

# **Fetlar Community Council**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT FETLAR HALL**  
(subject to the approval of the next Fetlar Community Council Meeting)  
**ON TUESDAY, 17<sup>th</sup> June 2025 AT 7.45 pm**  
**(WITH A TEAM'S OPTION TO JOIN REMOTELY)**

## **PRESENT**

James Rendall, Chair  
Lucy Cummings  
James Smyth  
Mike Fogarty

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Robert Thompson  
Juliet Bellis

Chris Bolton Clerk Fetlar Community Council

## **1. Apologies**

Frances Browne SIC

## **2. Minutes of the previous meetings**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> of May were circulated.  
Proposed by Lucy seconded by Mike and approved.

## **3. Declarations of interest**

Lucy declared an interest with respect to the Housing item on the agenda

## **4. Ongoing Business**

### **4.1 SIC Housing**

There was discussion about the continuing issues with tenancies in Fetlar.  
Lucy informed that a potential employee had turned down No14 Stakafletts saying it was not fit for habitation. She was informed that; the boards were badly stained, it stank, and the bathroom was unusable.  
James R commented that there must be a standard.  
Lucy noted that this was the second person that has turned down this property.  
It was agreed that Chris would write again to the Council with respect to No 10 and No 14 Stakkafletts.  
Robert also agreed to follow this up with the Housing Department.

### **4.2 Fetlar Handyman post.**

The Council has still not received any formal communication.  
There was some discussion about water usage at the Hamars Ness Ferry Terminal.  
Roy Buckland has started. But it is not clear what his role entails.  
It was agreed that Chris would invite him to the next meeting.  
There was also discussion about rubbish collection and the SIC proposal to move to wheelie bins. It was noted that this would not be appropriate for Stakafletts.

Robert will contact Carl Symonds to start a dialogue about Fetlar.

### **4.3 Ferry Timetables**

It was noted that the posts for additional ferry crew had been advertised.

Robert will check out the adverts and push for action.

There was discussion about the current problems caused by a lack of engineers.

James R asked if there had been any progress with timetables.

Robert replied that he didn't think so.

Lucy informed that the issues had been discussed at the ASCC and that Andrew Inkster provided his normal response.

Robert informed that when there are problems with single vessels running that bookings be retained for the shift vessel.

It was noted that there had been little progress on checking double bookings.

It was noted that SIC were waiting for the review of bus timetables to link in with ferry timetables.

This should be available online shortly.

### **4.4 NHS**

Lucy informed that the Fowler family had received a response to their complaint and didn't wish to take the matter any further.

This included that there is a policy for palliative care, and they were ready to provide it. Apparently, it took some time to prepare for it including delays in providing a hospital bed.

There appeared to be no record of the request to deal with the catheter problem.

Lucy will go back to the NHS with respect to the general issues.

### **4.5 Inter Island Transport Connectivity**

Juliet attended the meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June.

The meeting received the report from the consultants after the consultation.

Their report indicates that there are no proposals for a fixed link to Fetlar at this stage as it is considered uneconomical due to the size of the population.

The proposals will go forward to the Council and then progress to building a business case for each option.

Robert will suggest to the Council that a fixed link for Fetlar should still be included as at this stage there are no costings.

He believes that the cost of maintaining a ferry service could compare to the cost of a fixed link.

James R suggested that there could be problems with maintaining ferry crews in the long term.

### **4.6 Brough Lodge**

There has been no news directly from the new owners.

Robert is aware that there is interest in creating a water supply to Hamars Ness and that a planning request may be made later in the year.

## **4.7 Roads Speeds**

Chris has written to SIC Roads requesting the 30mph limit around Houbie.

## **5. Finance and Administration**

### **5.1 Finance Report**

Current balance £9056.82

It was agreed that it may be advantageous to apply to the Community Development Fund to purchase defibrillator supplies.

It was agreed that Chris should advertise the Fetlar Community Development funds with a closing date of August the 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **5.2 Clerk Invoice**

The clerk's salary invoice was approved.

### **5.3 Laptop Purchase**

It was agreed that Chris could purchase a Laptop.

### **5.4 Savings Account**

Chris informed that there were now bank charges on the bank account.

It was agreed that Chris should explore opening a Savings Account provided there aren't any charges.

## **6. AOCB**

### **6.1 Pathway Repairs**

Mike informed that one of the styles on the pathway leading away from Hamars Ness are broken.

Chris will contact SIC.

### **6.1 Road damage**

Mike noted that the road accident by the Brough Lodge corner had not appeared in the police reports.

He was concerned that the fence had not been repaired and that the damaged bails were still looking messy.

It wasn't clear from the cones placed at the edge of the road whether there was damage to the road that needed a repair.

## **7. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Tuesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July time to be agreed.