

Draft minutes of the September 2025 S&WCC Meeting subject to approval at the next meeting)

# **Sandness & Walls Community Council**

*Chairman:*

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Draft minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Sandness and Walls Community Council held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025 at 7 pm at the Walls Hall

Present: I Walterson (Chair)  
M Forrest  
M Macgregor  
J Laing  
E Johnston  
J Puckey  
Cllr L Peterson

In attendance: D Forrest (Clerk)

## **1. Chair's Welcome**

I Walterson (Chair) chaired the meeting and welcomed all those present.

## **2. Apologies:**

M Duncan, F Macbeath (Vice Chair), J Haswell, C Venus, S Johnston, R Smith, R Fraser

## **3. Declarations of Interest**

None were made.

## **Member of the Public Seeking Advice**

A member of the public was in attendance and was invited to speak by the Chair. The person described a matter of concern and was given appropriate advice, after which the person left the meeting.

## **4. Police Report**

No recent report had been received prior to this meeting.

**5. Minutes from 5.8.25**

The adoption of the minutes from 5<sup>th</sup> August 2025 was proposed by M Forrest and seconded by J Puckey.

**6. Matters Arising**

All issues were covered by the agenda.

**7. Housing**

**7.1 Kirkidale, Walls**

M Forrest informed the Members that No.4 Kirkidale has been let to a family.

**7.2 Shendaleburn, Sandness**

M Macgregor informed members that she had received complaints from residents at Shendaleburn in Sandness regarding insulation. Cllr Peterson stated she had raised this matter with the Housing Department.

**8. Roads (Including beach tracks)**

**8.1 Abandoned Car at Shendaleburn in Sandness**

M Macgregor informed the meeting that an abandoned car outside No.3 Shendaleburn in Sandness was impeding resurfacing work on the Shendaleburn road. After a brief discussion, the Clerk was asked to request the Amenity Trust to remove the car.

**Action: The Clerk to email the Amenity Trust to request the removal of the abandoned car at No.3 Shendaleburn, Sandness.**

**8.2 Suspected Illegal use of Herbicides**

Members were alerted to the possibility of herbicides being used illegally on a stretch of verge on the outskirts of Walls. The Clerk was asked to inform the SIC Roads Department and the SIC Environmental Health Department.

**Action: The Clerk to email the SIC Roads Department and the SIC Environmental Health Department regarding the possible illegal use of herbicides on a stretch of verge on the outskirts of Walls.**

**8.3 White Lines on the Sandness Road**

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M Forrest raised the matter of the quality of the road markings on the Sandness Road pointing out that in some places they are missing, whilst in other places they are barely visible. It was agreed that the Clerk should raise this matter with Mr Neil Hutchison of the SIC Roads Department.

**Action: The Clerk to email Mr Neil Hutchison to request that the road have visible white lines.**

***Re: 11.2 of 8/25 Repairs to the Trinkie in Walls***

After a brief discussion regarding the Trinkie, it was agreed to continue with the request for those serving Community Payback Orders to carry out remedial work on the Trinkie.

**9. Sandness & Walls Community Council Scheme of Arrangements**

After a brief discussion on the Sandness and Walls Community Council Scheme of Arrangement, M Macgregor proposed its adoption. This was seconded by J Puckey.

**Action: The Clerk to print off the Scheme of Arrangements for the Chair to sign.**

**10. Facebook Page for S&WCC**

The Chair thanked E Johnston for all his work on the Facebook page to date.

**11. Financial Update (See Spreadsheet)**

The Clerk informed Members that prior to this meeting he had received a financial statement and update from the Shetland Community Benefit Fund. This was passed round for Members to examine. It was suggested that the poster indicating how funds have been disbursed locally should be displayed in the Shop.

**12. S&WCC Grant Request from The Waas Development Group for £1453.59 or what the Community Council can afford.**

After a brief discussion about what funding was available from the Community Council, it was agreed to meet the request in full.

**Action: The Clerk to send a Cheque for £1453.59 to the Waas Development Group**

**13. War Memorial Wreaths (as required)**

Members approved the purchase of War Memorial wreaths for the communities that require them. The Clerk is to check with the relevant people.

