

Fetlar Community Council

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT FETLAR HALL
(subject to the approval of the next Fetlar Community Council Meeting)
On Monday 20th October 2025 AT 7.45 pm
(WITH A TEAM'S OPTION TO JOIN REMOTELY)

PRESENT

James Rendall, Chair
Lucy Cummings
James Smythe
Mike Fogarty

IN ATTENDANCE

Juliet Bellis

Chris Bolton Clerk Fetlar Community Council

Apologies

Frances Browne SIC
Michael Duncan SIC

1. Minutes of the previous meetings

The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd of September were circulated.
Proposed by James S seconded by Mike F and approved.

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Ongoing Business

3.1 Fetlar Handyman Post

Chris had contacted Roy as requested and been informed that Carl Symons would like to attend the November meeting.

Chris apologised for thinking this meant the October meeting.

3.2 SIC Housing

Robert Thompson has spoken to the SIC Head of Housing.

Juliet has spoken to a Senior Housing Officer.

Apparently No 8 requires cleaning and some decorating.

SIC Housing were not aware that there was a SIC Handyman on Fetlar.

No 13 has been vacated but needs electrical testing. Again, this could be done locally.

James R said it seems that SIC Departments do not talk to each other.

Lucy felt that there was a lack of accountability.

Juliet informed that Robert would talk again to Neil Grant and Head of Housing.

There is still an issue with No 10 and suggested we contact Beatrice Wishart.
Juliet will draft a letter for Chris to send.

3.3 Ferry Timetables

Lucy felt that the new Saturday timetable was great for the Northern Isles but affected by the Yell Sound timetable.

Chris noted that the Single Vessel Timetable was the old Saturday timetable with no bookings. It was agreed that Chris should approach SIC again about this continuing issue.

Mike commented that he was pleased to see the Christmas timetable out early.

3.4 NHS

Lucy informed that she had still not received a reply from the NHS with respect to the issues/complaint raised previously so will now complain about the complaint.

Apparently, the Chief Nurse Kim Anderson is planning to visit Fetlar.

Juliet is still pushing for the Fetlar Medication store. The first responders will require training before it can be used.

3.5 Inter Island Transport Connectivity

James R commented that the ferry service we have now is probably as good as we are going to get.

Although there is still an issue with no buses on a Sunday.

Mike noted that there had been progress on testing for the geology of tunnels.

3.6 Brough Lodge

There has been no further communication from Brough Lodge.

During the meeting it was clarified that there had been no planning applications including about a potential water supply.

3.7 Roads Speeds

No further progress. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

3.8 Islands with Small Populations

There was nothing to report as there have been no meetings arranged.

4. Finance and Administration

4.1 Finance Report

Chris presented the accounts to the end of September. Payments agreed for Fetlar Kirk, and the Interpretive Centre had been made in early October.

It was noted that there had been no requirement to pay for defibrillator spares.

4.2 Clerk Invoice

The clerk's salary invoice was approved.

4.3 Community Development Fund

It was agreed that Chris should contact Pete Sawford with respect to clarify the Community Association request.

5. AOCB

5.1 Community Council Elections

It was noted that there had been five nominations, so no election was required.

James Smythe had stood down, and Russel Simpson is now a new member.

Co-options to the vacant post can be discussed at the next meeting.

5.2 Shetland Association of Community Councils

Lucy attended the Association of Community Associations meeting.

It discussed the Stoura Offshore windfarm project who presented their plans.

They have offered to come to Fetlar to do a presentation.

James believes that it will impact the fishing industry.

The meeting also discussed the issue of 'hybrid' meetings.

Some community Councils have problems with the technology.

SIC may provide some equipment to help with this.

5.3 Post-box

Juliet has been chasing up a replacement post box.

Apparently, there are no spare boxes in Shetland.

She is concerned that in the run up to Christmas there may be a problem posting cards.

Juliet will provide contact details for Chris to follow up.

6. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday the 18th of November at 7.45.