

*This minute is UNAPPROVED until adopted at the next meeting.*

**Skerries Community Council (SCC)**  
**Minute of meeting held at 2.00 pm on (Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026)**  
**In Skerries Community Hall**

**Present:**

(P.J) Paul James Chair  
(J.H) Janice Hughson Vice Chair  
(M.A) Marina Anderson  
(K.J) Kia James (Minutes)  
(M.T) Marina Tait  
(F.A) Frances Anderson  
(J.A) Jilly Ash  
(J.W) Joyce Williamson  
Peter (/) Citizens Advice Bureau (Benefits and advice)  
John Clarkson (Home Energy Scotland)

**In attendance:**

(R.T) Robert Thompson

**1) Apologies**

(L.H) Lynsey Hall  
(D.H) Dianne Hughson  
Paul welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2) Declaration of Interest to any agenda item**

None

**3) Minutes of last Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting, held on the (13<sup>th</sup> March 2026) were approved.  
Proposed by (J.H), seconded by (M.T).

**4) Matters Arising/Actions from last meeting**

- 4.1 Culvert: P.J reported there were no updates as the culvert has cleared itself.
- 4.2 Maintenance post: Carl Symonds to send Paul a copy of the Fetlar job description for note. In progress.
- 4.3 Broken chain on barge: R.T spoke to port authorities. The barge is not in our harbour area so falls outside of our jurisdiction. This is to be raised with Crown Estates or MCA at Lynsey Halls Monday meeting re: Marine Debris.

*This minute is UNAPPROVED until adopted at the next meeting.*

- 4.4 Shelves for waiting room: Shelves have arrived.
- 4.5 K. J has liaised with the Bird restoration group and the meeting with the community is scheduled to go ahead as planned on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026.
- 4.6 Violet McQuade has completed the booking for the community ferry run on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026.
- 4.7 P. J to chase up Alistair Inkster and find out more details about the sea birds and fishing hooks.

## **5 Participatory Budgeting**

A discussion was had about core funding allowance. K.J; stated that the core funding for £9002.91 had been received. Participatory funding was discussed as a separate funding source from core funding.

P.J asked the group to think about itemising things that would be needed for the community.

It was discussed that Violet McQuade would be better informed to explain this process.

P.J to investigate looking into overall budget increase. This would be to keep funding in line with inflation. The funding has been capped for the last three years, but the cost of many things has gone up. P.J to raise this at the next ASCC meeting. P.J to determine other clerks' views on this topic via clerk's forum.

## **6) Risks**

P.J to review the risk register as it was created 2.5 years ago. P.J asked for volunteers to chat about the risks.

P.J suggested a mini meeting within which to discuss updating the risks register to reflect current circumstances.

M.A and M.T volunteered to contribute.

Paul to organise a date for this.

## **7) Issues**

None to report.

## **8) Correspondence Received**

K.J stated that all has been circulated.

*This minute is UNAPPROVED until adopted at the next meeting.*

**9) AOCB**

- 9.1) Fire engine door being open has caused a problem with deterioration of the electric cable. Moving the vehicle to a safer place was discussed. The school was suggested as a potential site for this.
- 9.2) Ferry Timetables: P.J to contact Fiona Farqhar regarding an update.
- 9.3) It was noted that The Filla is scheduled to come back on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. F.A raised a preference for the Filla to leave at 0930 on Thursdays instead of 1000 so folk can get to their appointments earlier. This would ensure that on most runs, that the Filla arrives before the Bressay ferry, slightly lengthening the amount of time available on mainland for residents.
- 9.4) J. A asked if the school had been emptied; referring to an email sent earlier in the month stating that some items would be removed by the council. P.J to follow this up.
- 9.5) F. A mentioned about the lifeboat on the harbour being hazardous P.J liaising with the owners to get it removed. In progress.
- 9.6) F. A mentioned Beatrice Wishart is leaving. It was discussed to write a letter of thanks for all her help, on behalf of the community.
- 9.7) M. T raised the issue of the litter bin near J.H Post Office and shop. It is dilapidated and a danger to folk. P.J to follow this up.
- 9.8) K. J to step down as associate member of the community council as is now the Clerk.
- 9.9) John Clarkson addressed the group to promote energy saving schemes in Shetland. He mentioned Warmer homes Scotland. Discussed air source heat pumps and storage heaters, eligibility criteria and Shetland Warmer Homes Hub in the Toll Clock shopping centre. He mentioned that he would be happy to sign post and help with any enquiries re: The Kirk and applying for business funding.
- 9.10) Peter from C.A.B discussed offering help with benefits and advice with debt.

The meeting concluded at 2.40pm.

**14) Date and time of next meeting**

*This minute is UNAPPROVED until adopted at the next meeting.*

Next meeting will be at 2pm Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May in the Skerries Community Hall

**Summary of actions to be updated at next meeting**

- P.J to source job description for maintenance post on Fetlar, via Carl Symonds. (Item 4.1)
- R.T to report back re: broken chain on barge. Topic to be raised at Marine debris meeting (Lynsey Hall) with Crown Estates/MCA. (Item 4.3)
- P.J to obtain more info about the seabirds and fishing hooks. (Item 4.7)
- P.J to contact Violet McQuade re: explanation and advice surrounding the Participatory Budget. (Item 5)
- P.J to raise the issue of potential core funding budget increase (for following years) at the next ASCC meeting. (Item 5)
- P.J to arrange a meeting with the members regarding updating the risk register.(Item 6)
- P.J to contact Fiona Farqhar re: updating the ferry timetable (Item 9.2)
- P.J to follow up clearance at the school. (Item 9.4)
- P.J to continue to liaise with the owners of the lifeboat to ensure safe removal of the vessel.(Item 9.5)
- P.J to follow up removal of the dangerous public litter outside the Post Office (Item 9.7)

Chair Signature

Signed.....