

# Fetlar Community Council

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT FETLAR HALL**  
(subject to the approval of the next Fetlar Community Council Meeting)  
**On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025 AT 7.45 pm**  
**(WITH A TEAM'S OPTION TO JOIN REMOTELY)**

## **PRESENT**

James Rendall, Chair  
Lucy Cummings  
Russell Simpson

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Frances Browne SIC  
Robert Thompson

Chris Bolton Clerk Fetlar Community Council

## **Apologies**

Juliet Bellis, Mike Fogarty, Michael Duncan

## **1. Minutes of the previous meetings**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> of November were circulated.  
Proposed by Lucy seconded by Russell and approved.

## **2. Declarations of interest**

None

## **3. Shetland Active Travel Audit Consultation**

James welcomed Robina Barton to the meeting.

Robina described the active travel process.

There was an audit in the spring undertaken by Sitra.

This reviewed the barriers to active travel, walking, cycling etc such as obstructions, e.g. rubbish bins on pavements.

The idea is that the results of the review are presented to the community to discuss with proposals for change.

If the internet connection had worked, then Dean from Sitra would have shared photos of the Fetlar Survey.

She then suggested that it would be helpful to have another session in the New Year this would normally take about an hour.

She informed that 23 surveys have been completed across Shetland.

Around 300 interventions have been identified such as: dropped kerbs, new pathways and improved lighting.

The Scottish Government is supporting local authorities but so far bids from Shetland have not been successful.

Once the consultation is complete the Council will prioritise the recommendations in a fair way.

She suggested that Community Councils could also identify funding for local implementation.

James asked if the road up to the airstrip could be included.

Robina didn't think that it was in the audit.

Robert suggested contacting the new owners of the land.

James replied that James Smyth from Scottish Water had made contact and will try again.

Robert said that he would also follow up.

James commented that the Council had done so much ditching that there was no room for walking.

Robina replied that this was a common concern and in some cases piping had been suggested.

James replied that some had been done.

There was then some discussion about another meeting.

It was agreed that it would be a good idea to combine it with the Tuesday Pop In on the 13<sup>th</sup> January.

Russell asked if the Council could have copies of the Survey before then.

Robina said that she would check and send to Chris.

## 4. Ongoing Business

### 4.1. Fetlar Handyman Post

Russell noted that the handyman has been undertaking some of the work to clear the water pooling on the roads.

Russell offered to mark where it was needed.

Lucy commented that it was obvious on the roads by driving on them.

Russell then moved on to talk about the issue of rubbish around the island and had previously provided example photos.

James asked if the Council has got a plan for bulk uplifts.

Lucy said that they were happy to pay for a bulk uplift related to their property.

Lucy suggested that there could be a "Redup" for the island.

James informed that it was the responsibility of the landowner to manage and dispose of fly tipping. He pays for a bulk uplift.

It was noted that before cuts to Council Services there were skips made available for island use.

After much discussion a number of actions were agreed.

- A. Chris would contact Carl Symons to ask if the handyman could add some bulk uplift items to his regular deliveries to Yell to link with Yell and Unst.
- B. Chris to contact the Shetland Community Benefit funds to request funding for skips at Hamar Ness.
- C. Frances will add to the Islands with Small Populations issues Log. This may unlock Council funding for removing rubbish.

### 4.2. SIC Housing

There is no progress on the tenant who isn't actually living in Fetlar.

Chris will ask the Council what is happening with the remaining property held by Ferries.

### **4.3. Ferry Timetables**

Lucy noted the proposed change to the Saturday timetable for Geira maintenance.

Russell thought that the maintenance was better done in the week.

James suggested that the Community Council should ask the whole community.

It was agreed that Chris should prepare a Survey.

Robert informed that there may be changes on Yell Sound after discussion with the Unions.

### **4.4. NHS**

Lucy informed that the GP visit to Fetlar on Thursday had been cancelled because only two people had booked appointments.

It was agreed that Chris should complain formally on behalf of the Community Council to the NHS.

### **4.5. Inter Island Transport Connectivity**

No news.

### **4.6. Brough Lodge**

No news

### **4.7. Islands with Small Populations**

No news

## **5. Finance and Administration**

### **4.1 Finance Report**

Chris shared the current bank balance of £2,236

### **4.2 Clerk Invoice**

The clerk's salary invoice was approved.

## **6. AOCB**

Frances shared three issues.

- 6.1. Frances shared information about the Community Conversations online event.
- 6.2. Frances asked about the Local Place Plan as Panning Aid Scotland (PAS) are happy to meet. Lucy has met with Graham, and they would be happy to speak to Diana from PAS.
- 6.3. Frances informed that Yell Community Council would like to meet with Unst and Fetlar Community Councils regarding the Isles Energy WindFarm Community Benefit fund which is set to benefit all three isles.

## **7. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of January at 7.45.