

Sandsting & Aithsting Community Council

Chairman:

Mr John Priest
Farmhouse
Reawick
Shetland
ZE2 9NJ
Tel: 01595 860274
e-mail: priestjt@btconnect.com

Clerk:

Mrs L Fraser
West Burrafirth
Walls
Shetland
ZE2 9NT
Tel: Walls 01595 809203
e-mail: clerk.sandacc@gmail.com

Minutes of the inaugural meeting of the new term of Sandsting & Aithsting Community Council held in Bixter Community Hall on Monday 8 December 2025 at 7.30pm.

Present:	John Priest	Kevin Tulloch
	Mrs Sharon Deyell	Duncan Anderson
	Ewan Anderson	Craig Manson
Ex Officio:	Cllr L Peterson	
In attendance:	Mrs L Fraser, Clerk	

The Clerk took the Chair pro tem

The Clerk welcomed all present to the meeting and congratulated everyone - those who were re-elected, those who were newly elected and those about to be co-opted.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from Mrs J Fraser, Mr G Morrison, Mrs R Fraser, Community Involvement & Development Worker and Mr M Duncan, Community Liaison Officer.

APPOINT CHAIR: The Clerk asked for nominations.
Mr John Priest was proposed by Mrs S Deyell, seconded by Mr K Tulloch.
There being no further nominations, Mr J Priest was appointed Chairman.

Mr J Priest took the chair

CO-OPTIONS: Mr George Morrison and Mr Craig Manson had both expressed an interest in becoming members. This was unanimously welcomed and they were duly co-opted. Proposed by Mr D Anderson, seconded by Mr E Anderson.

APPOINT VICE-CHAIR: The Chairman asked for nominations for Vice-Chair.
Mr George Morrison was proposed by Mr J Priest, seconded by Mr E Anderson. There being no further nominations, Mr G Morrison was appointed Vice-Chair.

MEETING DATES: Following discussion it was agreed to continue to meet on the second Monday of the month and usually at the Bixter Hall. The exceptions are in April when we meet in the Aith Hall and in May when we meet in the Skeld Hall on the third Monday of the month. We have a recess in either July or August and this is decided at that time. All meetings start at 7.30pm unless otherwise agreed.

DIRECTOR FOR SCBF: Mr J D Garrick has represented this area as a Director of Shetland Community Benefit Fund for a number of years. He has now resigned and a replacement will be sought at our January meeting. In the meantime, a message will be sent to the

Community Benefit Fund asking for a brief summary and description of what is required and also when and where the meetings are held.

MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2025, having been circulated, were taken as read and were approved. Moved by Mrs S Deyell, seconded by Mr J Priest.

BUSINESS ARISING: Road Matters: Nothing to report. The new members were advised to bring to the attention of the members any problems they are aware of for discussion. It can then be reported to the Roads Dept.

Funding: Funding details had been received from Mr M Duncan and circulated to the members.

R100 Broadband Evaluation: Ducting ongoing.

Association: The Chairman explained to the new members about the Association meetings and when and where they are held.

Community Council Elections: Three members were re-elected, three members were elected and two members have been co-opted so we now have our full complement. This information will be sent on to Mr M Duncan.

Defibrillator issues in Shetland: Members felt it would be helpful if another defibrillator training session could be held. Mr E Anderson will help to organise this.

It was also agreed that a list of all defibrillators in Shetland – where they are sited and who takes care of them – should be made to allow the emergency services to give out information when required.

Community Resilience Plans: Mrs R Fraser had sent a template which was circulated to the members. This will be discussed at our January meeting.

SSEN Shetland Public Consultation Events: The public event had been held in the Voe Public Hall on 27 November and quite a number of people had attended. A number of concerns had been raised.

Skeld Camping Bod: Ms Hazel Sutherland, Chief Executive of Shetland Amenity Trust will attend a meeting next year to discuss the future of the Bod.

Local Place Plan Meeting held 02-09-24: No reply regarding this account.

Wreath for Remembrance Sunday: The cost of the poppy wreath for Sandsting History Group will be transferred to the Sandsting History Group's bank account.

Cybersecurity Awareness Month: Cllr L Peterson reminded everyone that the Shetland Public Protection Committee are willing to attend any group to provide a Scambusters session. The Contact is Dawn Smith, Business Support Assistant, Shetland Public Protection Committee – email Dawn.Smith@shetland.gov.uk

Community Conversations: A 'Community Conversations' public drop-in session was recently held in Aith Junior High School.

Financial Statement 2024-2025: The statement had been forwarded to Mr M Duncan and a reply was received stating that he had found it to be in order.

NORTHERN ISLES FERRY SERVICES: A message was received from Mr M Craigie, Executive Manager – Transport Planning at SIC, saying a user survey is being carried out to gather evidence to inform the NIFS4 contract and the future of ferry services to/from Shetland.

SKELD HIDE: The Draft Valuation Notice for the Skeld Hide was received and noted.

SHETLAND ISLANDS REGIONAL MARINE PLAN: A message was received from a Marine Planning Officer saying that the Shetland Islands Regional Plan has been laid before Scottish Ministers for consideration.

MOVING ON: The members were disappointed to receive a message from Mrs Roselyn Fraser, SIC Community Planning & Development Officer for this area informing us that she is moving on from her present role at the end of 2025. Recruitment is ongoing for a replacement but in the interim, we should contact June Porter, Team Leader, Community

Development. Mrs Fraser has been of great assistance to this Community Council and, as well as helping the Community Council, she has helped many voluntary groups within the area. The members are thankful to her for her support and wish her well in her new job.

INFORMATION: Several emails sharing reminders and information with the Community Council were received and noted.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held in Bixter Community Hall on Monday 12 January 2026.