

## **BURRA AND TRONDRA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES**

A meeting of the above Community Council was held in the foyer of the Burra Public Hall on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 6pm.

### **Present**

Mr. N. O'Rourke (Chairman)  
Miss N. Fullerton  
Mrs. C. Smith  
Ms M. Garnier

### **Apologies**

Mr. G. Laurenson  
Mr. R. Black  
Mr. B. Adamson  
Mr. M. Fullerton  
Cllr. D. Sandison  
Mrs. R. Fraser, SIC  
Mr. M. Duncan, SIC

### **In Attendance**

Cllr. C. Hughson  
Cllr. M. Lyall  
Cllr. I. Scott  
Mrs. J. Adamson (Clerk)

**1. Declaration of Interest** – Cllr. Hughson declared an interest in connection with the Planning Application to be discussed.

### **2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The Minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025 were approved. Proposed by Niall O'Rourke and seconded by Carole Smith.

### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

#### **(a) Active Travel Audit**

Nothing further had been heard back from Robina Barton who is now back in post. Cllr. Lyall reported however that she had seen the list of projects and there were none listed for our area.

#### **(b) Burra Early Years – pick up/drop off sign**

It was reported that the sign has still not been put in place. The Clerk has emailed Neil Hutcheson for an update.

#### **(c) Shetland Community Benefit Fund - Director**

Cllr. Scott advised that Michael Hannah had attended his first meeting as a Director and he had found it quite interesting.

#### **(d) Road at Meal – white centre lines/arrows**

Barrie Scobie advised previously that this will be done in Spring as it's weather dependent. No sign of this being done as yet.

(e) Coastal erosion – Minn Beach

Niall had received a reply from the Shetland Islands Council with regard to sourcing funding for this work but had not had any success. It was agreed that as it is still accessible for walkers there is really nothing else we can do meantime due to the high cost involved. Niall will speak with James William and Helen Laurenson to explain the situation. **ACTION: Niall**

(f) BT Phone Box, Hamnavoe

Cllr. Scott advised that he had emailed BT to see if they would remove the phone box but had not received a reply. Carole Smith reported that they have started removing phone boxes in the Highlands.

(g) Multicourt lights at Hamnavoe School

Cllr. Hughson reported that the lights have now been fixed and they are just waiting for the push pad to be installed and they will be ready to use. The members were delighted to hear this.

(h) Bus Shelter – Burra Hall

Still no reply from Neil Hutcheson regarding our request for a bus shelter alongside the Burra Public Hall. It was pointed out to him that there is only one bus shelter in Hamnavoe at The Glen and there is also one at the Meal junction (which is hardly ever used). The Clerk has contacted Neil Hutcheson again.

(i) Tree planting – Burra Woodland

Dr Margaret Reeves had sent an email thanking us for suggesting the Hulsidale Playpark. They had visited the area with some kids who said they really liked playing there so they are looking elsewhere as they did not think it would be fair to plant trees in their play area. The Clerk reported that since this email Dr. Reeves had attended a recent Burra Grazings Committee meeting and they are hoping to find a suitable location for tree planting on the common grazings.

(j) Burra & Trondra bridges – potholes on Burra bridge & dip at Trondra bridge

Both the above have previously been reported to Barrie Scobie who replied that he was aware of these issues. Nothing has been done about this to date.

(k) Bridge between West & East Burra – low dyke

Nothing heard back from Neil Hutcheson regarding this. He had instructed Garriock Bros to install a railing on the top of the existing low wall back in January 2023 but this had never been done. The Clerk has contacted him again.

(l) Papal Stone

The Clerk had contacted the Shetland Amenity Trust regarding the stone as it is unstable. They replied stating that the Papal Stone was purchased by the Shetland Churches Council Trust (SCCT) and that we should contact Val Turner. The Clerk had sent an email to Val Turner today and was waiting to hear back.

#### **4. CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) Planning Application Ref 2025/112/PPF

To erect 1.5 storey dwellinghouse - House Site at Houss, Bridge End, Burra

Applicant: Cameron Rae & Lesley Smith

The above application was discussed by the members. There were no objections.

**ACTION: Clerk**

(b) ASCC meeting - 10<sup>th</sup> June 2025 6-8pm

The papers for the above meeting had been received from Michael Duncan. Niall advised that he would not be available to attend this meeting.

(c) Shorewatch at Ludi

The Clerk had received a phone call from Katie Dyke re the above. They wish to place a box on Ludi where community volunteers can visit to carry out regular surveys looking out for whales, dolphins and porpoises. All the data they collect goes towards understanding the marine life using Shetland waters. The boxes store their Shorewatch kit which includes a pair of binoculars and scope for their volunteers to use so they don't have to buy expensive kit to do the surveys. Anyone can become a volunteer with them so anyone from the community can join the project and access the binoculars. The Clerk had already forwarded this email on to the Christie family as the area they suggested is near the memorial bench. The family are happy for the box to be located in this area as long as it does not interfere with the picnic area. The members were also in favour of the box being installed but it would need to be well secured as it is very exposed.

**ACTION: Clerk**

(d) Community Council Elections – Awareness Raising Campaign

An email was received from Michael Duncan. At the last ASCC meeting he had raised 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. They 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. He was looking for 3 or 4 volunteers to join him on the group to develop a publicity plan – either community councillors and/or clerks from any part of Shetland. This had already been circulated to the members.

(e) Various correspondence

The following correspondence had also been received and circulated to the members prior to the meeting for information:

- SIC Drop in events to promote Business Support (20<sup>th</sup> May in Burra Public Hall 11am – 4pm)
- Core Path Plan Review from Liam Drosso – feedback reminder (by 11<sup>th</sup> May)

**5. AOCB – None**

**6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of next meeting was set for Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 (subject to change as the Clerk is going for an operation.)