

BRESSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minute of Bressay Community Council meeting:

Held on Monday 6th October 2025, in Bressay Hall.

Minute subject to approval at the next Bressay Community Council Meeting.

Present:

Lindsay Tulloch (Chair)
Margaret MacDonald
Katrina Gifford
Matt Mason

In Attendance:

None

Agenda Items

1. Introduction and Apologies:

The Chair opened the Meeting at 19.15 and welcomed members to the hall noting that the meeting was quorate.

Apologies were noted from:

Shirley Gifford
Alistair Christie-Henry
Ruth Mackenzie
Kath Duffus
Michael Duncan
Andrew Inkster
Arwed Wenger
Stephen Leask
Gary Robinson

2. Declarations of interest:

The Chair asked for declarations of interest – none received.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings:

The Chairman reviewed the draft minutes of the meeting on 25th August and requested their approval, proposed by Matt and seconded by Katrina.

4. Matters Outstanding (actions not elsewhere on agenda or completed):

Continued AP1 Community Resilience plan & Generator

Action: Chair

The Chair had presented the plan to the Hall Committee and had received feedback. On the whole the committee were quite supportive, with a suggestion on focusing on residents in the wider community. Margaret pointed out this last power cut had focused the mind of people what could be, this was emphasised with the current lack of internet for many people. The Hall was on BT therefore still had internet. Matt had recently renewed his internet (BT) and this had come with a further 4g hub to build in resilience. The Chair will amend the plan to include internet. Fortunately, the last outage was resolved quickly but was a portent of what could come. Unfortunately, the Hall is still not keen to take ownership of the generator, the Fire Service are happy to store the generator (Matt confirmed this) so the next step is to share the plan with other organisations, Boating Club, Sports Group, History Group etc. to see who would take on ownership, they could still come to the Community Council for funding for any related costs.

AP1: Explore the details of the recent Planning Application for Speldiburn and the rationale behind the plan, and the possible provision of Shower and washing machine facilities.

Katrina had visited the BDL display at the Garden Show and could confirm access to the washing machines and showers would be available when the centre was shut. The four additional units that is being built have already been taken by local businesses/people.

AP2: Investigate with the roads department the status of the Maryfield road pavement, signage detailing single track roads with deep ditches and the possibility of shelter provision next to the ferry.

Neil has responded and shared a map of the proposed path. The funding requires that the path is a shared pedestrian any cycle path so it will be 1.5 metres wide. It will come up on the ferry side and cross the road at the Maryfield entrance, continuing up the brow of the hill and down to the junction. It is progressing but it will take more time.

AP3: Display of election promotions and nomination forms. Completed

AP4: Respond to BT re the removal of the phone box at the shop.

Following the Chair's correspondence we have now had confirmation that the phone box will not be deactivated.

AP5: Attending of the Viking grant scheme seminar. Completed

5. Member and Visitor Reports: None

6. Infrastructure: Andrew Inkster, Director Ferry Operations.

We had an email from Andrew Inkster giving his apologies and updating us on current matters. He has raised the issues of the Maryfield path and also the roadside ditches with Neil Hutcheson who will look at this. The electronic notice board is progressing and they will bear the cost. A shelter down at the ferry will be looked at soon. The new ferry arrangements seem to be going well and they will be happy to receive feedback. We have been contacted by a number of people to see what the festive timetable may be, particularly affecting those who work in the primary care sector. People are also asking about the Sunday service – especially something at around 9.30, this impacts sports teams, especially the children's games etc. The defibrillator has been checked and registered with "The Circuit" of the British Heart Foundation. This includes noting the dates consumable elements were fitted, which then generates emails and text messages when these are due to be replaced. There was some correspondence from "Lucky to be here" which may be by chance or generated by Park Run who required the details of the guardian. At some point it may be good to look at a more modern machine as the consumables are getting more expensive.

7. Resilience Plan: Already discussed.

8. 2025-2026 Project: Already discussed.

9. Correspondance: A lot of emails have been circulated. BDL had sent an email to clarify that BDL had not requested use of the land at Fullaburn. Whilst there has been much interest in Bressay in growing areas however no site was looked at or identified and any site would be looked at with the support of the neighbours in the adjoining areas. At one point the area had been identified for housing which would be good if Hjaltland or some developer would like to come in. The Chair had issued a letter to Viking Genes project to support their application for funding from SCB, this had been reviewed by members by email prior to submission.

10. Planning Applications: None

11. Finance: Grant applications & Financial position: We will get an update at the next meeting. The question was raised on Senior Citizens Christmas funding and it was pointed out we only supported the Seniors Christmas party last year and should the Hall request funding we would be happy to do so again this year. One point was raised was that could we encourage the Hall to open this wider, perhaps to people living on their own, making it more inclusive etc. perhaps renaming it. Last year Matt was involved in delivering Christmas Meals to seniors, picking them up from the ferry, and will do so again this year. It would be good if we could advertise this beforehand.

12. Bressay Groups Update (Hall, Sports Club, Boating Club, BDL etc.) - Louise Shearer from the Tunnels Project team is looking at having an information event, once Matt has dates, he will let members know. This is moving along with modelling etc.

The Boating Club is looking at water safety and getting involved in the Water Safety Group.

The Hall Committee is looking at funding opportunities to redevelop the kitchen and the internal use of the building to be more user friendly. They are looking at another Fish & Chip night once the Hall sorts out new fryers.

13. Any other business: Michael Duncan has requested dates for next year's meetings however this might be best left for the new committee. Fire Service recruitment has been really positive with two new joiners ready for training. Would it be feasible to consider a skip now at the end of the year. The Chair requested Matt ask the

boating club if they could come up with some dates. We will ask the Clerk to take an action to contact the other groups to see if any of them would be willing to host a skip before the end of November.

Action: Clerk/Matt

14. Meeting Review: No comments

15. Date of next meeting: will be on 27th October 2025. There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 20.00.

Chairman:

Date

To contact the Community Council please email us at bressaycc@gmail.com or telephone 07532054521 or contact any Community Council Member.

The remainder of this document does not form part of the public minute

Summary of new and outstanding actions

Continued AP1: Sharing of the Community Resilience plan & Generator Project
Action: Chair

AP1. Respond to Michael Duncan re deferring decisions on dates to the new Committee.
Action: Clerk

AP2. Contact Hall and Sports Club to arrange manning of a skip before the end of November.
Action: Clerk