

Delting Community Council

DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON Thursday 27th November 2025 At Brae High School

2025/11/01 MEMBERS

Mr A Cooper
Mr E Smith
Ms J Dennison
Mr T Tyler

Ms R Griffiths
Mr J Milne
Mr D Clark

2025/11/02 IN ATTENDANCE

Ms L Ratter – Clerk

2025/11/03 CIRCULAR

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

2025/11/04 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Ms S McDonald, Mr A Hall - Ex Officio, Ms E Macdonald – Ex Officio, Ms L Hall and Mr M Duncan.

2025/11/05 ELECTING A CHAIRPERSON

The Clerk called for nominations for Chairperson.
Mr E Smith nominated Mr A Cooper and this motion was seconded by Mr J Milne.
The Chairman said he would prefer not to be the Chairperson for the full four years.

2025/11/06 ELECTING A VICE CHAIRPERSON

The Clerk called for nominations for Vice Chairperson.
Mr J Milne nominated Mr E Smith and this motion was seconded by Mr A Cooper.

2025/11/07 EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

The Ex officio members were identified as -
Mr A Hall - Ex Officio.
Ms E Macdonald - Ex Officio.
Ms A Manson – Ex Officio.

2025/11/08 VACANT SEATS - CO-OPTING A MEMBER

The members discussed the four vacant seats and decided to co-opt members to these seats via word of mouth and facebook posts.

2025/11/09 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th October 2025 were approved by Mr J Milne and seconded by Mr E Smith.

2025/11/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

10.1 Ms J Dennison declared an interest for 2025/11/16.1 – SCBF CGS – Muckle Roe Public Hall.

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2025/11/11 MATTERS ARISING

- 11.1 **Testing at Scatsta** – There was no update on this item.
- 11.2 **Graveyard bin** – Clerk emailed Mr B Gray for update. He responded saying he was under the impression a bin was going to be put in Grindahoull as the essy kert does not go to the graveyard. He is going to check. There is no bin been installed yet.
- 11.3 **Traffic Passing Through Voe** – There was no update on this item.
- 11.4 **Glass on road** – There was no update on this item.
- 11.5 **Walking and Settlement Audit Recommendations** – There was no update on this item.
- 11.6 **Archiving** – It seems that Archives did not complete a Deposit agreement – just seems to be a receipt. Mr. M Duncan going to query this as that was not the feedback he originally received from Archives Service. Delting Community Council up to date with this for now. Document Destruction log is the next step.
- 11.7 **Community Resilience Plans** – There was no update on this item.
- 11.8 **Toft Road** – There was no update on this item.
- 11.9 **Kissing Gates Moorfield estate** – There was no update on this item.
- 11.10 **White lines in Car park** – There was no update on this item.
- 11.11 **Safety Muckle Roe Road** – There was no update on this item.
- 11.12 **Laxobiggin Burial Ground** – There was no update on this item.
- 11.13 **White line painting between Voe and Brae** – White lines have been painted but no cats' eyes yet.
- 11.14 **Pavement South entrance to Brae at Burravoe.** There was no update on this item.
- 11.15 **Parking in Brae Opposite Garage** – Clerk emailed Mr N Hutcheson but received no response. There was no update on this item.
- 11.16 **Sandwater Bus Shelter** – The bay and shelter and is still cordoned off with cones.

2025/11/12 POLICE REPORT

- 12.1 There was no police report

2025/11/13 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 13.1 There were no planning applications

2025/11/14 COMMUNITY WORK

- 14.1 There Was No Community Work Update

2025/11/15 FINANCE UPDATE

- 15.1 The clerk updated members on the financial position for 25/26.

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- 15.2 Salary scales - 2025/26 – Mr Cooper informed the members there was an increase in Clerk salary effective April 2025. Chairman approved the increase via email and backdated payment.
- 15.3 Clerk purchased a Canon colour laser printer and colour cartridge from ITS with donation from Coop. Total cost £526.79 with remaining coming from own stationary funds.
- 15.4 Wreath Invoice – Mr A Cooper provided invoice for £37.00 for wreath for remembrance event. Members agreed this payment.

