

BURRA AND TRONDRA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

A meeting of the above Community Council was held in the foyer of the Burra Public Hall on Monday 3rd November 2025 at 6pm.

Present

Mr. N. O'Rourke (Chairman)
Mr. B. Adamson
Miss N. Fullerton
Mrs. C. Smith
Ms M. Garnier

Apologies

Mr. G. Laurenson
Mr. M. Fullerton
Mr. R. Black
Cllr. M. Lyall
Cllr. D. Sandison

In Attendance

Cllr. I. Scott
Cllr. C. Hughson
Mrs. J. Adamson (Clerk)

Members of the public

Kevin & Bethany Nicolson, Ryan & Jessica Laurenson,
Trevor & Morag Cumming, Allan & Stella Winks,
Gillian Okill, Fiona Tait, Ruth Fletcher

1. Declaration of Interest – Cllr. Hughson declared an interest regarding the Planning Applications to be discussed.

2. Planning Consultation 2025/257/PPP – Proposed housing development at Cauldhame

The Chairman welcomed the members of the public to the meeting and decided to put this item first on the Agenda. All were residents from Cauldhame. They had all written letters to the Planning Department objecting to the proposed development and these had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting for information. (Some of our members had also visited the site.) The Chairman asked if there was a spokesperson to put forward their concerns and Kevin Nicolson offered to speak. He went through all the issues they had raised and others added to the discussion when asked by the Chairman. These were the main points raised:

- The narrow 'pinch point' which forms access to the proposed scheme from the existing turning head, with retaining wall at either side, is unsuitable. Also the blind corner coming in and out of turning area and lack of footpaths also a safety concern. Larger vehicles also use this turning area at present and there are access roads to houses here as well.
- Surface water drainage concerns.
- Lack of basic services in this area, with bus stop about a mile away at junction with B9074.
- The Cauldhame junction from B9074 is already a concern due to layout. At school pick up/drop off this junction is extremely busy with traffic and increased housing will exacerbate this.
- Streetlights proposed not welcomed (few years ago SIC suggested streetlights in Cauldhame which residents refused.)
- There were also a number of discrepancies pointed out in the Design Statement.

The members agreed that very good points had been raised and we will write in support of these concerns to the Planning Department and will formally object to this application.

The Chairman thanked the residents for attending and they left at 6.40pm.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of 30th September 2025 were approved. Proposed by Mhairi Garnier and seconded by Carole Smith.

4. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Active Travel Audit

Niall had asked Robina Barton for an update on this and she is to respond at a later date. This will be removed from the Minutes meantime.

(b) Burra Early Years – pick up/drop off sign

This sign is still to be put in place. The Clerk had emailed Neil Hutcheson but not heard back.

(c) Road at Meal – arrows

Barrie Scobie, SIC Roads, had agreed that arrows would be painted on the road at both ends of this section between Meal and Speed's corner. This has not yet been done.

(d) BT Phone Box, Hamnavoe

The Clerk had written back to BT stressing the fact that this is a health & safety risk due to its location on the path to the toilets and that they would be responsible if there is an accident. It was also reported that a number of youngsters have been caught in the last week using this payphone to place prank calls and this is possibly the reason why so many calls being made as stated by BT.

(e) Multicourt lights at Hamnavoe School

Magnus Malcolmson had emailed to say that there is a fault but a replacement part has been ordered by Building Services so it should be sorted soon.

(f) Bus Shelter – Burra Hall

The bus shelter has not yet been installed. The Clerk had contacted Neil Hutcheson again and was waiting for a reply.

(g) Trondra bridge

Nothing further heard on this. Barrie Scobie said he would get their design team to survey the tie in on the bridge and see what would be the best solution.

(h) Bridge between West & East Burra – low dyke

This has still to be done. (Neil Hutcheson replied on 7th May stating that the rail at the bridge will take a bit longer given their contractor's workload.)

(i) Papal Stone

Not heard anything further from Val Turner who is in contact with Historic Environment Scotland (HES) regarding relocating the replica Papal Stone which is unstable. We had suggested it be fixed to the wall which they had agreed.

(j) Community Council Elections

Anne Cogle, Returning Officer, had emailed confirming that we have one vacancy (eight are required for our area). Vacancies should be discussed at the first meeting of the new Community Council – we cannot co-opt anyone until that first meeting at the earliest. The seven candidates shall be declared elected as Community Councillors at 11am on Thursday 20th November 2025.

(k) SCBF – Community Grant Scheme Tier 2 Application – Burra Public Hall

SCBF – Community Grant Scheme Tier 2 Application – Burra Football Association

The Burra Public Hall application was discussed at our last meeting but as they were asking for £15,000 and we did not have this amount of money available so we asked SCBF if they could apply through Tier 3. They replied stating that as the Burra Hall is located within Burra & Trondra Community Council area it is therefore considered an asset of Burra & Trondra community area and therefore fall under a Tier 2 application. Whilst the hall is open for use by anyone in Shetland it is primarily regarded as 'belonging' to that area. For a project to qualify for a CGS Tier 3 application, it must have a wider benefit to Shetland as a whole.

As we only have £11,743.83 left of our SCBF allocation it was agreed that half would be given to the Burra Public Hall and the other half to Burra Football Association who have also put in an application to purchase a Ride On Mower. The members decided that the remaining £11,743.83 be split between the two. **ACTION: Clerk**

(l) SCBF

Michael Hannah will be asked if he would like to attend our next meeting as he is now a Director and it would be interesting to have a brief update. Cllr. Scott offered find out if he is available. **ACTION: Cllr. Scott**

(m) Bin request – Setter junction

The Clerk had contacted Neil Hutcheson but had not received a reply.

(n) Sign for Meal Beach

An email had been sent to Neil Hutcheson requesting a sign for the Meal Beach car park but had not heard back.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Planning Ref: 2025/262/PPF – New glamping pod, Gorwel, Meal, Burra

The above application was discussed by the members. There were no objections.

(b) Application for Grant – Royal Voluntary Service

An application had been received from the above who are looking to provide a Christmas Lunch, activity and transport for the over 60's social/lunch club in our area. They will meet up with other social/lunch clubs and the venue is the British Legion in Lerwick (same as last year). This was discussed and the members agreed to give the donation requested of £504.

ACTION: Clerk

(c) Letter of Thanks

The Shetland Care Attendant Scheme (SCAS) had written to thank the Community Council for the donation of £60 re the Voar Redd Up 2025.

(d) The following correspondence had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting for information:

- SIC Economic Development Service – Autumn Drop in Events
- Police Reports – June/July & Aug/Sept

6. AOCB

(a) Pothole, Meal

It was reported that a pothole is developing in the road near the Meal beach. **ACTION: Clerk**

(b) Grasscutting – letter of thanks

It was agreed that a letter of thanks and a fuel voucher be given to Colin Goodlad as a token of appreciation for the grasscutting/strimming he does voluntarily along the verges in Burra during the Summer. **ACTION: Clerk**

(c) Thanks

As this is our Chairman's last meeting, a small token of appreciation was given to Niall O'Rourke for all that he has done for our community over the years he's served. Robin Black is also leaving but was absent from the meeting. He has also been an active member and will be missed.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of next meeting was set for Monday, 1st December at 6pm.