

NORTHMAVEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chair: J Parry
The Hadd
North Roe
ZE2 9RY

Clerk: NCDC Services
Bruckland SCRAN
Ollaberry
ZE2 9RU

Telephone: 01806 544222
E-mail: northmavencc@gmail.com

Minute of Ordinary Meeting of the Northmaven Community Council on 12th January 2026 held in the Urafirth Primary School.

This minute is UNAPPROVED until adopted at the next meeting

Present:

Cllr R McGeady
Cllr E Robertson
Cllr G Anderson
Cllr R Doull
Cllr D Robertson
Cllr J Parry

Ex Officio Present:

Cllr A Hall
Cllr E MacDonald

Apologies Submitted:

Cllr D Brown
Mr M Duncan – SIC
Sergeant A Patrick – Police Scotland

In attendance:

Mrs C Anderson – Clerk
Ms L Hall – Community Development

The meeting started at: 19.29

Cllr J Parry in the Chair.

Agenda Item	Narrative
2. Declarations of Interest	Cllr J Parry – SCBF items Cllr R McGeady – NCDC or Hjaltland Housing Association items
3. Approval Of Previous Minute	Approved by Cllr G Anderson, Seconded by Cllr E Robertson
4. Police Report	A Police Report for October/ November had been circulated before the meeting. There had been 4 incidents - Driving whilst over the prescribed limit, fraud, concern for person and mental health.
5. Matters Arising	<p>Digital Switchover No update</p> <p>Speed limits No update – Clerk to email again.</p> <p>Sullom Voe Masterplan No update Action: Cllr R McGeady to look over the letter.</p> <p>Sullom Residents Internet Cllr R Doull said the family had taken out a second plan as the daughter needs a good connection for her study. Cllr R Doull said that she had suggested that a group of residents could work</p>

	<p>together potentially with NCDC or another organisation to apply for a package. Cllr A Hall asked if they had checked eligibility with the R100 programme. Cllr R Doull said they had spoken to a variety of organisations but hadn't gotten anywhere so far. Cllr A Hall said he had information he could share.</p> <p>Action: Cllr A Hall to send email to clerk</p> <p>19.34 Cllr D Robertson joined the meeting</p> <p>Ollaberry School Speed Restrictions No update Action: Clerk to email again</p> <p>Winter icy roads Cllr R McGeady asked other Cllrs if the roads in their area were getting gritted. The gritter had come up once a day but there was no grit being spread and wondered if there was something that told the staff when it was empty. Cllr D Robertson said there would be an alarm in the cab. Cllr G Anderson said that it was XX spread which would look like nothing. Cllr R McGeady said he had heard from other residents in North Roe that there was no grit being spread towards the end of the route. Cllr E MacDonald encouraged Cllr R McGeady to contact roads so that they can make sure there is enough grit to do the route. Action: Clerk to contact roads again</p>
<p>6. Community Resilience Plan</p>	<p>Cllr R McGeady said that he has nearly completed the North Roe/Lochend section and should be able to share by next month so it can be replicated for the other areas of Northmavine.</p>
<p>8. Banking</p>	<p>The clerk showed a table of community bank accounts with the costs associated with each account and the information needed to open a new account. After a discussion it was decided to try Virgin Money. Cllr J Parry and Cllr R McGeady offered to be signatories for the next account. Action: Clerk to open new account with Virgin Money</p>
<p>11. Correspondence</p>	<p>Andrew Hall's Councillor Update Cllr J Parry asked if Cllr A Hall had any further updates from what had been circulated before the meeting. Cllr A Hall said that he had mentioned in his update about the unsustainable draw on the Council's reserves and highlighted that Shetland's council tax is one of the lowest in Scotland. He asked if any of the Cllr's had any views. He added that members of the public often are asking for additional services or improvements to services rather than cuts and SIC have recruitment problems but that the services are some of the best provided in Scotland. Cllr J Parry said that even a £200 increase in council tax won't come close to what is needed. Cllr A Hall agreed but said it was important to get closer to the Scottish average. Cllr D Robertson asked if anyone had looked at where spending could be reduced. Cllr A Hall said there were ongoing projects looking at that. Cllr E MacDonald said there was a consultation on creating a strategy to bring the Shetland council tax more in line with the Scottish average but this was difficult to do with taxes rising most years. She highlighted the SIC also take</p>

	<p>into account that it costs more to live in Shetland than elsewhere in Scotland and that it also costs more to deliver services. She added that the SIC budget seminar would be next week and they would know more after the Scottish Government announcement happening on Tuesday 13th January and saw what the Local Authority settlement is. Councillor R McGeedy said that SIC need to have meaningful communication with the public and give options and get people's opinions, keeping it simple. He added that every business seems to be struggling with recruitment. Councillor R Doull added that the SIC application process was making it difficult for some people to apply especially in the care sector. Councillor E MacDonald said that SIC had reviewed this and were trying to make sure that their application process included experience as well as qualifications but that it is national policy to have certain qualifications so SIC can't change that. Councillor G Anderson said there is a lot of big industrial projects happening and in the pipeline and it is a shame that SIC aren't getting more out of this. Councillor E MacDonald said that in her council leader position she had been working with the Scottish Government to create a package of investment for Shetland's infrastructure related to offshore wind development.</p> <p>School Pupil Safety</p> <p>No response had been received after the last letter that the clerk sent and in the interim there had been another parent who has contacted community council with concerns about their children's pick up/drop off point with correspondence circulated before the meeting. There was a discussion among Councillors with Councillor A Hall highlighting that SIC were following their policy. Councillor J Parry said that potentially the policy needs to be reviewed. Councillor R McGeedy said that other than offering support to individuals there isn't much NCC can do. Councillor A Hall added that as a councillor he is not allowed to get involved in operational matters of SIC.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to continue with support</p>
<p>12. AOCB</p>	<p>The clerk informed those present that the new Facebook page for Northmaven Community Council was now set up and much easier for sharing information. It is called Northmaven CC.</p> <p>Councillor G Anderson said that the drain at Collafirth was completely blocked with water running across the road.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to add it to the roads email</p>
<p>13. Date and time of next meeting</p>	<p>Monday 2nd March 2026 at 7.30pm in the Ollaberry Primary School.</p>

The meeting ended at: 20.24