core path plan.

03/25/07 FINANCE/GRANTS

10.1 MID YELL PUBLIC HALL CDF FUNDING APPLICATION

Mid Yell Public Hall - Purchase Trolley, Sound System, and Ice Machine
£500 was allocated for this project and Mid Yell Public Hall has accepted the offer of grant.
Payment was granted by Mr L Odie and seconded by Mrs A Jamieson.

10.2 SCBF DIRECTOR

The SCBF Director post has been promoted in the Islesview column of Shetland Times and on Facebook, but no one has been appointed yet. Suggestions to be discussed with members.

10.3 SCBF APPLICATION - BEACH AWARDS FUNDING

This was discussed under 7.7.

03/25/08 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 VISITORS TO COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

The visitors for the April meeting will be Billy Mycock - ASB Coordinator/Environmental Health and a representative from Relationship Scotland (Shetland).

There have been several enquiries regarding attending YCC meetings, Clerk had composed a list of interested parties. It was agreed to ask Frances Browne or Michael Duncan if all Community Councils had the same number of enquiries to attend. A community event was discussed with all interested parties attending and presenting to the public instead of Community Council.

Compass Centre attended the Yell Show, and they will again this year, Clerk to reply that they would get more coverage attending the show rather than a YCC meeting.

11.2 WHITE WIFE UPDATE

Shetland Amenity Trust have updated the Old Haa on restoration of the White Wife. A Public meeting will be held regarding the options regarding the restorations.

11.3 COMMUNITY WORK UPDATE

The pop ins are technically finished till next winter although they are looking at doing some before then if they can locate some funding. Local place plans training coming up on the 4th of April if anyone wishes to attend.

Cllr Robert Thomson left meeting at 10pm

03/25/09 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

9.1 Planning Ref: 2025/006/MAR

Proposal: To redevelop and expand an existing consented salmon farm by sitting up to 12 x 160m-circumference pens in a 110m mooring grid and a 39m x 13m feed barge.

Address: Fish Holm Fish Farm, Yell Sound, Shetland

Applicant: Andrew Barrie, Scottish Sea Farms

This planning application was noted by Yell Community Council.

THE MEETING ENDED AT 22.05HRS.

The next meeting of the Yel Community Council will be held on Monday 14th April, 7pm, West Sandwich Hall.

| Action List | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|---|--|
| Clerk | Aywick Post Box | Follow up | |
| Clerk | 7.1 Community Hire | Send applications to Sellaness | |
| Clerk | 7.1 Community Hire | Confirm J Jamieson | |
| Clerk | 7.1 Carry Over | Reply to Andrew Inkster – Thanks | |
| Clerk | 7.1 | Forward proposed timetable to Robert Thomson | |
| Clerk | 7.10 | Forward details of Inter Island connectivity to all members | |
| Clerk | 7.2 | Follow up Bus Shelters | |

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|-------|---------------------------|--|--|
| Clerk | Reply to SIC | Regarding WS Beach Road | |
| Clerk | Reply to landowner | Breckon carpark extension | |
| LO | Attend site meeting | Old Burravoe school | |
| LO | Contact Unst & Fetlar CCs | Regarding MOU | |
| AJ/LO | Update steering group | | |
| Clerk | 7.7/10.3 | Confirm funding | |
| Clerk | 7.7 | Submit applications | |
| Clerk | 7.8 | Reply to Facebook comment | |
| Clerk | 7.8 | Confirm attendance at April meeting | |
| All | 8.4 | Attend LPP spring workshop if available | |
| Clerk | 8.7 | Reply | |
| Clerk | 8.8 | Thank G Stiles for work carried out. | |
| All | 8.10 | Attend Neshion drop in if available | |
| All | 8.12 | Attend NYDC if available | |
| LO | 8.13/8.14 | Attend site meeting | |
| Clerk | 10.1 | Payment to Mid Yell Public Hall | |
| Clerk | 9.1 | Reply | |
| Clerk | 11.1 | Contact FB/MD regarding bombardment of visitors to attend meetings | |
| Clerk | 11.1 | Reply to Compass Centre | |