

DRAFT Minutes of Meeting of Yell Community Council

Monday 18th August 2025, 7pm, Mid Yell School

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

Apologies: Mrs S Williamson, Mr R Jamieson, Cllr Robert Thomson (Elected representative), Mr Michael Duncan (Community Councillor Liaison Officer).

In Attendance: Mrs Johnina Henderson (Clerk), Ms Frances Browne (North Isles Community Involvement and Development Worker) and 1 Member of the Public.

Guests: Ruth Macmillan - Depute/Exec Manager Social Work and Tony McLaughlin - Station Commander SFRS, Lerwick.

Mr L Odie welcomed everyone to the meeting and handed the meeting over to the guests for the evening, Firstly Ruth Macmillan (SIC Depute/Exec Manager of Social Work) who was deputising for J Robinson, who was unable to attend the meeting and gave an update on the Isleshavn Care centre Care Inspectorate inspection report. Ruth stated the significant improvements have been made since the inspection report was published in March, The Care Inspectorate have recently been back, and a new report will be published in the coming weeks. All requirements, bar one, have been met and all gradings have increased as a result, which evidently is a much-improved picture, and key improvements have been made throughout the building including to the fabric making it more homely and dealing with messy storage areas. Audits & checks have been put in place so that any concerns or errors in relation to needs for example can be flagged quickly. Training has been delivered in relation to the abbey pain scale and guidance, and support has been issued to staff where required. The outstanding recommendation relates to the need for a council wide quality assurance framework to be used across social care services therefore this is a larger, more high-level piece of work which Heidi Wharton-Baum (Interim Exec Manager Community Care Resources) is leading on. The management review is ongoing and are currently recruiting for a team leader the role is going to be split across Yell and Unst, following recognition that the current role is too big. The current team leader will remain covering both roles in the interim during the recruitment process, however in the long term he will be covering Unst as a new team leader is being recruited for Yell. Discussions around this predate the inspection however this will be a key improvement ensuring sufficient leadership is in place across the isles.

Questions were asked regarding timescales and the improvements, also regarding the Care at home in Yell, which Ruth would need to check with the relevant people and get back to YCC. Staffing and recruitment issues were also addressed.

Chair L Odie thanked Ruth for attending the meeting and handed over to Tony McLaughlin who gave an update on his role as Station commander in Lerwick and the fire service throughout Shetland, particularly the Yell Station. Tony began with his background and then went onto his time in Shetland and what aspects him and his colleague Alan Street carry out in Shetland, Alan covers the Yell Station which at present has 10 volunteer firefighters, two new members have recently joined the team and are doing well with their training. Tony addressed all the aspects of the fire station and services in Shetland including recruitment, appliances, mobilising during emergencies and questions were answered regarding call outs and requirements for local fire fighters.

Chair L Odie thanked Tony for attending the meeting and Ruth, Tony and the member of the public left the meeting at 8pm.

08/25/01 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr L Odie and Mrs J Henderson declared an interest in the Yell Show ferries.

Mrs J Henderson declared an interest in the Cullivoe Public Hall funding application.

Ms F Stirling declared an interest in the Mid Yell Pier Amenity Building project.

Mr L Madden declared an interest in the Telephone box at Brough Stores, Burravoe.

08/25/02 MINUTES

23rd June 2025 - The minutes of the June meeting were approved by Ms F Stirling and Mrs A Jamieson.

08/25/03 MATTERS ARISING

LOCAL DEFIBRILLATORS

Ms F Browne stated that defibrillator issues will be addressed at workshops in the autumn, dates to be confirmed.

08/25/04 OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

6.1 TRANSPORT - FERRIES

Yell Show Day Ferries

SIC Ferries can accommodate extra runs with Daggri for Yell Show Day on Saturday 6th September. The following runs (Slightly different to accommodate crew requirements) has been added to the booking system and bookings are available.

Departures from Ulsta as follows: 1000, 1100, 1200, 1600, 1700, 1800, 1900.

Departures from Toft as follows: 1030, 1130, 1300, 1630, 1730, 1830, 1930.

Fully Booked Ferries

Concerns were raised regarding the booking of multiple ferries and bookings not being available, but fully booked ferries are sometimes not sailing full.

