

Delting Community Council

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON Thursday 24th April 2025 At Brae High School

2025/04/01 MEMBERS

Mr A Cooper (Chairman)
Mr B Moreland

Mr E Smith (Vice Chairman)
Mr J Milne

2025/04/02 IN ATTENDANCE

Ms L Ratter – Clerk
Ms J Graham – UHI Shetland Engagement Officer
Ms S McDonald – To be Co-Opted
Members of Public (MOP)

2025/04/03 CIRCULAR

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

2025/04/04 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Ms R Griffiths, Ms J Dennison, Mr T Tyler, Mr A Hall - Ex Officio, Ms E Macdonald - Ex Officio and Mr M Duncan.

2025/04/05 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27th March 2025 were approved by Mr B Moreland and seconded by Mr E Smith.

2025/04/06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2025/04/07 CO-OPTING A MEMBER

7.1 Ms S McDonald was Co-Opted onto Delting Community Council. The forms were completed by Mr A Cooper, Chairman at the meeting. Forms to be sent to Returning Officer. **Clerk to progress.**

2025/04/08 MATTERS ARISING

8.1 **Road Verges Growing Over/Cattlegrid overfilled** – There was no update on this item.

8.2 **Testing at Scatsta** – There was no update on this item.

8.3 **Traffic Lights/no stopping signs at Scatsta** – There was no update on this item.

8.4 **Graveyard bin** – There was no update on this item.

8.5 **Traffic Passing Through Voe** – Mr M Neylor Chair of Voe Community Development Association VCDA (SCIO) emailed to inform the DCC of an email he sent to Neil Hutcheson from SIC roads department on Wednesday this week following the RTC at Tagon Stores. He was wondering whether the DCC is happy to support them on this? Following on from this email there was an update on the reduction of speed limit on the A970 at Tagon Stores. See 2025/04/10.4 for planning consent. **Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

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- 8.6 **Glass on road** – There was no update on this item.
- 8.7 **Walking and Settlement Audit Recommendations** – There was no update on this item.
- 8.8 **Sign at Sparl** – There was no update on this item.
- 8.9 **Loose Chips at Maidenfield Mossbank** – They are aware that there has been issues with the chips sticking at Maidenfield and in a few other places; Mr J Duncan will get it swept again and will continue to monitor. They may try to rectify the issue with another coat of spray tar. The members noted there was no change to the road. Mr J Milne also noted the tarmac was the same in the Moorfield estate.
- 8.10 **Archiving** – All paperwork been taken to Lerwick to the Archives. We are awaiting receipt to be sent from them for our records.
- 8.11 **Community Resilience Plans** – There was no update on this item.
- 8.12 **Toft Road** – Mr J Duncan has asked Johann to look at what ditching is required in Neshion and will programme works on his findings. The Neshion road is on a long list of resurfacing throughout the Isles and they will continue to monitor its condition. In addition, they do want to put in a corner widening and passing place where the snow fans in and have spoken to the landowner about this. Unfortunately, they have no budget for the improvement works at this time but are hoping this can happen along with the resurfacing. He is unable to give an exact timescale as to when this road will be resurfaced as we have a lot of A, B and C class road needing attention.

2025/04/09 POLICE REPORT

- 9.1 There was no police report.

2025/04/10 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 10.1 **JJ/SMG/R/E3/29-** SIC (Runafirth, Brae) (Parking Place for Disabled Person's Vehicle) Order 2025 The final version of the above Order is enclosed for your information. There were no objections to this application. **Clerk to progress.**
- 10.2 **JJ/SMG/R/E3/29 -** SIC (Housaquoy, Brae) (Parking Place for Disabled Person's Vehicle) Order 2025. The final version of the above Order is enclosed for your information. There were no objections to this application. **Clerk to progress.**
- 10.3 **JJ/SMG/R/E3/29 -** SIC (Sandside, Mossbank) (Parking Place for Disabled Person's Vehicle) Order 2025. The above proposed Orders and its notice of proposal are enclosed for your information. The period for receipt of comments is prior to 16 May 2025. There were no objections to this application. **Clerk to progress.**
- 10.4 **NEH/SMG/R/E3/3/107 -** SIC (A970 Voe, Delting) (40 Miles Per Hour Speed Limit) Traffic Regulation Order 2025. The above proposed Order and its notice of proposal are enclosed for your information. The Order would reduce the speed limit on the A970 through Voe from 50 to 40 miles per hour. The exception being the length between the A970/B9071 Voe to Bixter Road junction and the viewpoint to the south of the war memorial. The existing 50 miles per hour limit would be retained on this length of the A970. Should you wish to make a formal objection to the Order please write to Neil Hutcheson at the above address. The period for receipt of comments is prior to 2 June 2025. The members were pleased at the proposed reduction in speed limit through Voe however, they think the speed restrictions do not go far enough. The members would like a 30mph speed limit from Mulla through to the Bixter/Voe junction as the corner coming out of Voe heading South is particularly bad in the winter for freezing and black ice. The members were disappointed that it has taken a road traffic collision to get a reduction in the speed limit given the Community Council and Voe residents have been campaigning for years to

