

DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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Minute of Meeting of **Dunrossness Community Council** held on Wednesday 27th May 2026 via Zoom.

PRESENT

Fiona Mitchell (Chair) Agnes Tallack Irvine Burgess Helen Budge
Cllr Robbie McGregor (ex officio)

APOLOGIES

Aileen Brown Helen Moncrieff Antonia Colvin Dawna Phillips
Allen Sinclair Cllr Alex Armitage (ex officio) Cllr Bryan Peterson (ex officio)
Michael Duncan (SIC)

ABSENT

Cllr Allison Duncan (ex officio) Ana Arnett (SIC)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Shirley Leslie (Clerk)

26/015 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr MacGregor declared an interest in any planning matters

26/016 MINUTE

The Minute of the meeting held on 27th April 2026 was adopted on the motion of Agnes.

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26/017 POLICE REPORT

No Police Report was due

26/018 MATTERS ARISING

- 1) **Road Matters:** There was nothing new to report.
- 2) **Kirk Yard Bench:** There was nothing new to report.
- 3) **Church of Scotland Brigades Fund:** There was nothing new to report.
- 4) **Dunrossness Kirk Yard Gate:** There was nothing new to report.
- 5) **Bus Shelter Bike Racks:** There was nothing new to report
- 6) **Westvoe Lifebelt:** Helen B reported that she had checked the lifebelt holder at St. Ninian's car park and, as it appears to be of the same design as the one at Westvoe, the members could now identify which part of the Westvoe one had failed.

26/019 FINANCE AND GRANT APPLICATIONS

- 1) **Grant Funding:** There were no grant applications for consideration. It was agreed to put a post on the Facebook page advising local groups that funding is available.
- 2) **Voluntary Action Shetland membership renewal:** It was agreed to renew the Community Council's annual membership at a cost of £40

26/020 DUNROSSNESS EMERGENCY FUND

There was nothing new to report.

26/021 FEEDBACK FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

No relevant external meetings had been attended.

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26/022 COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

- 1) **Roads:** Cllr Robbie reported that the SIC Roads Department are currently carrying out a survey of roads across the isles. Quarff are trying to have a reduced speed limit applied on the main road through the area and to have the existing hatching on the road extended.

26/023 FAIR ISLE

- 1) **Ferry Project:** Fiona reported that the Fair Isle Ferry Service is back using Grutness again and on its normal schedule. Works in Fair Isle to accommodate the new ferry are continuing. The Good Shepherd skipper will be travelling to Whitby soon to check on build progress of the new vessel.

26/024 COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLANS

Irvine reported that there has been minimal progress over the last couple of months but hopes further progress can be made soon.

26/025 LOCAL PLACE PLAN

Helen B reported that Antonia and Helen M had met with Diane Cassidy, Planning Aid Scotland, during her visit to Shetland earlier in the month. Bigton Collective have already done a lot of work on the Bigton Local Place Plan and are very happy for this to be included in the wider Dunrossness Plan with an online meeting between themselves and Helen B, Helen M and Antonia planned soon.

An email had also been received from Michael Duncan, SIC, encouraging members of Local Place Plan groups to join the Facebook group 'Shetland's Local Place Plans' as he considers it will be a useful forum to share information and learning.

26/026 CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) **Grave Digging Training:** Representatives from Fair Isle had been invited by SIC Burial Services to attend 'grave digging training'. Fiona reported that 2 people were attending. Cllr Robbie thought it had been agreed previously that participant costs would be covered by the SIC, but he would check and report back to Fiona.

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26/026 CORRESPONDENCE (Continued)

- 2) Involving Young People in Leadership Positions:** Wayne Leask, Development Worker, had emailed to raise awareness OPEN's project to involve young people in leadership positions. OPEN are running various training events for young people in Leadership, Governance and Finances in partnership with Voluntary Action Shetland with the aim of encouraging young people to feel confident in taking on leadership roles within community organisations such as Community Councils. An information sheet was provided and Wayne offered to attend a meeting or provide further information if required.
- 3) Association of Shetland Community Councils:** The next meeting of the ASCC is scheduled to take place on Thursday 2nd July in Room 12 of Islesburgh Community Centre. Irvine will attend on behalf of the Dunrossness Community Council.
- 4) Road Safety Concerns:** An email had been received regarding road safety concerns relating to two recent incidents where horses were spooked by passing traffic near the Sumburgh Airport traffic lights and the riders subsequently thrown off. The writer enquired if the Community Council would be willing to support discussions with regards to improving safety measures in the area and suggested the following measures:

 - **Improved signage warning drivers of horses and riders in the area**
 - **Consideration of a reduced speed limit approaching and between the runway barriers**
 - **a local awareness and education campaign reminding drivers of the Highway Code guidance regarding horses**
 - **Engagement with relevant roads, transport and police representatives**

Councillor Robbie had also received the same email and reported that he had forwarded it to SIC roads department for their consideration. Robbie will pursue this on behalf of the Community Council and report back.

Cllr Robbie McGregor left the meeting at 0735pm.

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26/026 CORRESPONDENCE (Continued)

- 5) **Grutness Development Concerns:** The residents of Grutness had emailed regarding concerns they have with development in the area. They had expected the lay down area used recently by the contractors developing the pier to be reinstated to its original condition ie an “undulating, grassed area with native wildflowers and beach stones”. However, they have now learned that the area has been purchased by an individual who appears to be developing it for the purpose of providing a caravan/camp site with a large concrete pad and ducting for services already installed. SIC planning department had advised the residents that they are not aware of a planning application for this development. The Clerk reported that she had also emailed SIC Planning enquiring if an application had been submitted and if permission was required for such a development but had not received a reply so far. The members agreed to wait for a response from Planning. The residents also wished to express their ‘dismay’ with regard to the level of streetlighting which has been installed as part of the recent pier development and reported that at sun-down the new streetlighting lights up their properties both inside and out. Agnes confirmed that these new streetlights are both higher and brighter than the original ones and wondered if regulations would permit for them to only be on when the area is in use.

26/027 ANY OTHER CURRENT BUSINESS

There was no other business for discussion.

26/028 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING MATTERS

There were no Planning Applications for consideration.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.55 pm.

Chair

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY 29th JUNE 2026.**