

DRAFT Minutes of Meeting of Yell Community Council

Monday 19th January 2026, 7pm, Mid Yell School

Present: Mrs A Jamieson (Chair), Mr L Odie, Ms J Eunson, Ms F Stirling, Miss M Johnson, Mr R Jamieson, and Mr L Madden.

Apologies: Mr Michael Duncan (Community Councillor Liaison Officer), PC Andy Adams (Police Scotland), and Mrs S Williamson.

In Attendance: Mrs Johnina Henderson (Clerk), Cllr Robert Thomson (Elected representative), Ms Frances Browne (North Isles Community Involvement and Development Worker), and Mrs Y Burns.

Visitor: Mr Mark Macbeath (SCBF Director -Yell).

Chair Mrs A Jamieson welcomed everyone to the first meeting of Yell Community Council in 2026.

01/26/01 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr R Jamieson declared an interest in Statkraft wind farm developments as his company is a member of Energy Isles.

Cllr Robert Thomson declared an interest in planning applications.

Ms F Stirling declared an interest in the Mid Yell Amenity Building application as a director of Mid Yell Development Company.

Mr L Madden declared an interest in the Burravoe Post Office as proprietor of Brough Store.

01/26/02 MINUTES

15th December 2025 - The minutes of the December meeting were approved by Mr L Odie and Mr R Jamieson.

01/26/03 CO-OPTION OF MEMBER

The vacant seat was advertised, and Mrs Y Burns expressed an interest in joining Yell Community Council. She was proposed to join by Mr L Madden and Mr L Odie. Post meeting, it was noted that the candidate was not on the voter's roll. To be discussed at the next meeting.

M MACBEATH - SCBF DIRECTOR FOR YELL

Mr M Macbeath who had been invited to the meeting to give an update on the SCBF since he became a director for Yell during 2025.

Mark gave an update on his involvement with SCBF since joining and his first meeting in October. SCBF covers a lot of different areas and several funding schemes. He gave a rundown of the scheme applications and approvals. He especially mentioned several larger projects which had received funding from SCBF. He particularly mentioned the recent community hall funding application that has been created with the interest gathered over the years which is open until 15th February in which five halls will get a £10,000 grant towards larger development projects. These grants will be paid out by 31st March. A question was asked if this were a 100% grant, it could be.

£8,838.25 is currently available for Yell to allocate until Sept 2026. Clerk to advertise funding available and encourage groups to apply.

Mr L Odie thanked Mark very much for taking on this role as Director and attending the meeting he left the meeting at 7.26pm.

01/26/04 MATTERS ARISING

CLAN

Mr L Odie met up with Claudia Serra, Clan Cancer Support Services Area Manager (North Mainland & Isles) on 23rd December and she is keen to get more involved in Clan funding and activities in the Isles. It was suggested that she could attend Stepping Out and the Tuesday lunches in Cullivoe. A survey has been shared to complete.

01/26/05 OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

6.1 TRANSPORT

FERRIES

Questions for February meeting

Mr A Inkster and his team have confirmed that they will attend the YCC February meeting.

Issues relating to ferries were discussed and questions for the February meeting were to be submitted to the clerk before 8th February. Cllr Robert Thomson gave an update on some issues.

Issues raised were and a start was made to the list of questions:

Ask that Sunday timetable will be the same as Saturday timetable on Yell Sound.

New timetable for new shift system. Late/early ferries

Dry dock plan in spring for Yell Sound - request 25-minute turnaround timetable.

New booking system - pay at booking? What about block bookings?

Single vessel over festive - good service with change of bookings.

Communication - updating of voicebank, bad weather disruption.

Toft and Ulsta ramps maintenance that did not happen in 2022.

Community Ferry Hire

The Community hire ferry requested for Burravoe Hall Christmas Disco in December was cancelled due to lack of interest so there is still an available ferry.

Folk Festival Community Ferry Application

An application has been received from the Folk Festival for a ferry at 1am on 2nd May following their concert in Mid Yell Hall. The meeting agreed to approve the application subject to approval from Sellaness, the application was to be copied to Cllr Robert Thomson since no 2026 allocation has been advised. The ferry was approved by Mr L Odie and Mr R Jamieson.

ROADS

Jonathan Duncan has provided an update on the new Cullivoe road and will attend the February meeting.