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get this speed limit reduced. They do not want to wait for another road accident for the speed limit to be reduced to 30mph and would like to see the 30mph limit introduced now. **Clerk to progress.**

2025/04/11 MS J GRAHAM UHI SHETLAND ENGAGEMENT OFFICER – INTRODUCTION TO UHI.

11.1 Ms J Graham introduced herself. She started working for UHI Shetland since October and is her task to speak to all Community Councils and business and industry to gather information about what people think about UHI and the offering of courses, how they are delivered, if there are any barriers for learning and training and she will compile a report that will be used for the development of UHI. She has been looking back at emails to find out what people have been asking for and what they are not getting. She would like to know if anyone has any views.

Mr E Smith asked what campus this covered. Ms J Graham said Lerwick and Scalloway.

Mr E Smith said the Shetland Island Council had been in contact regarding refresher courses for the Ferries etc but were unable to access the courses in Shetland. Was this a barrier put up by UHI Shetland? Was there a reason it could not be done in Shetland? Ms J Graham responded by saying there was a lot of marine courses offered in Scalloway. As she had only been in post from October, she was unsure of the answer. Mr E Smith said he was aware of the marine offer in Scalloway and was aware of the issues with accessing the marine courses.

It was noted when UHI took over NAFC Marine Centre, a lot of courses were not run due to staffing issues and money saving so a lot of marine courses were not run for a while meaning people had to seek courses from the mainland. Ms J Graham said there had been a lot of feedback regarding this from a reliability perspective. People still going South to make sure they get the courses done.

Mr A Cooper said the fishing courses for the young people are not meeting the needs of the community.

Mr A Cooper said there is a wider issue in Delting with SVT, Gas plant and potentially new green Industries coming. In the community we should be gearing up for young people in the community. The College and industry should be working far closer together to provide the skills in the community and train local people rather than taking worker up from the mainland which would help communities keep their population and keep wages and money in Shetland. People need access to the courses to gain the skills so they can do that. If the course were offered here less people would move away. The college needs to look at what skills are needed in the community and offer them to make sure people can stay rather than offering courses which are easy to deliver but flood the community with too many people with the one skill and not enough jobs. Ms J Graham said a new Energy course has been introduced to Skills for Work programme and was proving quite popular. Mr A Cooper said just now most apprentices in Shetland need to go south to access the courses for their apprenticeships.

Ms S McDonald said her brother has just had to go south to Edinburgh to do a course which he tried to do here but was continuously delayed.

Mr A Cooper said we are where we are and he hoped Ms J Graham would get the answers needed and shake it up so the people of Shetland would benefit from the facility.

Another area for improvement is the website. It is a difficult website to navigate and book short courses.

Mr J Graham said feedback she had received was for agricultural courses like hydraulics and welding and things like Sage and excel. There was also the need to access courses anytime so possible recorded webinars which can be accesses anytime.

Mr A Cooper thinks it would be useful for them to come regularly to the communities with what is on offer at the college. What courses will be run and when.

2025/04/12 REQUEST FOR SCOPING OPINION NESHION ENERGY PARK – SCOPING RESPONSE

12.1 On 5th March 2025, **Neshion Ltd** submitted a request for a scoping opinion from the Scottish Ministers for the proposed section 36 application for the **Neshion Energy Park**. The proposed development is for 10 wind turbine generators with a 200m blade to tip height and Battery Energy Storage System located in the planning authority area of **Shetland Islands Council**, in line with regulation 12 of The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland)

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Regulations 2017. Under regulation 12, Scottish Ministers are required to provide a scoping opinion outlining the information they consider should be included in the EIA report. Ministers are also required to consult the relevant consultation bodies and any other interested party which is likely to have an interest in the proposed development by reason of its specific environmental responsibilities or local and regional competencies. The scoping report and supporting information can be viewed at the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit website www.energyconsents.scot by:

- clicking on Search tab; then,
- clicking on Simple Search tab; then,
- typing Neshion Energy Park into Search by Project Name box then clicking on Go;
- then clicking on EC00006120 and then click on Documents tab.

