

Sandwick Community Council

Minute of Meeting held at 7:30pm on 30th Sept 2025

Meeting held at Hoswick Visitor Centre

Members Present	Kevin Sandison (chair), Yvonne Malcolmson (Vice chair), Andrew Stout, Debbie Jamieson, Janet Dunnet, James Smith
In Attendance	Councillor Robbie McGregor, Community Worker Ana Arnett, Ronnie Young
Clerk	Joanne Jamieson

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Narrative</u>
1. Circular and welcome	Chair KS welcomed members and guests
2. Apologies	None
3. Declarations of interest	Cllr McGregor declared an interest in the planning application item
4. Approval of Previous Minutes	YM proposed and JS seconded the minutes of the meeting of 28 th August
5. Matters arising	Matters arising from the last minute a. Road markings at the north junction – now resolved

- b. Police report not received. Councillors requested that Councillor Duncan be notified. However, a police report was received on the morning of the following day so this was not actioned.
- c. Minutes to be printed and posted in the shop noticeboard and on social media.

Action: Clerk to ensure minutes are posted in shop

6. Guest speaker

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Guest speaker did not attend.

6a. Bulb planting

Item was replaced with an updated from YM regarding her efforts at planting bulbs in public areas across Sandwick. The Community Council applauded her hard work. Options discussed for more planning of bulbs and wildflower seeds.

It was also noted that planting and landscaping efforts are paying dividends around the Leebitton sign and the top of the Eenie. The Leebitton Residents Association were commended for their efforts.

Other locations were considered for planting of bulbs, flowers and trees, with the north layby identified as an area that would benefit. It was also highlighted that the bin has not been emptied.

The triangular area of ground at Veester Hill and the post box road was also identified as possibly being suitable for planting.

Action: Clerk to seek to identify who owns area of land at Veester Hill and explore whether planting of trees, etc, is an option.

Action: Clerk to ask Waste Services about the frequency of bin emptying at the north layby, Community Council to monitor any issues and report back

Action: Clerk to explore sourcing local wildflower seeds

Action: Chair (KS) to explore additional support or mechanical means to help with the heavy work of planting.

7. Community Council election

It was noted that the posters and notice are displayed in the HVC, shop, SYCC, bus stops and online. Nominations forms were shared. It was noted that at the time of the meeting there had only been one form submitted to Shetland Islands Council. One Community Councillor highlighted that they will not be standing, leaving three vacancies if all others do stand.

Action: Clerk to share election promotional material on social media again.

- 8. Sandwich JHS** Concerns have been raised regarding the lack of progress with the school polytunnel, for which the Sandwich Community Council provided grant aid about five years ago.
- Action:** Clerk to again follow up with the school and seek clarification.
- YM suggested implementing a time limit for grants to be spent and evidenced.
- Action:** Clerk to review grant terms and make suggestions.
- Concerns have also been raised about the poor condition of the community garden at the school, with suggestions that it is in such a poor condition that it is hazardous. There is a lack of clarity with regard to ownership of the area so this is to be clarified.
- Action:** Clerk to follow up with the school and seek clarification on polytunnel progress
- Action:** clerk to clarify ownership and management arrangements for community garden area
- 9. Garden waste** Concerns have been raised regarding the fly-tipping of garden waste at Leebitton. The combination of garden waste and the discharge of raw sewage during busier summer months in particular, are attracting vermin with rats regularly seen in the area. It is suggested that the toilet facilities are not sufficient for the number of visitors (10,000 in 2024).
- Councillor McGregor asked that he be sent an email setting out the issues and highlighting the area in question so that he can seek action.
- Action:** Clerk to email details to Cllr McGregor
- 10. Grants** Sandwich Community Council small grants scheme, with a pot of £750, and the Shetland Community Benefit Fund community grant scheme are now both open for applications and have been promoted on Sandwich CC's social media.
- 11. Local Place Planning event** A Local Place Planning event for Sandwich is scheduled for Saturday 4th October.
- 12. Finance report (appendix A)** Finances were discussed with a question regarding how much carry-forward is allowed.

Action: Clerk to clarify the level of allowed carry forward.

**13. Police
Report –
(appendix B)**

None received at the time of the meeting

Order of business was adjusted so that Cllr McGregor could stay until the last item.

**14. Any other
business**

Update from YM and AS – both attended the Transport Consultation event. YM also attended the Stoura Consultation event.

Transport freight-flex will be in place by 2029 but there are no plans for the interim.

There was a suggestion that some provision will be added next winter, i.e. end of 2026 for 'flat sleeping'.

Guest RY was asked to speak. He highlighted that he uses the Broonies Taing Pier for his business, and went on to suggest that the owners could consider cleaning off the pier by scraping the blocks into the water at the end of the pier. This would improve it and make it safe.

Community Council discussed the matter.

Action: Clerk to speak with the owners to see if they would consider surveying the area and carrying out works as suggested to make the area safe.

**15. Planning –
Planning
application -
(Appendix C)**

Community Council has no comments on the planning application, reference 2025/228/PPP - At North Of Cruister, Sandwich

The next meeting is on Tuesday 28th October at 7.30 pm in Hoswick Visitor Centre.