

Scalloway Community Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday 18th May 2026 7pm

Location: Scalloway Public Hall

Chair: Lawson Bisset

Clerk: Joanna Breeze

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed attendees. Apologies from Nicole Mouat (member), was noted.

Attendees:

Lawson Bisset (Chair),
Mark Burgess (Vice-Chair)
Joanna Breeze (Clerk),
Andrew Blackadder (member),
Kenny Pottinger (member),
Marie Williamson (member),
Davie Sandison (Cllr),
Morag Lyall (Cllr),
Ian Scott (Cllr),
Catherine Hughson (Cllr),
Nicole Sim (SIC)
Michael Duncan (SIC).

2. Scalloway Pool Closure Update

Members discussed the ongoing closure of Scalloway Pool and the lack of clarity following recent meetings between Shetland Islands Council (SIC), Shetland Recreational Trust (SRT), and Shetland Charitable Trust (SCT).

- Members noted that no formal outcome had been communicated following the meeting on the 8th May.
- Informal discussions scheduled for the 12th June were acknowledged, though no formal decisions were expected.
- The Pool Action Group is pursuing the complaints procedure regarding the closure decision, governance concerns, and communication failures.
- Concerns were raised regarding Lerwick Leisure Centre's ability to absorb community demand following the closure.
- The Chair advised that official updates would be circulated when available.

Action: Joanna Breeze to circulate results of the Scalloway Pool survey.

3. Scalloway Community Development Company (SCDC) Updates

3.1 Caravan Park

Andrew Blackadder reported that the caravan park continues to operate successfully with strong occupancy and positive feedback.

- Ongoing snagging issues remain, including concerns relating to water pipes and design matters.
- Further engagement with architects and engineers is required.

3.2 Community Transport

No updates

3.3 Active Travel

No updates.

3.4 Waterfront Regeneration

Ongoing, feasibility stage, should have first draft of the report at the end of May.

3.5 District Heating Project

Members noted that the district heating feasibility project is now fully funded.

- Consultant company Ramboll has been appointed following a competitive tender process.
- Initial stakeholder meetings and site visits have taken place.
- A feasibility report is expected by year end.

3.6 Business Hub Project

Davie Sandison updated members on progress toward acquisition of the Kirk Business Centre.

- Stage Two funding application to the Scottish Land Fund is expected to be submitted in early July.
- A decision is anticipated in October with the project to be completed by March 2027.
- Public consultation will form part of the project process.
- A feasibility report is expected by year end.

3.7 Heritage Boards

Davie Sandison confirmed restructuring and resource allocation within SCDC was taking place.

Action: Davie Sandison to arrange a meeting with the wider group to progress the project

3.8 Statkraft Community Ownership and Liaison Group

Andrew Blackadder confirmed following the meeting he recently attended with Statkraft regarding community ownership and community benefit arrangements.

- Concerns were expressed that Lerwick Community Council involvement could dilute community benefit funding available to Scalloway and Tingwall.
- Members reaffirmed the position that benefit funding should remain linked to turbine host communities.
- It was agreed Lerwick may participate in liaison discussions only and not in benefit allocation.

Resolution: Members approved its position opposing Lerwick participation in community benefit allocations.

Action: Andrew Blackadder to continue providing updates from the liaison group.

4. Roads and Infrastructure

Members discussed ongoing concerns regarding local road conditions.

- Spencer's Close was highlighted as a priority due to hazardous surface conditions.
- Resurfacing works for New Street and other roads are expected during the summer.
- Members welcomed the reinstatement of the lamp post at Ladysmith following long-term requests.
- Police staffing levels were noted as improved, contributing positively to community policing.

Action: All members to compile a list of road defects for submission to the Roads Department.

Action: Joanna Breeze to submit on behalf of the Community Council a formal letter regarding road repair priorities.

5. Finance and Funding

Members reviewed the financial report.

- Unallocated funds as of 31 March stood at £7,414.34.
- The annual core grant of £11,604.15 had been received.
- Approximately £4,104.15 remains available after commitments.
- The Community Development Fund has now formally closed, simplifying administration.
- Audit completion remains pending.

Members approved a £1,500 allocation for gardening services.

Action: Joanna Breeze to progress accounts, audit completion, and carry-forward approvals.

6. Community Safety and Defibrillators

The Council discussed requests relating to defibrillator provision and maintenance.

- A formal funding application is required for a proposed defibrillator at the Scalloway caravan park.
- Concerns were raised regarding maintenance responsibilities and registration of existing defibrillators.
- Members stressed the importance of ensuring all devices are properly maintained and registered.

Action: SCDC to submit a formal funding application.

Action: Community Council to coordinate maintenance and registration responsibilities for existing units.

7. Planning and Local Development

Members received updates regarding planning and resilience work.

- Work continues on the second Scalloway Local Place Plan.

- Planning applications continue to be circulated for member comment.
- Community resilience planning has been temporarily delayed due to focus on the Scalloway Pool closure.

Action: Mark to circulate the draft Local Place Plan for feedback.

Action: Joanna Breeze to continue circulating planning applications and coordinating responses.

8. Any Other Business

- Chair noted upcoming attendance at the ASCC Chairs meeting in July.

Action: Lawson Bisset to discuss the ASCC chairs meeting with Mark Burgess and Lawson to attend the ASCC Chairs meeting in July and report back.

9. Date of Next Meeting

15th June 2026

Meeting Closed

The Chair thanked all attendees and closed the meeting.