You might find the following information useful when providing your response:

- The indicative turbine OS grid co-ordinates are in table 2.1 on page 5 of the Scoping Report;
- The maximum indicative hub height is 114 metres;
- The maximum indicative rotor diameter is 172 metres; and
- The maximum indicative tip height is 200 metres.

To allow Scottish Ministers to provide a comprehensive scoping opinion, they ask that we review the scoping report and advise on the scope of the environmental impact assessment for this proposal. Please advise if there are any further matters, we would like Ministers to highlight for consideration and inclusion in the assessment, particularly site-specific information. comments by 28th April 2025. The members discussed the issues with input from residents and feedback from Mr A Hall Ex Officio. A response was compiled with three main areas. These were Low level noise, Shadow flicker and Visual impact. Members also wanted it noted there was a lot of unanswered questions following the public engagement that would need to be answered. The response will be sent on 25th April 2025. **Clerk to progress.**

2025/04/13 COMMUNITY WORK

There Was No Community Work Update

2025/04/14 FINANCE UPDATE

- 14.1 The clerk updated members on the final financial position for 24/25.
- 14.2 2024/25 accounts have been approved and submitted to VAS for Independent examination.
- 14.3 Clerk has applied for the new core funding £14643.71 based on two costs. Administration and projects. We are awaiting the outcome.
- 14.4 In addition to proof of expenditure from groups, Delting Community Council will request feedback, photographs or lists of achievements from projects who receive funds from Delting Community Council for Clerk to collate.
- 14.5 Members decided Due to budget cuts to the Community Council following the review of Community Councils and the changes in funding structure, the members have taken the decision not to award grant funding for unadopted roads for financial year 25/26. This will be discussed again in the new financial year in April 2026.

2025/04/15 CORRESPONDENCE

- 15.1 **Important Update on Burial Ground Capacity where EROB is Unavailable in Certain Burial Grounds** - Burial Services want to inform Community Councils that in certain burial grounds where the remaining capacity is estimated to be less than 10 years, pre-purchasing of Exclusive Right of Burial is no longer permitted. This has been the case for some years in several burial grounds and is a standard practice to ensure space remains available for immediate burial needs. They understand that this may be difficult for families who wish to plan ahead. However, there are still options available, and we are available to discuss alternative arrangements that

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may suit individual circumstances. They appreciate our support in sharing this information as appropriate. This information has also been added to our website today: <https://www.shetland.gov.uk/births-marriages-deaths/burial-services/2> If we have any questions or would like to discuss available options, please do not hesitate to reach out to the following email address: burials@shetland.gov.uk. Mr A Cooper noted Laxobiggin was on the list. Laxobiggin graveyard is for the community of Mossbank, Firth, and Graven area and there is a lot of people in the community with family members buried in this graveyard and want to be buried alongside their loved ones. The council has a duty to provide a graveyard in the locality. To this end the community want to see Laxobiggin extended as soon as possible. Members have asked Clerk to email Ms Y Scott. **Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members. Clerk to progress.**

15.2 SEPA are launching a consultation on a proposed Environmental Performance Assessment Scheme (EPAS) - a fair way of reporting on how businesses are meeting their responsibilities. They are writing to us to provide Delting Community Council with information about their consultation on our EPAS proposals, to invite our participation and to encourage us to share this opportunity with those we represent. Scotland's environment is a vital resource for all of us, and the people of Scotland need to be confident that regulated businesses are achieving good environmental performance and our environment is protected from pollution and harm. Compliance with environmental laws is the minimum that businesses should be seeking to achieve. A clear and consistent performance scheme benefits everyone and SEPA wants feedback from businesses, industry leaders and communities about how we do this.

This consultation is for everyone with an interest in the environmental performance of the businesses that we regulate. This includes:

- Communities interested in the activities we regulate so their health and local environment are protected and can be used for activities that enhance wellbeing.
- Anyone authorised to undertake an activity we regulate and wants to know how they will be assessed for environmental performance and be confident this is fair for all operators.
- Those wishing to use products or services provided by the operators and businesses we regulate.

Please help us to ensure the scheme is effective and robust by visiting [SEPA's consultation hub](#) and making your views known, and by sharing the consultation with your constituents, local businesses and communities, including on your social media channels.

