

<b>DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL</b>
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**Chairperson**

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Minute of Meeting of **Dunrossness Community Council** held on Monday 29th September 2025 in Dunrossness Primary School.

**PRESENT**

Fiona Mitchell (Chair)                      Aileen Brown                      Allen Sinclair                      Dawna Phillips  
Agnes Tallack                      Cllr Alex Armitage (ex officio)

**APOLOGIES**

Irvine Burgess                      Helen Moncrieff                      Vicky Tylsar                      Ana Arnett (SIC)  
Cllr Robbie McGregor (ex officio)                      Cllr Bryan Peterson (ex officio)  
Michael Duncan (SIC)

**ABSENT**

Cllr Allison Duncan (ex officio)

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Shirley Leslie (Clerk)                      Donald Robertson

**25/059 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**25/060 MINUTE**

The Minute of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2025 was adopted on the motion of Aileen.

It was agreed to discuss Item 25/000 (see below) first.

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### **25/061 POLICE REPORT**

There was no Police Report available.

### **25/062 MATTERS ARISING**

- 1) **Road Matters:** There was nothing new to report.
- 2) **Kirk Yard Bench:** There was nothing new to report.
- 3) **Church of Scotland Brigades Fund:** There was nothing new to report.
- 4) **Dunrossness Kirk Yard Gate:** The Clerk had requested an update from SIC burials department. Yvonne Scott, SIC Burial Services Officer, had replied that they intend to re-inspect the gates to determine whether repair or replacement is the most appropriate course of action.
- 5) **Bus Shelter Bike Racks:** There was nothing new to report.

### **25/063 FINANCE AND GRANT APPLICATIONS**

- 1) **Community Council Annual Accounts:** The annual accounts had been prepared by Voluntary Action Shetland and were unanimously approved.
- 2) **Seaside Awards Scheme:** The Clerk reported that the former Seaside Awards Scheme bank account still contains a sum of £159.79 which creates additional admin for VAS when completing the Community Council's accounts. Dunrossness Community Council have not participated in the Scheme for 4 years. It was therefore unanimously agreed to transfer this sum to the main Community Council bank account and close the Seaside Awards account.
- 3) **Boddam Scottish Women's Institute – To assist with the costs of celebrating Boddam SWI's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** In order to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Boddam SWI, the Committee are organising a Sunday lunch for approx. 50 attendees made up of members, ex members and a representative from other institutes throughout Shetland. It is planned to hire a caterer and waiting staff and if possible, provide transport. The cost of the whole project is expected to be £3035. The Community Council members discussed the application and recognised the importance of the organisation within the community. However, with budget constraints and the Community Council's need to spread the benefits of the budget over as wide a section of the Dunrossness population, it was agreed, as proposed by Fiona and seconded by Agnes, that a grant of £700 could be awarded.

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#### **25/064 COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2025**

The closing date for nominations for the Community Council Elections is Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 4 pm. Anyone interested in joining can find further details about Community Councils and being a Community Councillor on the Council website at [www.shetland.gov.uk/community](http://www.shetland.gov.uk/community) and nomination forms can be found at [www.shetland.gov.uk/elections-voting/community-council-elections-2025](http://www.shetland.gov.uk/elections-voting/community-council-elections-2025)

#### **25/065 DUNROSSNESS EMERGENCY FUND**

Donald Robertson had been invited to attend the meeting having formerly been involved with the operation of the Dunrossness Emergency Fund. Donald and the Clerk were aware of the Fund having previously been used on a couple of occasions to provide financial assistance with travel costs for relatives of patients who had been transferred to mainland hospitals. The Doctor's surgery had been relied on to sign post this facility to possible beneficiaries. It was noted, however, with many changes of staff etc over the years, it is unlikely the current surgery is aware of the Fund. Following discussions, it was agreed that with changes in law etc. Dunrossness Community Council are no longer in a position to administer such a Fund and it was agreed that the members should consider the options for donating the remaining bank account balance to suitable causes in the area and bring their suggestions to the next meeting. In the meantime, the Clerk will investigate how to reactivate the dormant bank account.

Donald left the meeting at 7.20 pm.

#### **25/066 FEEDBACK FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS**

**No relevant external meetings had been attended.**

#### **25/067 COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS**

**Councillor Alex Armitage reported as below:**

- 1) Energy Strategy:** At a meeting of the Council last week, the main topic of discussion had been the Council's new Energy Strategy document. However, the document had been handed back to the officers for further development as it was felt that it did not address some of the main points to the Councillors' satisfaction.

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**25/067 COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS (Continued)**

- 2) **Bus Services:** The SIC Transport Planning Team are not in a position to offer any 'life changing' modifications to the current service, however, following the recent successful trial of a service to the south mainland departing from Lerwick at 7 pm, it has been agreed that the same service will be rolled out in other areas of Shetland. Alex reported that he now intends to request a pilot scheme of a 6 pm service from Lerwick to the South Mainland be trialled.

**25/068 FAIR ISLE**

**Fiona reported as follows:**

- 1) **Nurse Provision:** The Isle's nurse has left her post after 18 months. A replacement has been appointed and is scheduled to take up the post in February. The accommodation is, however, in poor condition but the NHS has reported that it plans to carry out upgrades before February.
- 2) **Ferry Replacement Project:** The Good Shepherd continues to operate to Lerwick, although it is feared this will become increasingly difficult over the winter months. From February until the completion of the Project, works in Fair Isle will mean the Good Shepherd's noost is no longer available for use during poor weather, however alternative options are being considered regarding how to address this and continue to provide the necessary level of service to Fair Isle.

**25/069 COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLANS**

Aileen believed that a draft plan is currently being formulated but advised that Irvine would be able to provide a more in-depth update.

**25/070 LOCAL PLACE PLAN**

There was nothing new to report.

**25/071 CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1) **Association of Shetland Community Council:** The next ASCC meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October in the Town Hall.

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**25/071 CORRESPONDENCE (Continued)**

- 2) **Compass Centre:** The Compass Centre are launching a new campaign entitled “Stand Up, Spik Oot” highlighting local men I Shetland speaking out against Gender-Based Violence (GBV). The campaign will run online, in schools and through community outreach. For more information, contact The Compass Centre on 01595 747174 or email [campaign@compasscentre.org](mailto:campaign@compasscentre.org) or visit their website at [www.compasscentre.org](http://www.compasscentre.org)
- 3) **Viking Genes:** Viking Genes Shetland are applying for funding from various funding bodies for the next stage of their Shetland Community Screening Project and are seeking letters of support from bodies such as Community Councils. The members agreed.

**25/072 ANY OTHER CURRENT BUSINESS**

There was no other current business for discussion.

**25/073 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING MATTERS**

There were no planning applications for consideration.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Chair

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY 27<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2025 IN DUNROSSNESS PRIMARY  
SCHOOL.**