



**TINGWALL, WHITENESS & WEISDALE
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 21st May 2025

1.0 Present:

Andrew Archer (Chair)	Catherine Hughson
Birgit Wagner	Ian Scott
Neil Leask	Moraig Lyall
John Clarkson	
Margaret Cooper	Public attendees (10)
Martin Randall	
Paul Stevens (Clerk)	

2.0 Apologies:

Linda Tulloch (Vice Chair), Davie Sandison, Charlie Hodge, Roselyn Fraser, Michael Duncan

3.0 Declarations of Interest:

Andrew Archer, as Chair of Win Furt, declared a financial interest in grant decisions for the SCBF; Catherine Hughson, as a member of the SIC Planning Committee, declared a non-financial interest in matters relating to planning.

4.0 Approval of Minutes

On a motion proposed by Martin Randall and seconded by Neil Leask, the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16th April 2025 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

5.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- Updates to Wormaldale viewpoint: postponed until next meeting.
- South Whiteness water supply: Beatrice Wishart MSP has written to the relevant Scottish government minister to ask why the work has been postponed and a reply is awaited. Andrew Archer had also contacted Alistair Carmichael MP but he deferred to Beatrice in this matter. Andrew reported that the community council had been successful in getting considerable media coverage of the issue but that Scottish Water's reaction would seem to suggest that they would not be shamed into reversing their decision.
- Cott Road works and South Whiteness pothole: a reply had been received from Roads indicating that both of these matters were being dealt with.

6.0 Decisions since last meeting

The Clerk to submit "No comment" for planning application 2025/095/PP 'At Proposed footpath to be located adjacent to the public road between the Laxfirth Junction and the Breiwick / Califf Junction'.

7.0 Police Report

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- There was no police report this month.
 - Following up from Sergeant Patrick's visit at last month's meeting, a post had been put up on Facebook detailing how members of the public could report speeding vehicles.
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8.0 Finance

- The Financial Report, updated to 14th May 2025, was distributed to community council members.
 - The SIC grant for 2025/26 has now been offered and accepted.
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9.0 Correspondence

[Catherine Hughson declared a non-financial family interest and recused herself from the first item]

- Letters and a phone call had been received from residents at Kalliness who were concerned about a planning application (JJ/SMG/R/E3/29) to change the location of a parking place for a disabled person's vehicle. Ten members of the public were present to object to this application. They believed that the application was prompted by the person whose space it was feeling that parking was awkward due to the space being on a slope. However, the objectors said that the proposed new location would also be on a slope, as well as being farther away from the associated house; the resident would have to walk past the existing space on the way to the new space. Objectors also felt that the new location would potentially block existing, general parking space, highlighting the lack of parking availability in Kalliness, with around sixteen cars in use yet only six parking spaces. Councillors and the head of the SIC Roads department had recently visited the site to evaluate the parking situation and explore the possibility of a new parking area and/or layout. CC members were all in favour of supporting an objection to changing the location of the parking space, on the basis of the increased distance and associated unnecessary costs, and were in favour of adding additional parking on the "main road" side of the sheltered housing.

[Members of the public left at this point]

- A letter had been received from SSE to inform the CC of a 'stopping up' order for the old Sandwater road.
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10.0 Planning

- JJ/SMG/R/E3/29 SIC (Kalliness, Weisdale) (Parking Place for Disabled Person's Vehicle) Order 2025 and SIC (Kalliness, Weisdale) (Parking Place for Disabled Person's Vehicle) (Revocation No. 3) Order 2025

→ ACTION: As per item 9.0, the Clerk to submit an objection on the basis of distance and unnecessary cost.

11.0 Viking / Statkraft

There was nothing to report this month other than to note that a group of MPs had visited Shetland and the general issue of community ownership had been discussed.

12.0 Win Furt

- A planning application for the Tingwall path had now been submitted. So far, the council's drainage engineer had commented that they could see why there should be an exception to the presumption against construction in this case. Comments from Roads and the planning officer's report were not yet available.
 - Paths for All had offered £100,000 towards construction but unfortunately this could not be accepted due to the requirement that this would have to have been spent by December 2025
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whereas it will be unlikely that construction will be started before spring 2026. If planning permission is granted, the next steps will be to issue the tender for construction, evaluate the responses, and secure funding.

- Regarding the Hellister path, Win Furt had met with SSEN last Monday and they had confirmed that they would provide a total of £340,000 funding (£85,000 per annum for four years) direct to Win Furt. A memorandum of understanding would be forthcoming.
- Hellister design work could therefore progress, with the aim of pre-emptively identifying any potential barriers or constraints. The aim is to ensure that this path is wheelchair accessible and easily maintained in the long term, with one option being a plant-friendly, recycled plastic boardwalk form similar to the one at Hermaness National Nature Reserve.

13.0 SCBF

Once again, there were no applications to be considered this month.

- ACTION: Andrew Archer to put a post on Facebook encouraging people to apply for Community Grant Scheme funding.

14.0 Roads

- There had been some complaints by Tingwall valley residents about speeding vehicles. Moraig Lyall said that she had already asked Neil Hutcheson to resurvey road use and warning signage in this area.
 - A resident had contacted the CC to ask that a note of thanks be passed on for the successful resurfacing work at the Veensgarth roundabout.
- ACTION: the Clerk to email John Smith to say thank you on behalf of the resident.

15.0 Councillors' Reports

- Moraig Lyall had been busy with a report on waste and recycling in Shetland. This included a proposal to increase the types of plastic that could be collected: The new extended producer responsibility legislation provides a fund divided up to all UK councils to help them deal with waste, and this offsets the lower price that SIC would get for selling lower quality (mixed) plastic to the recycling industry. It also proposed a move to using wheelie bins for general refuse as well as recycling, as this would reduce injuries to refuse collectors caused by lifting often heavy black bags as well as encouraging people to reduce the quantity of non-recyclable refuse they produce. The new schemes will hopefully start in Spring 2026.
- As well as the usual meetings, Catherine Hughson had been involved with a well-received Education and Family Committee seminar on the quality framework process, held at the Whiteness Primary School.
- Ian Scott did not wish to report anything.

16.0 AOCB

The latest update on the RTS switch-off was that it would now be a staged closure across different areas until either September or December 2025. The energy companies had reportedly been querying whether there could be BBC involvement to keep going longer but this was felt to be unlikely.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 18th June at the Whiteness and Weisdale Public Hall.
