

# Fetlar Community Council

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT FETLAR HALL**  
(subject to the approval of the next Fetlar Community Council Meeting)  
**On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 20<sup>th</sup> at 7.45 pm**  
**(WITH A TEAM'S OPTION TO JOIN REMOTELY)**

## **PRESENT**

James Rendall  
Mike Foggarty  
Lucy Cummings  
Russell Simpson  
Julie Maguire

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Frances Browne SIC  
Juliet Bellis

Chris Bolton Clerk Fetlar Community Council

## **Apologies**

Michael Duncan

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

The minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026 were circulated.  
Lucy noted that there was a typo with respect to the cost of bulky uplift.  
This was corrected on the signed copy.  
Proposed by Lucy, seconded by Russell and approved.

## **2. Declarations of interest**

None

## **3. Ongoing Business**

### **3.1. NHS**

The Community Council had received a response to the complaint about GP visits to Fetlar.

It was agreed that the reply was wholly inaccurate.

Russell and Juliet agreed to waive their right to anonymity in order to provide a response.

Russell felt that there was a need for a meeting.

Lucy thinks that we need to meet practitioners. And that there have been 7 years of deterioration.

Mike was concerned that we are clear about what we are saying and focus on the GP not attending.

Frances agreed that we should avoid bashing heads,

It was agreed that Chris would write to respond to the complaint reply. And correspond to the NHS about having a face to face meeting at Yell Surgery.

### **3.2. Ferry Timetables**

It was agreed that the new timetables are excellent when they work and everything goes smoothly until it doesn't.

Juliet shared that there is often a problem with Drug deliveries when there is a single vessel on Yell Sound as the bus timetables change and they don't meet the Bluemull ferry.

James noted that the single vessel timetable affects the ability to book as people are block booking in advance.

### **3.3. Fetlar Handyman**

Lucy informed that the handyman has resigned due to ill health.

There was some discussion about the role and what was required.

Frances will follow up to find out what will happen next.

### **3.4. SIC Housing**

There is a new resident in Stakkafletts. But one has moved to Unst. So there is still a vacancy.

The ferry service has retained a 2 bedroomed property.

It was agreed that Chris should write to ask what their intentions are.

### **3.5. Inter Islands Transport Connectivity**

No news.

### **3.6. Brough Lodge**

No news

### **3.7. Islands with Small Populations**

Juliet informed that the first session in 2026 will be on the 11th of March 2pm to 4pm with a focus on Community led Housing and Community Assets.

## **4. Finance and Administration**

### **5.1 Finance Report**

Chris informed that the current balance was £1207.13.

He has not yet received an invoice for the snow clearing.

He confirmed that the balance would fall below £1000 before the end of the financial year.

### **5.2 Clerk Invoice**

The clerk's salary invoice was approved.

## **5. AOCB**

Frances shared three issues.

### **5.1. School Issue**

Lucy informed that a new stockman had been appointed and that he had three children one was of school age.

The family had been informed by the Education Department that the mothballed school on Fetlar would only be reopened if there was more than one family that

moved to the island. And that reopening the school 'would not be considered at this time'.

This left the family with the option of taking their children to Unst. With all the travel implications.

Consequently, the family are now likely to leave.

It was agreed that the SIC policy was not consistent with its own commitment to islands with small populations.

It was agreed that Chris should write to the education department to complain and ask for clarification.

Frances will add it to the islands with small population log.

### **5.2. Viking Community Development Funds**

It was noted that there was still £13,930 left in the fund for Fetlar.

Chris will write to clarify the procedure.

### **5.3. Local Place Plans**

Lucy informed that these need to be produced by the end of September. She will create a questionnaire for residents.

## **6. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Tuesday the 17<sup>th</sup> of March at 7.45.