

BRESSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minute of Bressay Community Council meeting:

Held on Tuesday 28th April 2026, in Bressay Hall.

Minute subject to approval at the next Bressay Community Council Meeting.

Present:

Lindsay Tulloch
Margaret MacDonald
Graham March
Katrina Gifford
Andrea Sanchez
Stephen Leask
Arwed Wenger
Gary Robinson

In Attendance:

Janice Jones (Clerk)
Sonny Thompson (SIC - Community Planning & Development)

Agenda Items

1. Introduction and Apologies:

The Chair opened the Meeting at 19.15 and welcomed members and visitors to the hall.

Apologies were noted from:

Ruth MacKenzie
Michael Duncan
Eric Perdu

3. Declarations of interest:

None.

4. Minute review:

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved. Proposed by Margaret and seconded by Andrea.

Matters Outstanding (actions not elsewhere on agenda or completed):

The ammonia plant discussion on the last meeting was touched on with the suggestion that it could be raised at the next Association of Community Councils Meeting as a number of Community Councils were involved with the Planning Application. The Chair will ask for this inclusion.

The non receipt of planning applications were discussed, and it was suggested Arwed in his role on the planning committee could advise what we need to do to get sight of applications. One suggestion was that they were available on the council's website therefore could be accessed. This is what the Lerwick Community Council does and we would probably be aware of things coming up in Bressay.

5. Member and Visitor Reports:

For Stephen it has been a quiet month with nothing significant for Bressay. Being the pre-election period there was little happening. Gary had a couple of things; the council now has a group set up to support Community Led Housing. Whilst it is too late to help in the Lighthouse acquisition/development it will help anything in the future, similar to the Orkney model, with advisors for various aspects. He attended one of the Inter-Island connectivity Groups last week where there are several things coming out from the consultants – wider information will come in June and onwards.

Sonny had sent through an email on an idea for the waiting room of a hot chocolate bar to bring parties together. Changing young peoples' attitudes and older peoples' perceptions. Trouble in the waiting room has died down mainly due to the finer weather. One of the youth clubs had put up posters in the waiting room which may have helped to divert occupants. One of the representatives from the Third Sector had suggested some form of mediation.

The Shetland partnerships plan is due to meet shortly; Ruth and Graham will be attending on behalf of the Community Council.

Sonny has also been assisting Ella's Park Group mainly in getting planning permission for their shed: and with Andrea on the BOAG issues.

6. Infrastructure

One area we wanted to highlight was the need for white median lines coming up from the ferry and around the shop. Frequently cars take a wide corner and are over the crown of the road in the pathway of oncoming traffic. Similarly, vehicles parked on the corner at the shop, someone hurrying to the ferry could easily have a

collision. Gary will pick this up with Neil Hutchison and also obtain an update on the pathway at Maryfield. The person had advised the complainant to report this directly to the SIC Roads Department, this with the Community Council also reporting will help to get things done. The Island Infrastructure report will also need to be scheduled. We will put this on the next agenda.

The gate at the cattle grid at Uphouse is dragging and difficult to open, this gets used a lot particularly now into the tourist season.

7. Correspondence: All correspondence has been shared. Other than two nice bits of correspondence: first an email from the Hall thanking us for their Grant funds for their Acoustic Project, and secondly from Roddy Christie-Henry for the quarry cleanings we had provided which had allowed him to fill in the potholes approaching his house.

8. Planning Applications: None.

9. Noticeboard: The notice board was originally scheduled to run from 6.00am to 12.00 midnight. However there seems to be a problem that with full sun in the afternoon it goes into shutdown, because it has artificially shutdown it does not restart. To try to get round this problem we are trying out having a break in the schedule to let it cool down and have it shutting down at 2.00 pm and restart at 4.00 pm. This may help, if not we will have to look at more frequent shutdowns. We would like to keep it on at the busiest commuter times. We will have to put a small note to advise the public the screen is in shutdown to cool down. Currently we run it on a USB stick. In the longer term if we want Wi-Fi operation then look at a 4g dongle which would be about £5 a month.

10. Finance: Grant applications & Financial position: Next year's funding has been received and we have £9027 for the years running costs. Only one invoice from last year has still to come in and the Clerk will be preparing the full years accounts for verification shortly.

11. Bressay Groups Update (Hall, Sports Club, Boating Club, BDL etc.) -

The hall is planning the installation of their acoustic panels.

Ella's Park is working with planning to get their shed up.

The Plant Sale is scheduled for the 10th May.

Bressay Tunnel Action Group met last week and an update was sent to the Shetland Times.

The Heritage Group has been redecorating the inside of the Heritage Centre ready for opening on the 1st May. The grant for the borrowing of the Bressay Stone has come through, the dates still have to be confirmed but it is planned for September.

They have commissioned a replica stone to be placed in the Heritage Centre.

The Boating Club are planning a fish and chip night for later in May (23rd?).

BOA|G are affiliated with the Sports Group and are submitting an application for a polytunnel which will have water and electricity, for those groups and the Up Helly Aa group to benefit.

12. Any other business: Nothing

13. Meeting Review: No comments

14. Date of next meeting: will be on Tuesday 26th May 2026. There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 20.00.

Chairman:

Date

To contact the Community Council please email us at bressaycc@gmail.com or telephone 07532054521 or contact any Community Council Member.