The consultation runs from 31st March to 30th June. A series of engagement activities are being planned from late-April to early June to give interested participants an opportunity to find out more. Follow SEPA on social media or sign up to their newsletters to keep up to date with planned engagement. **Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members and put on the Delting Community Council Facebook Page.**

15.3 Community Council Elections - Awareness Raising Campaign – Mr M Duncan emailed regarding the need to promote the 2025 Community Council Elections. This was with a view to encouraging candidates (old and new) to put forward nominations for their local Community Council. It was agreed that a small short life working group be set up to agree a range of publicity methods that he could go away and work on over the summer months. However, the group very much needs Community Councils to input into this process and take ownership of the publicity arrangements. As well as publicity being generated by Shetland Islands Council, it is imperative that Community Councils also carry out their own local awareness raising and spread the word over the coming months.

He is seeking 3 or 4 volunteers to join him on the short life working group to develop a publicity plan. This group will not be a big time commitment – it will most probably a couple of online Teams meetings to brainstorm and agree ideas, then he can go away to cost up and develop the publicity arrangements. Therefore, the purpose of the email is to ask for volunteers. It can be community councillors and/or clerks, and from any part of Shetland. Anyone interested should contact Mr M Duncan direct by no later than Monday 12th May. The short life working group would aim to meet during w/c 19th & 26th May and from these meetings he would provide an update to the ASCC meeting in June to get agreement to proceed. If you have any good publicity ideas please get in touch. Mr E Smith agreed to go onto the group. **Clerk to progress. Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

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- 15.4 Core Path Plan Review - feedback reminder** - This is a friendly reminder that the deadline for submitting any feedback and comments for the core path plan review is fast approaching. If we have any feedback or comments to contribute to the review, please make sure to submit them by email before the 11th May 2025.

To recap, they are seeking comments on the following areas:

- Any errors in mapping on the current core path plan you are aware of.
- Any new routes in your area that could be given core path status or would improve connectivity.
- Any routes that are being used differently or that could be amended to improve them.
- Any other thoughts or suggestions that may be relevant to the core path plan review.

As discussed during his presentation, they do not expect significant changes to the plan. However, any feedback you provide will be greatly appreciated and carefully considered during the review. **Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

- 15.5 Viking Genes Shetland launch invitation - 21st May** – Viking Genes Shetland to invite a community councillor to the launch of Viking Genes Shetland and introduce them to the newly established committee aiming to raise awareness of the work of Viking Genes and support fundraising to allow genetic screening of the Shetland population for health risks that are important locally. Sandra Laurenson OBE is the Chair, and is joined by Peter Malcolmson OBE, Lord Lieutenant Lindsay Tulloch QPM, Elaine Jamieson and Valerie Nicolson. The event at Mareel, at 10.30 am on Wednesday 21st May. Please RSVP by Friday 25th April, indicating how many will attend. Mr J Milne will attend as Delting Community Council representative. **Clerk to progress. Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

- 15.6 SSEN Distribution – Update on Cable Repairs Mossbank** – SSEN sent through the slides from their presentation in March. **Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

2025/04/16 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

- 16.1 Creative Breaks 2025 - OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS** - To apply, visit the [Creative Breaks page](#) on our website and download the application form, budget template and guidance for applicants. Completed applications should be submitted by **5pm on Thursday 22nd May 2025** (late or incomplete applications will **not** be accepted) **Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

- 16.2 Funding information - Belmont Built Heritage Grant Scheme** - Shetland Charitable Trust has launched a one-off grant scheme entitled the “Belmont Built Heritage Grant Scheme” which is designed to assist with the protection of historic buildings in Shetland. This grant scheme is open to the following types of groups:

- Charities
- Trust
- Charitable incorporated organisations
- Not-for-profit community and voluntary groups

The fund is open to applicants Shetland wide. However, as the funding is a legacy of The Belmont Trust, Shetland Charitable Trust is particularly keen to support initiatives in the North Isles of Shetland. There are no set limits on the amount of funding available and applicants can request up to 90% of eligible costs. However, it is expected that this scheme will be competitive and there are limited funds available so applicants should be mindful of this. The closing date for applications is **Friday 27th June 2025**. For more information or an application form see web link [here](#) or contact Shetland Charitable Trust at: Email grants@shetlandcharitabletrust.co.uk **Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

- 16.3 My Place Awards: Celebrating placemaking efforts in Scotland** - The [Scottish Civic Trust](#) want to promote their national [My Place Awards](#), which celebrate excellence in community-led placemaking in Scotland. The deadline for entries is 30th April.
What are the My Place Awards?