"I am pleased to say that all pre-commencement works are still progressing to plan.

There are still discussions ongoing between us and the Shetland Amenity Trust surrounding the use of Colvister Quarry, however these discussions are progressing and do not affect the projected timeline of the works.

My next meeting with the Contractor is on Thursday afternoon and I will have more up to date information on their exact timelines available after that.

As things are going to plan. We will get a report next month.

Update on road issues raised with John Duncan (Team Leader – North and North Isles)

- Head of Mid Yell Voe – centre lining to be completed when weather allows.
- We plan to survey and keep an eye on the bumps at Basta. No plans to resurface yet.
- Ingram Thomson (Foreman – North Isles) was unaware about the Compomac at West Yell but will have a look (Mr L Odie to contact Ingram regarding this)
- The Burravoe path is being redesigned to make things easier in the long term with land etc.
- Not aware of any issues with parking at Burravoe School. (It was a misunderstanding and Mr L Odie has been in contact with C Gair)
- The side blade plough can fit in the grid at Cuppaster, but Ingram will measure the V plough to see if there are any issues but does not think there are any. (Mr L Odie to speak to Ingram)

Snow Clearing

Proposal for Farmers to help with their tractors. The meeting supports the proposal subject to insurance issues.

Care in Community issues during last snow were discussed and local people in affected areas were thanked for their help.

FIXED LINKS

The Tunnel Action Groups are still fundraising and have a Burns Supper in Baltasound on Saturday. Cllr Robert Thomson reported that Maggie Sandison had confirmed that there was £26 million over 4 years in the budget towards geo surveys. Subject to approval of SG budget.

6.2 COMMUNITY HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE IN YELL

An update was requested from Jo Robinson on CH & SC in Yell but has not been received, Clerk to follow up. YCC believe the recent number of helicopter call outs is increasing.

Ambulance Cover

It has been brought to the attention of YCC that the Unst Ambulance has been covering Yell as the Yell Ambulance was not fully staffed. The meeting agreed to contact Andrew Mayhew for an update.

What3words for property locations

We note that Unst Community Council, have recently offered to communicate via social media with residents on a What3words project to help provide Unst NHS Health centre staff with accurate home locations for all residents.

YCC members were of the view that this could be a helpful approach in Yell and if the Yell Health Centre were planning such an initiative, YCC would be happy to assist in promoting the initiative.

What3words are used for finding locations in Yell by the Care at Home team.

Doctor cover with weather disruptions

It was noted that there had been no doctor on the island due to change over disruptions with the adverse weather.

6.3 RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

Mr R Jamieson left the meeting for this discussion.

Ms F Stirling has drawn up a DRAFT action plan for the progress of the setting up of community benefit fund; she gave an update to new members. Mrs A Jamieson thanked her for drawing up the plan. Suggested short term actions in order to start discussions again included -

Meet with Unst & Fetlar Community Councils; suggest public event
Check status of Statkraft's newsletter & confirm if they would cover the cost of Foundation Scotland attendance, should we wish this
Draft courtesy update email to those involved in previous discussions
Connect with Scalloway group (similar work)
Engage with Local Energy Scotland and others re: timescales and costs
Create a budget and identify funding sources, assuming public event
Review timescales & event planning responsibilities

YCC chair asked all members to consider these actions before the next meeting.

6.4 DAMAGE TO GRAVESTONES IN YELL UPDATE

Further concerns have been raised to the Yell Community Council regarding the damage of tombstones at Cullivoe and Mid Yell Cemeteries. This is very unfortunate and the meeting asked Cllr Robert Thomson to investigate it. Clerk to forward correspondence to Cllr Thomson.

6.5 MID YELL PIER EROSION

Cllr R Thomson could update that Arch Henderson had written up a report and would be published soon.

6.6 DOG FOULING IN MID YELL

Mrs A Jamieson met with the SIC environmental Health reps, and they understand that it is an issue and have lots of suggestions, an update and map of signs put up has been received from SIC following their visit. To date they are awaiting a reply from waste services regarding the placement of additional bins, and they will continue to monitor the situation when they are in the area and liaise with YCC if the situation gets worse.

6.7 MEADOWBANK ROAD FENCES & PATHS

Repairs imminent.

