

Sandwich Community Council

Minute of Meeting held at 7:30pm on 22nd September 2026

Meeting held at Hoswick Visitor Centre

Members Present	Kevin Sandison (Chairperson), Ally Hall, Yvonne Malcolmson, Jeemie Smith, Claire Adams (on Teams)
Apologies	Jim Leask, Debbie Jamieson
In Attendance	Councillor Robbie McGregor (on Teams); Councillor Alison Flea Duncan Community Planning and Development Officer Ana Horne
Guests	Sandwich JHS Head Teacher Christy Ford Neville Martin Adrian Smith David Smith (from 7.50 pm)
Clerk	Joanne Jamieson
Agenda Item	Narrative
1. Circular and welcome	The Chair welcomed everyone.
2. Declarations of interest	No declarations initially. Councillor McGregor declared an interest and left the meeting after item 6 when a guest was invited to speak.
3.Minutes of previous meeting	Councillor Duncan ask for the previous minute to be amended for accuracy regarding the Police Inspector's correct job title. Approved by JS, seconded by YM
4.Defibrillator training	KS gave a brief update, and highlighted that update so far was good for the planned sessions. Further sessions will be considered depending on demand. Training may be provided to School staff at a future date.

5.Participatory budgeting

Clerk gave a brief update. There is a budget gap because grant monies sought by the clerk on behalf of the Community Council did not include a sum for VAT. Alternative funding has been sought but no decision has yet been made.

5.Kirtleside pavement

JS highlighted the poor state of the pavement due to various previous works. It was also recognised that the grass has not been cut back as offered by Roads Service. Councillor McGregor asked that the Clerk email him with details.

Action: Clerk to email RM with details of previous conversation with Roads Service regarding Kirtleside pavement.

Clerk shared information on the community consultation wishes for a French drain or other similar approach be considered from Sannick kirk to Houlland junction at the opposite side of the road to the Kirtleside houses. Sandwick Community Council considered this a good solution as it would not require pedestrians to have to cross the road. JS also highlighted the frequent flooding in front of Daisy Cottage and above Hillside due to insufficient drainage infrastructure.

6.Dog mess

The Head Teacher from Sandwick JHS (CF) brought along posters designed by primary pupils in the school to highlight the issue of dog mess and the pupils concerns about owners not picking up after their dogs. Community Council members agreed that all of the posters were excellent and that they should be shared on social media to highlight the issue.

Action: Clerk to scan and share posters daily.

KS reported that he had laminated notices which were shared with members for their information, and that he would affix them in areas where dog fouling was a problem.

Guest speaker

Guest David Smith joined the meeting, was welcomed and invited to speak.

DS explained that he was a builder and had an early stage proposal that he would like to discuss.

Councillor McGregor highlighted that he needed to declare an interest as it sounded like it could be a planning matter, and left the meeting.

DS summarised his previous work and how it had been beneficial for first time buyers, and that the economies of scale from building a density of houses were what made this possible. He explained that he proposed to build eleven houses on a site on the road into Swinister which currently had outline planning permission for two houses.

DS explained that he wanted to hear any concerns as he did not want to expend significant time and cost for a proposal to receive objections.

It was recognised that the Council / Hjaltland would be building additional social housing near the new houses at the Central / Houlland, and those would have a lower density, i.e. would be more spread out with larger gardens.

CF highlighted her struggle to find suitable housing in Shetland when she moved up, and the challenge to attract professionals and technical subject specialists, so felt that any more housing was a good thing.

AH highlighted that the Council has a new fund for community-led housing so that communities can buy or build housing and become community landlords. There is SIC and govt funding to support that initiative.

CC members asked the likely cost of the houses that DS proposed to build. DS suggested they could be in the region of £280,000.

Councillor McGregor was invited to rejoin the meeting.

7.Speeding

Councillor Duncan reported that he had discussed concerns with the Chief Inspector and raised concerns regarding speeding at the

school and elsewhere in Sandwick. YM reported that she had noted the police in Sandwick. Councillor Duncan reported that the Chief Inspector said the issues was in hand and ongoing.

Councillor Duncan also highlighted concerns about speeding in other areas, and that he had requested the police utilises the speed gun in Sandwick.

JS highlighted that traffic was very fast at Kirtleside and Houlland.

CF highlighted speeding traffic along the route to the school.

JS suggested priorities be given to the long list of requested improvements so that the important bits get done quickly. He highlighted speed limits and paths to the school as a priority.

8. Grant funding for bulbs

YM proposes to plan bulbs along the new cycle path, and possibly at the school round about.

KS highlighted the CC's appreciation for YM's excellent work.

CF suggested that there may be some teachers and pupils interested in supporting that work.

Recent improvements including painting of a hopscotch board on the pavement and other works, were noted and appreciation passed on to CF. CF highlighted a recent spruce-up day and the excellent work of the Parent Council.

9. Finance report Appendix A

Finance was discussed – an invoice was shared for grass cutting at the Central bus stop, and a grant underspend is to be repaid to the Council following the cheque not being able to be properly scanned by the bank.

10. Police report Appendix B

No police report received but it was noted that they tend to cover a two-month period so it may be a timing issue.

Councillor Duncan highlighted that Police numbers were down – they have a number of vacancies so that may also be a factor.

11. Planning applications

Planning – no applications received

12. Any other business

AOB 1 – JS highlighted that there are three lights in a row missing along the Central (East-Wast) road and one missing at the Central. The missing lights leave a large area with no lighting. It was noted that this is on the route which children are advised to use when coming from the football pitch, playground and youth club following concerns about a lack of streetlighting at the bottom of the Houlland Road.

AOB 2 – CF highlighted that the school is going to hold a Careers Fair on an afternoon in November at the Sandwich JHS to promote careers in the South Mainland. They are looking for local businesses and employers to come along.

Action: Clerk to share and promote on social media.

AOB3 – YM highlighted the lack of evening classes at the Sandwich JHS. AH directed people to speak with colleagues at Adult Learning and to check out their new website – www.learnShetland.com and their facebook page Shetland Community Hub.

AH also explained that they had struggled to recruit tutors so that had impacted on the range of courses on offer.

CF highlighted that there were Tripple P parenting courses also being run.

AOB4 – AH reported that an exposed fibre cable had been reported to the authorities and it was being addressed as a priority.

AOB5 – Sandwich CC vacancy.

Action: Draft a note for social media, encourage people to attend and to consider joining

The next meeting is on Tuesday 27th October at 7.30 pm in Hoswick Visitor Centre.

Future meeting dates are:

Tuesday 24th November

Tuesday 19th January 2027
Tuesday 23rd February 2027
Tuesday 23rd March 2027

There are no meetings in July or December

Grant fund availability

Shetland Community Benefit Fund's Community Grant Scheme for Sandwich **for year from Sept 2026 to Aug 2027 is £4,531.04**

Sandwich Community Council small grant scheme will be relaunched and publicised shortly.