

DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chairperson

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Minute of Meeting of **Dunrossness Community Council** held on Monday 24th November 2025 in Dunrossness Primary School.

PRESENT

Fiona Mitchell (Chair) Aileen Brown Irvine Burgess Allen Sinclair
Helen Budge Antonia Colvin

APOLOGIES

Agnes Tallack Ana Arnett (SIC) Cllr Alex Armitage (ex officio)
Cllr Robbie McGregor (ex officio) Cllr Bryan Peterson (ex officio)

ABSENT

Michael Duncan (SIC) Cllr Allison Duncan (ex officio)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Shirley Leslie (Clerk)

25/084 ELECTIONS OF OFFICE BEARERS

The Clerk welcomed the members to the first meeting of the new Community Council. Procedures for the first meeting of a new Community Council, as per the Standing Orders, were then followed as below:

- a) **Appointment of Chair:** Fiona Mitchell agreed to continue as Chair and, as there were no further volunteers or nominations and the members present agreed unanimously, she was duly elected.
- b) **Appointment of Vice Chair:** Aileen Brown agreed to continue a Vice Chair and, as there were no further volunteers or nominations and the members present agreed unanimously, she was duly elected.

25/084 ELECTIONS OF OFFICE BEARERS (continued)

The Clerk then handed the meeting over to the Chair. Fiona welcomed new members Helen Budge and Antonia Colvin to Dunrossness Community Council.

- c) Ex-Officio Members:** The identity of the ex-officio members for Dunrossness Community Council were acknowledged as Cllrs Allison Duncan, Alex Armitage, Bryan Peterson and Robbie McGregor
- d) Associate Members:** Dunrossness Community Council has no existing Associate Members
- e) Filling of Vacancies:** It was noted that there are still 5 vacancies on the Community Council, 4 of which can be filled by co-option as per the Scheme of Establishment. The 5th must remain until a by-election is held. It was noted that former members Dawna Phillips and Helen Moncrieff had agreed to be co-opted and rejoin the Community Council, however, both had unfortunately been unable to attend this first meeting and therefore their formal co-option will be postponed until the next meeting in January. It was noted that only 2 of the remaining 3 vacancies can be filled via co-option and, if this route is followed, that the third vacancy must remain unfilled until a by-election can be held. It was agreed that, due to the close proximity of Christmas, the means by which the Community Council wishes to attempt to fill these 3 remaining vacancies will be decided at the next meeting in January.

25/085 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

25/086 MINUTE

The Minute of the meeting held on 27th October 2025 was adopted on the motion of Irvine.

25/087 POLICE REPORT

There was no Police Report due.

25/088 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:** As agreed, the Clerk had checked with Frances Richardson, Shetland Parish Administrator/Treasurer, if there was any criteria for groups who could possibly benefit from this fund. Frances had replied that, other than being a youth group covering the Dunrossness area, she was not aware of any. The Clerk had also informed her of the suggestion that Dunrossness Primary School Parent Council might be a suitable group. Frances had reported that they had a meeting of their Resources Team that week and she would recommend that the funds go to the Parent Council. She also reported that the Team will need to approve this motion and their recommendation will then go to their Kirk Session Meeting at the end of November.
- 4) **Dunrossness Kirk Yard Gate:** There was nothing new to report.
- 5) **Bus Shelter Bike Racks:** There was nothing new to report.

25/089 FINANCE AND GRANT APPLICATIONS

There were no grant applications or finance matters for discussion.

25/090 DUNROSSNESS EMERGENCY FUND

In regard to the process of having the signatories changed as the first stage in reactivating the dormant bank account, the Clerk enquired if the members were in favour of her being added as a signatory to enable her to carry out the next steps with the bank. The members unanimously agreed.

25/091 FEEDBACK FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

No relevant external meetings had been attended.

25/092 COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

No report was available.

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25/093 FAIR ISLE

- 1) **New Ferry Project:** Fiona reported that contractors BAM, are due back in Fair Isle in February to continue works. It was also believed that the poor weather in late October, which had affected the works at Grutness, had thankfully not created too much of a setback.
- 2) **Nurse's House:** Fiona reminded members that a new nurse will be taking up post in Fair Isle in the new year. The members agreed to request an update from NHS Shetland on the progress of the required refurbishment works to the Nurse's House.

25/094 COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLANS

Irvine hoped to have further information collated for the Community Council's next meeting. He also reported that the SIC are waiting for all Community Councils to complete their Plans and then they will be incorporated into the main SIC Resilience Plan.

25/095 LOCAL PLACE PLAN

Irvine reported that progress had 'stalled' somewhat and that the suggested end date for completion of local place plans had also slipped. Some of the members reported that they had attended a few of the training sessions but had often discovered that these were duplicated and had already been attended. The timing of the sessions, usually during the working day, were also often inconvenient. It was agreed, however, that it would be beneficial for the new members to attend some of the training sessions. Irvine will forward relevant information.

25/096 CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) **Community Council 2026 Meeting Dates:** Michael Duncan, SIC, had requested the proposed Community Council meeting dates for 2026 to enable the Council's diary to be updated. It was agreed that the January meeting for Dunrossness Community Council would be brought forward to 19th January to avoid Up Helly Aa and subsequent meetings would be held on the last day of each month as per usual. No meeting is planned for July.

25/096 CORRESPONDENCE (Continued)

- 2) **NHS Shetland Community Link Worker:** Ingrid Sandison had emailed introducing herself as the NHS Shetland Community Link Worker based at Levenwick Health Centre. Ingrid's focus is on supporting patients with their non-medical needs and to help them connect with local resources, activities and services that can enhance their wellbeing. Please see Dunrossness Community Council's Facebook page for further information, contact the surgery, or email Ingrid at Ingrid.sandison@nhs.scot
- 3) **Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan Update:** Shetland Marine Planning Partnership have now delivered the Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan to Scottish Government Ministers and anticipate an announcement regarding their decision in December. Shetland Marine Planning Partnership do not intend to make any public announcement prior to receiving the above decision.
- 4) **Rabbit Control at Levenwick Burial Ground:** Yvonne Scott, SIC Burials, had reported in October that the SIC Environmental Health Pest Control team had recently carried out further gassing within the burial ground but had requested further support from the community in coordinating pest control measures in the parks surrounding the burial ground. In November, Yvonne had reported that the assistance of the SIC Environmental Health team had been requested again and that additional barrier measures will also be explored. Antonia will discuss the matter of control measures in the parks surrounding the burial ground with some of her contacts in the area with a view to obtaining permission to share their contract details with SIC Burials to enable them to coordinate pest control measures themselves.

25/097 ANY OTHER CURRENT BUSINESS

There was no other current business for discussion.

25/098 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING MATTERS

- 1) **Variation of existing Works Licence 2025/007/WL for the installation of a subsea fibre optic telecommunication cable system, to enable post-installation rock placement protection at the Shetland HVDC link cable crossing, Fair Isle Channel, Shetland by Naili McEntegart –** There were no objections.
- 2) **Change of use of land and erect single storey garage building; install surface water drainage system, West of Sunnydell, Virkie by Mr Allan Donaldson –** There were no objections.

DRAFT MINUTE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT MEETING

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There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.05 pm.

Chair

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY 19th JANUARY 2026 IN DUNROSSNESS PRIMARY
SCHOOL.**