6.2 ROADS UPDATE

New Cullivoe Road

The new road is due to start soon but no date has been confirmed yet.

Mr J Duncan (Engineer, Road Design) is willing to attend a YCC meeting to give updates on the work.

Bus Shelters gates in Yell

Work is ongoing with the gates at the bus shelters just now.

Road Closure of Dales Lees

The closure of Dales Lees and traffic lights between Voe and Lerwick are increasing journey times to Lerwick by at least 20 minutes. Concerns were raised regarding the roughness of the road where recent cabling roadworks have been carried out, the meeting agreed to complain to the Roads department on the state of the roads.

Burravoe Footpath

Yell Community Council requested a timescale for the design, land acquisition and construction of the Burravoe Footpath. Michael Craigie confirmed that there is a budget in the current financial year for final design refinement and land purchase.

The project will then be submitted as part of our 'Tier 2' programme for 26/27 bid for construction funding from Transport Scotland. It will only be once the SIC has a decision on funding from Transport Scotland that we will be able to determine the overall construction timeline. They will provide an update once they have notification from Transport Scotland. Mr L Odie met with Colin Gair and had a positive discussion regarding new path alignment.

Old Schoolhouse, Burravoe passing place.

Mr L Odie met with Colin Gair, and he agreed to get plans drawn up and get costs, housing would need to contribute to cost.

Update on footpath and track issues raised in Burravoe.

Mr L Odie met first with Liam Drosso. Outdoor Access Officer in June.

Galtigarth Access Track.

No finance available for the repair required but there may be other sources of funding. Planning consent and permission from the coastal protection team may be required.

Brunthill Footpath

This will now be recommended for the access route and could have new gates fitted. It could be upgraded to Core Path Status. Some permissions may be required.

Burravoe Marina Footpath

Measurement was recorded and could also be clarified as an access route and possibly also Core Path Status. Some permissions may be required.

Access to Aywick Post box

When Mr L Odie met with Colin Gair in June, he was going to visit the site in Aywick. He was not aware the box had been moved. Mr L Odie showed him photos, and he thought the best option now was to fill in the ditch. No update has been received.

Hillhead of Gutcher Junction

Following inspection of the location by Colin Gair, he would say that a mirror is not a suitable solution for the A968 Gutcher/ Cullivoe junction due to both the speed of approaching traffic and the distance over which sight of any vehicle in a mirror would be required. He can also report that there have been no reported collisions on the Police accident database. The Roads Service will therefore not be considering the provision of a mirror in this location.

He appreciates that the parked van that has been reported may have a detrimental impact on visibility from the Cullivoe Road towards the Gutcher Ferry Terminal but as it is parked off the public road there is nothing that SIC Roads can do other than to recommend that drivers exercise due caution when emerging from the Cullivoe road onto the A968.

6.3 STATKRAFT WIND FARM DEVELOPMENTS

CLG MEETING UPDATE

Meeting notes have been received and have been circulated to members from the meeting held on 9th June, the next CLG meeting will be on Tuesday 2nd September.

6.4 FIXED LINKS - TUNNEL ACTION GROUP UPDATE

The meeting welcomed YTAG chairperson Graham Hughson who gave an update from the Tunnel Action Group. Norconsult visited Yell and Unst and made a presentation to the TAG groups and SIC representatives on 3rd July. Councillors Robert Thomson, Moraig Lyall and Dennis Leask attended. More fundraising needs to be done.

The Tunnel Vision events run by Alastair Carmichael and Beatrice Wishart are on this week and the Yell meeting is in Burravoe Hall tomorrow night at 6.30pm, members are encouraged to attend.

6.5 COMMUNITY HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE IN YELL

Isleshavn Report

Ruth Macmillan gave an update at the beginning of the meeting.

6.6 ASCC MEETING - CHANGE OF DATE

The next meeting date has been changed to 8th October, this was noted.

Agenda item regarding the standard kit for all community councils has been submitted to ASCC.

6.7 MID YELL VACANT POLICE POST

C Sewell has provided an update regarding the police post at Mid Yell, which was vacated following the departure of Constable Dana Jamieson. The post remains advertised internally within Police Scotland and is open to applications from any constable who has completed their probationary period.

Despite advertising this vacancy on several occasions since Constable Jamison left the Police Scotland, and receiving tentative expressions of interest, no formal applications have been submitted to date.