2025/11/16 CORRESPONDENCE

- 16.1 **SCBF Community Grant Scheme - CGS0056 – CGS Tier 2 application – Muckle Roe Public Hall.** Stage 1 of consultation for proposed community buyout of Muckle Roe - Following the first meeting June 2024 with the landowner the Common Grazing Committee had a meeting to discuss the possibility of a buyout by the crofters of Muckle Roe. They decided this was not a feasible option, so they teamed up with the Muckle Roe Hall Committee. The members contacted Scottish Land Fund (SLF), and they provided guidance from the local Case Officer. A public meeting was held in the Muckle Roe Hall on the 17th September with the SLF Case Officer providing a Q&A session for island residents want to know more about how the proposal could be explored further. The meeting was well attended with around 55 persons from 36 households contributing to the event. A questionnaire was then issued aimed at establishing priorities for the community. After gathering information from the community through these community meetings and questionnaires they arrived at a set of key development priorities. These priorities include:
- Environment
 - Young people
 - Crofting
 - Heritage
 - Supporting Tourism
 - Affordable Housing /sites for young members of the community
- The application to SLF for Stage 1 funding has been submitted with a response due at the beginning of December. Stage 1 of the project will be led by an external Consultant, who has been identified. The logistics surrounding Stage 1 and the work leading up to the application submission has been undertaken by a steering group. A further meeting was conducted on Sunday 26th October to undertake a grading task on the Consultant tenders which included the Steering Group and interested individuals within the community. Throughout the process, the Steering group have updated the community through e-mail and the closed Community Facebook page. They have sought views and produced documents highlighting questions, concerns, and views when appropriate. If they are successful at Stage 1, the identified Consultant will drive a more robust consultation process but a good start has been made and the entire community have been actively engaged thus far. There will be a lasting legacy which will last generations. There has never been a community buyout in Shetland of this nature. The purchase of Muckle Roe will give future generations the opportunity to develop their own community and resources in a way that meets outcomes and priorities. This funding will allow for a robust Consultation to take place at Stage 1. Some costs exist that cannot be covered within the SLF funding dates, which is why they are approaching SCBF. £14580 – Consultant (SLF Funding-not secured) £2300.00 GIS Mapping Survey (SCBF – Not Secured) £2700.00 5-year Business Plan and Research report (SCBF – Not Secured) Total cost of project £19,580.00 they are applying for £5000.00. Members agreed unanimously to award the full grant amount of £5000.00. **Clerk to progress.**
- 16.2 **Grant Application Form – Mossbank Public Hall – Childrens Christmas Party –** They are asking for funding towards the children’s Christmas Party on Saturday 20th December at the Mossbank Hall. Funding received will go towards covering costs of gifts and food. The main beneficiaries are local children and their families. Total cost of project is £875.00. They are contributing £150.00. They are applying for £725.00. Members agreed unanimously to award the full grant amount of £725.00. **Clerk to progress.**

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16.3 Grant Application Form – Brae High School – Dalguise School Trip - They are asking for funding in order to reduce the cost relating to travel to and from the PGL Dalguise, as this adds an extra financial burden to families living in the Isles.

They are requesting funding for three different aspects relating to travel on the trip, if any or all of these costs were met it would be beneficial to all families with pupils on the trip.

-The cost of return coach travel between Aberdeen to the adventure centre in Dalguise. If this cost were met it would save families £40.38 per pupil. Total £2100.00

-They would like to include a 'meal allowance' on the days we travel so bairns do not have the additional cost of dinner on the ferry or their lunch the day we travel back to Aberdeen, this would reduce the cost by £30 per pupil. Total £1560.00

-Funding for staff travel so this does not have to be passed on as an additional cost to families. This would save each pupil £18.44. Total £959.00

The outward journey is Sunday 17th May 2026 and we return on Friday 22nd May

Based on 52 pupils the total cost of trip £33,081.30. Parental Contribution £28,462.30. They are applying for £4619.00. Members agreed unanimously to decline this application. As previously communicated to the Brae High School, in relation to all school trips, the members have suggested that their parent council should apply to the Shetland Community Benefit Fund for school trips. **Clerk to progress**