6.8 BEACH AWARDS 2026

It is unlikely that YCC will have funding for the beach awards. Groups to be contacted regarding the applications before the next meeting.

6.9 CATEGORIES FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS

To be covered under 10.3

6.10 ABANDONED/ SCRAP VEHICLES

The meeting decided not to submit this as an ASCC agenda item.

There is a commercial collection on the island available at a fee.

01/26/06 NEW BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Free training sessions from Planning Aid Scotland are available to members who can view slides available on YouTube.

7.2 National Flood Risk Assessment (NFRA) 2025 report

This report was noted.

7.3 Community Council Insurance Documents

The insurance documents were noted.

7.4 Shetland Islands Council Community Conversations

The Conversations held in Mid Yell on Thursday were well attended.

7.5 Shetland's Local Place Plans: Capacity Building Programme - Jan 2026 Newsletter

This newsletter was noted; F Browne asked the meeting what YCC were considering developing a LPP. Time and capacity to develop a LPP is a barrier, and dedicated resources are needed to do it successfully. It was understood that NYDC were doing one for North Yell. F Browne to check if there is a timescale for completion of LPPs.

7.6 Post Office Limited - Burravoe - ZE2 9AY

The meeting welcomed the reopening of the Burravoe Post Office at Brough Stores. Mr L Odie encouraged members to complete the feedback. Mr L Madden declared an interest.

7.7 LPP Community Council Training

This was noted if members were able to attend.

7.8 Runic Stones/Shetland Times

This item was to be carried over to the next meeting.

7.9 Monthly Correspondence to all be noted at future meetings.

Chair suggested that we ask for monthly updates from local councillors at the start of the meeting.

Cllr Robert Thomson left meeting at 8.50pm

01/26/07 PLANNING APPLICATIONS/MARINE PLANNING

8.1 Planning Ref: 025/019/MPA

Proposed installation of a submersible water intake pump in a protective gabion with associated pipework and cabling on the foreshore below MHWS to supply water for a residential water source heat pump, Sand Lodge, Cullivoe, Yell

This application was approved by Mr L Odie and Mr R Jamieson

8.2 Planning Ref:2025/316/PPF

Proposal: To erect Pier Amenity Building with fourteen solar panels on roof

Address: Pier Amenity Building, Linkshouse, Mid Yell, Yell Shetland

Ms F Stirling declared an interest in the application and left the room for discussion.

This application was supported and approved by Mr R Jamieson and Miss M Johnson.

01/26/08 FINANCE/GRANTS

9.1 INCREASE TO DISTANT ISLANDS ALLOWANCE

The Clerk left the room while the meeting discussed the increase in pay.

The meeting agreed to pay the clerk the suggested rate and back date to October.

9.2 VCF - COMMUNITY HALL GRANTS SCHEME

This scheme was discussed under SCBF.

01/26/09 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

PLAYPARKS IN YELL

Ms F Browne raised the concern about the playparks in Yell from Mrs S Williamson, it was agreed to carry over to the next meeting to get more information on which ones were affected.

HERRA POST BOX

An update has been requested on the replacement post box.

THE MEETING ENDED AT 21.15HRS

The next meeting of the Yell Community Council will be held on Tuesday 17th February, 7pm, Mid Yell School with Visitors Jonathon Duncan - Roads and Andrew Inkster and his team - Ferries.

ACTION LIST			
Clerk	Minutes	Submit minutes to MD	
Clerk	Co-option Form	Submit to MD	
Clerk	Scheme of Establishment	Email all members	
Clerk	SCBF Funding	Promote	
Clerk	Questions	Collate and send to Sellaness	
Members	Questions	Submit by 8 th Feb	
Clerk	Community Hire	Submit form to Sellaness	
Clerk	CH & SC	Follow up update	
Clerk	Yell Ambulance	Ask for update	
Clerk	What3words location	Email Health centre	
FS/AJ	Renewable energy Developments	Follow up action plan	
Clerk	Graveyard damage	Reply to LT Forward to Cllr RT	
FS for WS	Beach Awards	Contact groups	
Clerk	Categories	Email list	
All members	Categories	Consider interest	
Clerk	Planning	Reply to two applications	
Clerk	Increase, pay & adjust	Banking	
Clerk	Claim forms	Banking details and pay	
All members	Register of interest	Complete form for next meeting	