Furthermore, discussions are ongoing with HM Coastguard in relation to the potential colocation of services within the Mid Yell police premises. This would not only improve operational efficiency but also strengthen partnership working across the islands.

The meeting agreed to thank Chris for his update and keep us posted on the position.

08/25/05 NEW BUSINESS

7.1 SIC BURIAL GROUNDS GRASS CUTTING FAQs

A copy of the SIC Burial Grounds Grass Cutting FAQs, which provides detailed information on how Shetland Islands Council manages grass maintenance across our burial grounds has been received and noted.

7.2 COMMUNITY COUNCIL DOCUMENTS TO BE APPROVED

Community Council Code of conduct & Standing Orders

Documents have been received and issued to all members; this was held over as a new version is being issued.

7.3 GUIDING MARINE RESTORATION & ENHANCEMENT IN SHETLAND THANK YOU

A thank you to the community council for their valued contribution to the Guiding Marine Restoration and Enhancement in the Shetland Islands project has been received and noted.

7.4 CONSULTATION ON THE STRATEGIC COMPENSATION POLICY FOR OFFSHORE WIND

The Scottish Government has launched its consultation on the Strategic Compensation Policy for Offshore Wind. The consultation will remain open until the 1st of September; this was noted and members encouraged to complete.

7.5 SHETLAND CHARITABLE TRUST - LARGE GRANT SCHEME

This grant scheme was noted.

7.6 SPAN REMEDIATION WORK - YELL SOUND

These proposed works were noted.

7.7 SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION: Draft Marine and Coastal Restoration Plan

The Scottish Government has launched its consultation on the Draft Marine and Coastal Restoration Plan. The consultation will remain open until 19th October; this was noted and members encouraged to complete.

7.8 CHANGING PLACES TOILETS SCOTLAND FUND

This fund was noted.

7.9 VAS AGM

Notification of the AGM has been received and noted.

7.10 MID YELL PIER AMENITY BUILDING - PROJECT UPDATE

Mr G Hughson and Ms F Stirling gave an update on the project and asked for a letter of support. Members agreed to this request.

The project is ultimately to put a new facility on the pier comprising public toilets, wet room with shower, a small public entrance space which could be used as a waiting area, shelter from weather, and is likely to have a kettle, washing machine. There will be a store area, likely to be used by the boating club for water sports equipment storage. There will be space for public/visitor information. It will be partly solar powered to help minimise overheads & will require volunteers to clean and look after it.

The next stage is the design phase to take them to fully consented and costed. The cost of this is approx. £23k and they are applying again to SIC Coastal Communities fund, in the hope of a 90% grant. The ideal scenario is that they will be at build stage next autumn.

Mr G Hughson left the meeting.

7.11 COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTION 2025

It is disappointing that these elections have not been published before now.

It is essential that we promote these elections to encourage residents to join the community council.

7.12 NYDC COMPLAINT

A complaint has been received from a North Yell constituent regarding an issue with NYDC. The meeting agreed to contact both parties and noted the issue raised.

7.13 PROPOSED REMOVAL OF PAYPHONES IN CULLIVOE, CAMB AND BURRAVOE

A lengthy discussion was held on the pros and cons of the proposal of removing the payphones at the three sites in Yell.

Mr Spark has been in touch with Mrs A Jamieson regarding the phone box which is next to his house at Camb, who has applied to adopt the BT phone box outside his property but if unsuccessful will be asking BT to remove the phone box completely as it sits on private land which does not belong to BT.

Mr Madden would like to retain the BT phone box as it is outside the Brough Stores as it can still make 999 calls if required in the area, especially after the recent mobile outage in the area.

Ms Chard, a resident in Mid Yell has been in touch to express her interest in turning one of them into a "Little Free Library."

The meeting agreed to keep the Cullivoe and Burravoe phone boxes for use if required in mobile outage. Clerk to reply.

08/25/06 PLANNING APPLICATIONS/MARINE PLANNING

8.1 2024/144/PPF - Notification of Decision

This was noted.

8.2. 2025/183/PPF - Proposal: Erect single storey dwellinghouse with integral garage and ASHP, formation of vehicular access and all associated landscaping and drainage works

Address: Plot, Gossabrough, East Yell, Yell Shetland

The clerk commented following consolation with all members in July.