16.4 Grant Application Form – Brae High School - Additional Support Needs Department- In May 2025 they opened a Community Café in the Secondary School. It provides a Hot Roll and Drinks to Pupils and Staff. The Café is operated by the Additional Support Needs Pupils with the support of a Home Economics Instructor and a Learning Support Worker. The pupils are supported to be involved in the setting up of the Social Enterprise, Ordering, Baking, Cooking, Serving and Finances of the Café. Each pupil has different roles that they like to be involved in. They are learning Enterprise Skills along with gaining experience and providing a service. They are open to the public once a month and have previously done this by inviting people to attend. The plan is to open to the public once a month. They are also keen to work along the Learning and Development Team in the Council for them to maybe go out and provide some of the food provision in local halls at their social lunches/Winter Lunches. Having the Café in the school has been good for both pupils and staff. A lot of their pupils will visit the local shops for snacks at break times, having the Café on Fridays has meant that most of them are now staying in the school that day and socialising more with fellow pupils. Their Café offers low prices compared to the local shops and this allows families with low incomes to provide funds for all pupils to participate. The café makes a small profit, of which their plan is to reinvest this in equipment to increase their offering. It is hoped that the first purchase will be for a Milk Shake machine. The Café operates from the Tuck Shop area in the school. The décor is tired, and the equipment is limited. It's hoped this grant will allow them the chance to redecorate, provide pupils with uniforms/PPE and give the café an identity. They also would benefit from having a freezer. This would allow them to buy larger quantities of items, thus reducing the cost of raw products. NCDC have agreed to give them £200.00 towards the cost of a freezer but they are still short of the final cost. It's proposed that Staff are going to undertake some further fundraising to raise the total needed to buy a Milk Shake Machine, Microwave and Air Fryer machine. Pupils have identified that they would like Milkshakes in the Café and they are happy to use our fundraising to purchase this.

Total cost of the project is £1700.00. Cost breakdown Freezer - £580.00 with £200.00 funding from NCDC, £270.00 for PPE and £350.00 decoration and £500.00 for milkshake maker, microwave, and air fryer and £500.00 from teachers fundraising. They are applying for £1000.00. Members agreed unanimously to award the full grant amount of £1000.00. **Clerk to progress**

16.5 Voe Sail Loft - Request for Community Council Comments – PJP Architects are currently working with the Voe Community Development Association on a feasibility study into the community use of the Voe Sail Loft building and were hoping to get the views of the Community Council who would hopefully be supportive of such proposal. The VCDA have carried out several community engagement events over the summer, with Sunday teas, public meetings and a stand at the Voe Show. Through these events and consideration of financially sustainable options for the building, the following uses have been identified:

- A community heritage centre

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- A small self-service dining area
- Display areas for local artists to sell their work
- Budget accommodation

The basement has limited headroom and is prone to very occasional flooding so the intention is to use this for storage only, with the option to hire out space to individuals to store water sports equipment or for small boat repairs for users of the pier/marina. Attached to email are plans of the proposals which are currently being prepared as part of the feasibility study. The building is category B Listed so they have had initial discussions with Planning who are supportive of the project. They would welcome any comments from the community council at this stage. If there are any queries or further information required members can get in touch. **The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.** Mr A Cooper - Delighted to see this coming forward and will be happy to support in whatever way we can to secure external funding. Members think it should remain a community asset.

- 16.6 PETITION: New powers for community councils** – Mr Michael Gallagher - Scotland's 1,200 community councils have no meaningful decision-making powers and virtually no money. By comparison, England's 10,000 parish councils can choose from a wide range of powers with budgets to match, promoting collective creativity and strengthening local democracy - Under its 'Democracy Matters' programme, the Scottish Government is committed to publishing a 'blueprint' before the end of this parliament for devolving powers to communities. Therefore, this is a good time to press the case for empowering community councils. With this in mind, you are invited to sign this petition, calling on the Scottish Parliament to give Scotland's community councils at least the same range of optional powers (with commensurate budgets) as England's parish councils https://secure.avaaz.org/community_petitions/en/the_scottish_parliament_give_scotland_s_community_councils_real_powers_and_budgets_like_england_s_parish_councils/. If you have lots of thoughts about your role as a community councillor, and how it could be strengthened you would be very welcome to join this new Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/new.powers.for.community.councils/> **The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.** There was also a follow up email which the clerk shared with Delting Community Council members. Following discussion, members decided to wait and see what happens.
- 16.7 New Date – Grow Your Idea: Funding for Climate Action** - The new date is Saturday, 29th of November at 10:30 AM at Islesburgh Community Centre, room 10. Please register [here](#). This event is a preparation session for the [“Climate Action Ting” Participatory Budgeting \(PB\) initiative](#), coming up in January 2026, which will offer grants of up to £7,500 to support community-led climate action. **The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members and put on the Delting Community Council Facebook Page.**
- 16.8 Free training sessions for rural and islands community councils** - Please find below a web link to a range of rural & island focused training courses. The events are as follows:
19 November - Local Place Plans for Rural and Islands Community Councils
26 November - Community Engagement for Rural and Islands Community Councils
3 December - Foundations for Rural and Islands Community Councils
If anyone is interested click on the link below and sign up to event(s) from there <https://www.communitycouncils.scot/events> **The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**
- 16.9 Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan Update** - The Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan has been laid before Scottish Ministers for consideration. Delting Community Council received a confidential update regarding the anticipated approval with Scottish Government. **The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**
- 16.10 SSEN details improved plans for the next phase of Shetland’s North Mainland reinforcement project** - Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) Distribution has issued details of revised plans for the next phase of Shetland’s North Mainland network reinforcement project. These changes – designed with the agreement of Shetland Islands Council – will mean the works can be completed more quickly and reduce the project’s effect on