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The Scottish Civic Trust My Place Awards celebrate excellence in community-led placemaking in Scotland. They have two categories:

Community-led Projects: recognises recent community-led built environment projects that have transformed their locality. This includes new buildings; historic buildings or monuments that have been reused or refurbished; designed public realm schemes, such as street works and parks; and designed landscapes such as gardens or public green spaces.

Community Champions: celebrates individuals across Scotland who have made a significant contribution to their communities through achieving positive change in the local area, whether through placemaking, built environment projects, improving public spaces or increasing access to spaces and places by communities.

Winners of the Awards are celebrated at a ceremony attended by major stakeholders in the built environment and heritage sectors, as well as representatives from local and national government. The My Place Awards are a great opportunity to showcase a project's success to the community, stakeholders and funders by receiving much-deserved exposure and media attention, as well as thank community members for their hard work and dedication to their local place.

Entries to the My Place Awards 2025 can be made via the [My Place Scotland website](#). The deadline for entries is **30 April 2025**. For more information, email Erin Burke, Scottish Civic Trust Communications and Events Officer, at Erin.Burke@scottishcivictrust.org.uk.

Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.

- 16.4 Scottish Parliament Statement and Publication of the first Fuel Poverty Periodic Report - 1 April 2025** - the Scottish Government published the responses to the targeted engagement which helped to advise the report. Only respondents who confirmed their consent to publish via the respondent information form have been included in the publication. Responses can be found here: [Tackling fuel poverty - periodic report 2021-2024: engagement responses](#) **Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

- 16.5 CARES Community Buildings Fund** - The Community Buildings Fund from the Scottish Government's Community and Renewables Energy Scheme (CARES) will open for applications in spring 2025. The Fund is expected to close in October 2025. The Community Buildings Fund will support community organisations to decarbonise their community buildings and to reduce their energy bills by installing renewable technologies such as heat pumps and solar panels. Grant funding will be available for up to 80% of eligible costs up to a maximum of £80,000. For more information, please see website link below. [CARES Community Buildings Fund - Local Energy Scotland](#) **Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

2025/04/17 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

- 17.1 Kissing Gates Moorfield estate** – A member of the public has approached Delting Community Council regarding the Kissing Gates in the Moorfield Estate. It is very difficult for people with Prams and wheelchairs and is also unsuitable for bikes. A lot of the gates have been removed and fences in disrepair either side. Members asked Clerk to email the Housing Department to ask for these to be removed as there was no longer sheep in the area. **Clerk to progress**
- 17.2 Dog bin removed from Brae Toilets** – A member of the public has approached Delting Community Council asking why the dog bin and general waste bin has been removed from the Brae Toilets. Clerk to email Mr B Gray. **Clerk to progress**
- 17.3 Litter Muckle Roe** - A member of the public has approached Delting Community Council to raise the issue of litter in a few areas of Muckle Roe. The first area is the layby that looks out over the bridge before you get to the bridge and the second area on the other side of the bridge where the memorial stone is on the Muckle Roe end. There has also been issues with litter at the end of Muckle Roe at the carpark to the Hamms. The members were wondering if three bins could be installed in these three areas identified to eliminate the problem. Clerk to email Mr B Gray. **Clerk to progress.**
- 17.4 Woodland fence repair** – Mr J Milne has highlighted there was damage once again to the Woodland Fence in Brae. Mr J Milne and Mr T Tyler repaired the fence.

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- 17.5 White lines in Car park** – Mr J Milne has raised the issue of poorly painted white lines in the Carparks in the Moorfield Estate. The members are wanting proper white lines painted in the carparks at the Moorfield Estate. There has been a couple of disabled bays been painted recently but very little care was taken when doing this. The members would like proper white lines painted for the whole carpark. Clerk to email Housing Department. **Clerk to progress.**
- 17.6 Pole at Voe** – There is a damaged pole on the A970 North after Mulla Junction in Voe. It has been lying at an angle for some time and it looks like it has been hit on a couple of occasions. Members were wanting to get this fixed or removed? The members were also wondering what it was used for as it looked like a solar panel. Clerk to email Mr N Hutcheson. **Clerk to progress**
- 17.7 June Meeting Date** – The clerk will be away on 26th June and will not be available for the meeting. The Chairman has asked for the meeting to be held the week before on 19th June. Clerk to email Mossbank School to check. **Clerk to progress**

2025/04/18 DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

- 18.1** The Chairman called for the next Delting Community Council meeting to be held at the Voe Hall on Thursday 29th May commencing at 7.30pm
Chairman