Action: The Clerk to speak to the people who deal with the wreaths and then place an order with the Lady Haig Poppy factory.

**14. Timetable for Community Council Elections**

The Chair reminded Members of the timetable for Community Council Elections highlighting the relevant dates. E Johnston was asked to post this information on Facebook and the Clerk was asked to make the poster advertising the elections, the timetable, and a dozen application forms available at the Walls Shop. He was also asked to inform Sandness Development and the Waas Development Group that they can circulate the CC Election information to their members. The Clerk was also asked to seek advice from Ann Cogle regarding advertising the post of Clerk to the Sandness and Walls Community Council.

Actions: 1. E Johnston to post CC Election information on Facebook  
2. The Clerk to take CC Election information and 12 application forms to the Walls Shop  
3. The Clerk to inform Sandness Development that they can circulate CC Election information amongst its members  
4. The Clerk to inform the Waas Development Group that they can circulate CC Election information amongst its members.  
5. The Clerk to seek advice from Ann Cogle regarding advertising the post of Clerk to the Sandness and Walls Community Council.

**15. Correspondence (Including emails)**

Reference was again made to the email that had been received from Mr Thomas Malcolm regarding defibrillators. The Chair pointed out that there is a significant problem throughout Shetland in that many defibrillators require replacement parts and are no longer working. He also made the point that defibrillators have come from several manufacturers and parts are not interchangeable. His final point was that the burden of meeting the costs of new batteries and pads has fallen on Community Councils who can no longer afford this. Cllr Peterson expressed her concern that an up to date list of defibrillators and their locations was not registered with the Ambulance Service

who, in the event of a suspected heart attack may direct someone to where they think there is a defibrillator only to discover it has been moved or is no longer working. It was also felt that the location of defibrillators should be signposted. Cllr Peterson stated that a cadet group existed to understudy the emergency services and felt collating defibrillator information for all of Shetland would be a useful exercise for them to carry out.

## **16. AOCB**

### **16.1 Communal Black Bag Bins at Kirkidale, Walls**

Members were informed that the communal black bag bins at Kirkidale in Walls are in need of cleaning. Loose refuse was accumulating inside them. One, in particular, was being abused with loose rubbish, including cat litter, was being deposited inside it. M Forrest was of the opinion that it is at least two years since the bins were last cleaned. The Clerk was asked to email Paula Nicolson, SIC Waste Management, to request they be cleaned along with other such bins in the area.

**Action: The Clerk to email Paula Nicolson to request that communal black bag bins in the Sandness and Walls area be cleaned.**

### **16.2 Plastic Refuse on the Dale of Walls Beach**

M Macgregor stated that a large quantity of mainly plastic refuse had accumulated on the Dale of Walls Beach. She pointed out that it was no longer being visited by groups during Da Voar Redd-up. The Clerk was asked to request that the Amenity Trust carry out a clean-up on the beach.

**Action: The Clerk to email the Amenity Trust to request they organise a clean-up of the Dale of Walls Beach.**

### **16.3 Lighting at the Walls Bus Stop**

E Johnston informed the meeting that he had received concerns from members of the public regarding the lack of lighting at the Walls Bus Stop. The Clerk read from an email that had been received from Mr Neil Hutchison stating that a down-lighter is due to be installed at the bus stop in September. The Clerk was asked to email Mr Hutchison thanking him for this and asking if it can be given as high a priority as possible because the evenings are getting darker.

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**Action:** The Clerk to email Mr Hutchison to request that the installation of the light at the Walls bus stop be given a high priority.

#### **16.4 Coastguard Service Recruitment Drive**

J Laing indicated that the Walls Coastguard Service requires three volunteers to bring it up to the desired strength. He stated that there are no age restrictions, but that physical fitness is a requirement. He pointed out that regular drills and training form part of the duties for the volunteers. E Johnston was asked to advertise the vacancies on the Community Council's Facebook page.

**Action:** E Johnston to advertise the Coastguard vacancies on the Community Council's Facebook Page,

#### **17. Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting was set for Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October.

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

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