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the local environment. Community information sessions to inform the public of these revised details will be held early next year.

As part of a commitment to minimising the impact of its work on the communities it serves, SSEN Distribution has been consulting with Shetland Islands Council (SIC) on changes to the original project plans. These proposals - which have now been confirmed - will shorten the envisaged project timeline by several months as well as delivering wider environmental benefits. The project, which got under way earlier this year and is due to be completed by the end of 2026, will increase network capacity, thus supporting the installation of low carbon technologies such as heat pumps and EV chargers in customers' homes. It will also enable the decarbonisation ambitions of major industries, while the increase in available network capacity will aid future economic growth in Shetland. The upgrade will also further improve the reliability of customers' supplies across the North Mainland. A major part of the project is the installation of two new 43km underground cables between Sullom Voe and Gremista. The original plans were for these cables to be installed along a route taking in both the public highways and off-road locations. Now, following discussions with SIC, the cables will be installed solely along the public highways. By installing the cables solely on public roads, SSEN believes the new plans will result in long-term environmental benefits for Shetland, while at the same time still enabling the delivery of this essential upgrade. In keeping with the works that have already been completed, the cable ducting will be installed in 500m sections, with rolling traffic management in place at each section for the safety of road-users and staff working on site.

The project information sessions will be held in early 2026 with members of SSEN Distribution's team and OCU Group. Here they will explain more about the updated project timeline, the new traffic management plans and answer any related questions. **The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.** The members discussed the new plan. The members are disappointed in the way the project has been communicated, handled, and delivered till now. The Dales Lees Road closure is a prime example of no communication, information, and delays and now Shetland has gone from having best roads in Scotland to the worst. The members want the next stage to go smoother and get the work done quickly. The members want a proper plan and a proper timescale and allow the community to be on board with the project. Mr A Cooper would like Ms G Higgins to come to a community council meeting to discuss this plan of the next stage of the project. The members want a guarantee there will be honesty and commitment that the work will be done quickly and take the community along with them because that has not happened till now. **Clerk to progress.**

- 16.11 Scam advice for online Xmas Shopping** - Cyber Byte from Police Scotland about the increased risk of scam emails, texts and fake reviews sent out at this time of year when folk are starting their Xmas shopping and buying online. **The clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members and put on the Delting Community Council Facebook Page.**
- 16.12 Meet the funder with the National Lottery Community Fund - Online Event** - SCVO are hosting a free online event with the National Lottery Community Fund. Learn about their open funding programmes and the support available for existing grant holders. There will be a chance to get application tips, ask questions, and network directly with other community groups. 2 December 2025 at 10:00–11:00 AM. For more information and to book a free space at the event: [Meet the funder with the National Lottery Community Fund - SCVO](#) **The clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**
- 16.13 Northern Isles Ferry Services - Community Needs Assessment - User Survey** – Ferries Policy Officer on behalf of the Ferries Directorate in Transport Scotland would like help in promoting route specific Northern Isles Ferry Services (NIFS) user surveys that will inform the future services provided to Orkney and Shetland communities and businesses. Over the past few years, several consultations and engagement events have taken place across the Northern Isles, focusing on ferry services. The feedback provided so far by communities and businesses has helped them better understand the priorities and concerns of local communities and have directly informed the development of two key policy documents published earlier this year as part of the [Islands Connectivity Plan: the Strategic Approach and the Vessels and Ports Plan](#). Together, these documents set out their vision and priorities for future ferry services, as well as the outcomes they aim to achieve for people and places. The consultation on the next