8.3 Planning Ref:2025/158/CONSUL - Proposal: Proposed removal of public payphone.

As per 7.13

8.4 2025/057/PPF - Notification of withdrawal by applicant

This was noted.

8.5 Planning Ref:2025/187/PPF - Proposal: Erection of substation building comprising x1 switch room, x2 reactors, palisade fencing, associated storage, parking and access. Including a change of use from agricultural to industrial. Address: Land To the North of The A968, Mid Yell, ZE2 9BJ

This was noted and the meeting agreed that it was a necessity for the island.

8.6 2025/059/PPF - Notification of decision

This was noted.

8.7 Planning Ref:2025/014/WL - Proposal: Remedial works adding split-pipe cable protection to approximately 20m of the existing cable below MHWS.

Address: Kirkabister Shore End Yell

This was noted.

8.8 Planning Ref:2025/016/WL - Proposal: To undertake span remediation works, via spot rock placement, on the PL1762 gas pipeline.

Address: Yell Sound Shetland

This was noted.

8.9 00011204 - Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution Plc- Cable maintenance- Kirkabister landfall of existing Yell-Fetlar 2 subsea cable at Kirkabister

As discussed at 8.7.

8.10 SCOP-0071 - Shetland Offshore Wind Limited – Stoura Offshore Wind Farm – Consultation on Request for Scoping Opinion

This was noted.

08/25/07 FINANCE/GRANTS

9.1 CULLIVOE HALL GRANT CONFIRMATION

Cullivoe Hall Committee have accepted the grant offer; grant can be paid on proof of receipts before 31st December 2025.

9.2 DA VOAR REDD UP/ENVIRONMENTAL GRANT

The list of groups that had completed the Voar redd up survey has been received from Shetland Amenity Trust.

It was proposed by Mrs A Jamieson and Ms F Stirling that the eight groups be awarded £50 each.

Clerk to process payments to local groups.

9.3 INVOICES FOR PAYMENT

VAS website invoice for £60.00 was agreed to also pay the invoice for the Breckon Lifebuoy to Clerk with a price difference to £209.09 from £203.99, this was agreed by Mrs A Jamieson and Ms F Stirling.

08/25/08 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 MID YELL BUS SHELTER & BIN

Mrs A Jamieson reported to the clerk in July that a panel of the bus shelter at the head of Mid Yell Voe was broken and the bin at the same site was damaged as well. The clerk reported and followed up earlier today.

10.2 VIKING COMMUNITY FUND - ANNUAL REVIEW

SCBF have been reviewing the Viking Community Fund over the summer and have made some small changes following this review. They have sent through information summarising the review and changes to the Strategic Fund and Community Grant Scheme and are offering community councillors

and clerks the opportunity to attend a Zoom session on Monday the 22nd of September at 7pm to ask any questions they may have about SCBF and the Viking Community Fund.

10.3 GRANT FORM SUGGESTIONS

Ms F Stirling gave a few amendment suggestions to the grant form.

10.4 COMMUNITY COUNCIL- ARCHIVING DOCUMENTS

Community Council documents need to be archived, Clerk to organise getting the information to the archives. F Browne offered support

THE MEETING ENDED AT 21.30HRS.

The next meeting of the Yell Community Council will be held on Monday 15th September, 7pm, Mid Yell School.

Action List

Clerk	Minutes	Send approved to M Duncan	
Clerk	6.2 Roads	Email roads regarding state of lang kames	
Clerk	6.7	Reply thank you and keep up to date	
All members	7.4	Complete consultation	
All members	7.7	Complete consultation	
Clerk with LO/AJ	7.10	Letter of support	
Clerk with LO/AJ	7.12	Contact constituent. Contact NYDC	
Clerk	7.13/8.3	Reply to Planning Reply To Mr Spark Reply to Ms Chard	
Clerk	8.7 and 8.8	Comment on planning	
Clerk	9.1	Ask for receipts for project	
Clerk	9.2	Pay grant to groups	
Clerk	9.3	Pay invoices	
Clerk	10.1	Follow up	
Clerk/Members	10.2	Attend Zoom meeting	
FS/Clerk	10.3	Update Grant Form	
Clerk/LO	10.4	Archive documents	