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NIFS contract which will help shape the detailed design of the next NIFS contract due for renewal in 2028. These route specific user surveys form a key part of the Northern Isles Community Needs Assessments, which will play a central role in delivering the Islands Connectivity Plan. Its purpose is to gain a deeper understanding of the travel needs of individuals who use NorthLink services — including where, why, and how they travel. The insights gathered through these surveys, alongside other engagement activities, will directly inform the future design of ferry routes and services, support vessel and port development projects, and enhance integration with active, public, and shared transport options. The survey, which will run for 8 weeks, consists of 30 closed questions and focuses on how people use the Aberdeen–Lerwick route (including via Kirkwall) and the Scrabster–Stromness route. They would appreciate our support in promoting the surveys by sharing the link [Survey link: Islands Connectivity Plan | Community Needs Assessments | Transport Scotland](#) **The clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members and put on the Delting Community Council Facebook Page.**

16.15 Mossbank boat noost/tether - Following the installation of a replacement subsea cable between Mossbank and Yell, SSEN Distribution are aware that access to an active boat noost and tether post has been affected by the construction works at the Mossbank landfall. Reinforcing the foreshore with rocks at this location immediately following the installation) was essential to prevent further damage or erosion, and to allow the ground to drain and stabilise following these activities. The project team plans to revisit the site in Spring 2026 to review and reinstate the area to a satisfactory standard, ensuring that access to the boat noost and tether is restored. Any remedial works will be communicated to all interested parties, including Delting and Yell Community Councils to ensure a positive outcome. If we have any questions regarding the information if members would like more information following your meeting, get in touch. **The clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

16.16 Dales Lees - Road closure update – The road was reopened on Monday 10th November

2025/11/17 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

17.1 Community Conversations - Monday 24th November – Brae High School. **The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

17.2 Shetland Charitable Trust - Small grant schemes - Shetland Charitable Trust's two small grant schemes are currently open to applications.

Innovation Grant Scheme

Under the Innovation Grants Scheme criteria, the Trust accepts applications from any constituted community group or registered charity. Innovation Grants are a one-off award up to a maximum of £3,000 per applicant, and it can fully or part fund a range of initiatives.

Small Grant Scheme

Under Small Grants criteria, the Trust accepts applications from any constituted community group or registered charity with an annual income of less than £100,000. Small Grant Scheme has a maximum award of £5,000 per applicant, per year. For more information and/or an application see web link below: [Apply For Funding | Shetland Charitable Trust](#) **The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

17.3 Trust in Government consultation - SCDC, on behalf of Scottish Government, are running a series of facilitated sessions where people will have a chance to reflect on what trust means to them, how that relates to positive and negative experiences with government - as well as what needs to happen to build trust in this engagement process. Sessions will last 1 – 1.5 hrs and if you can spare the time, they would love to hear your thoughts. The responses from these sessions will directly inform Scottish Government actions through the Open Government Action Plan 2026 to 2030. The Action Plan is a way for civil society and government to work together on agreed priorities, and builds on the work of previous action plans. Groups can also undertake self-facilitated discussions, supported by a facilitation guide, and equalities and lived experience organisations can apply for a £250 stipend to support discussions with their members (limited places). Full information can be found here: www.coproductionsotland.org.uk/open-government

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2025/11/18 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

- 18.1** Mr A Cooper has suggested Mr D Clark attends a course on planning applications when provided by SIC. Clerk to email Mr M Duncan about courses. **Clerk to progress.**
- 18.2 Active Travel Audit – Mossbank – Teams meeting** – Mr A Cooper reported back to members - Aspects of the meeting were good. The worrying thing is there is no sign of any of the projects being concluded. There were basic things which had not been done. There is a lot of work still needing done and no timescale for the work. Mr A Cooper does not want to promote to the community as no guarantees.
- 18.3** Shetland Island Council looking into what the community councils have and what they would need for hybrid meetings. Clerk sent back a questionnaire.

2025/11/19 DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

- 19.1** The Chairman called for the next Delting Community Council meeting to be held at the Voe Hall on Thursday 29th January commencing at 7.30pm.
Chairman