

NORTHMAVEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chair: J Parry
The Hadd
North Roe
ZE2 9RY

Clerk: NCDG Services
Bruckland SCRAN
Ollaberry
ZE2 9RU

Telephone: 01806 544222
E-mail: northmavencc@gmail.com

Minute of Ordinary Meeting of the Northmaven Community Council on 7th September 2026 held in the Urafirth Primary School.

This minute is UNAPPROVED until adopted at the next meeting

Present:	Ex Officio Present:
CCllr J Parry	Cllr A Hall
CCllr G Anderson	Cllr E MacDonald
CCllr I Arthur	
CCllr E Robertson	In attendance:
CCllr R McGeady	Mr W Leask - OPEN
CCllr D Brown	Mrs C Anderson – Clerk
CCllr R Doull	

Apologies Submitted:
Ms L Hall – Community Development
Mr M Duncan – Community Development

The meeting started at: 19.31
CCllr J Parry in the Chair.

Agenda Item	Narrative
2. Declarations of Interest	CCllr J Parry any NCDG or SCBF business, CCllr R McGeady and NCDG business, CCllr D Brown any NCDG business.
3. Approval Of Previous Minute	Minutes from the 13 th July 2026 Approved by CCllr R McGeady, seconded by CCllr D Robertson Minutes from the 3 rd August 2026 Approved by CCllr G Anderson and seconded by CCllr I Arthur
4. Police Report	A police report for June/July 2026 There had been two cases of assault, 1 vandalism, 1 concern for a person, 1 Attempt to possess drugs and 1 firearm safety.
5. OPEN	CCllr J Parry welcomed Mr W Leask to the meeting. WL gave an overview of OPEN which began in 2011 as a peer education charity providing youth info based in Lerwick. They began offering a rolling programme of workshops in schools around a range of issues affecting young people in Shetland and started a volunteer mentoring programme that has been very successful. In 2023 they became an independent charity with a board of young people aged 16- 29 years old. Following the success of the board, OPEN are keen to get more young people into leadership roles. They are doing a project providing leadership training and working with adults to get processes in place to make groups more youth friendly and more fun. Mr M Duncan had worked with OPEN to make a guidance document for governance training and young people. JP agreed that community council lacked young people.

	CCLlr D Brown asked if young folk were looking to join groups. WL said it varied especially when the barrier is unknown. CCLlr R McGeady said he is the chair of NCDC who are trying to get a youth board set up but it's not worked for a variety of reasons and asked if OPEN could help. WL said that they couldn't help with recruiting young people but could certainly offer guidance around structure. CCLlr D Brown asked what age group are being targeted. WL said that OPEN is for anyone aged 12-25 and the board is up to 29. Their main focus is ages 16-25. CCLlr D Brown asked if OPEN has ever reached out to industry adding that it looks good on CVs if young people are involved in their community. WL said that he had thought to speak with SIC but not private companies but this is something he would be keen to progress. CCLlr J Parry said it would be really interesting to get young people involved in Community Council and Community Companies. WL agreed and said it would have benefits for young people and the groups too. He added that he has a poster template he can share. CCLlrs thanked WL for his time. Mr W Leask left the meeting at 19.53
6. Matters Arising	SSEN CCLlrs commented that a survey boat had been seen in Sullom Voe. Sullom Voe Masterplan No update Winter icy roads No update Active Travel Project – Hillswick No update Viking Bursary Fund CCLlr J Parry updated CCLlrs that the fund would reopen in June 2027. This year 117 people had received a bursary.
7. Community Councils Energy Convention - Saturday 22nd August	CCLlr J Parry had circulated his speech ahead of the meeting. He said that representatives for Reform and Conservative had attended as well as Hannah Mary Goodland MSP and Alistair Carmichael MP. He said that the ASCC wanted a Moratorium similar to the Highland Community Councils with a proper cumulative impact assessment and joined up planning for the various energy developments happening across Shetland. The draft presented at the convention was supported by Reform and Clerk said that she is working on the draft plan at the moment and it will be out for consultation around the middle of September. Conservative members but not supported by Ms Goodlad and Mr Carmichael didn't think it went far enough. He added that every Shetland Community Council supported the moratorium. CCLlr R McGeady said there would need to be a community council and interested groups challenge to the Government adding that as part of Environmental Impact Assessment rules you can't break up larger projects. CCLlr J Parry added that it didn't comply with the

	Islands Act either. CCllr R McGeady asked Cllr E MacDonald if SIC were looking to make sure due process was being followed. Cllr E MacDonald said that as a planning authority, SIC can't support the ASCC moratorium. CCllr R McGeady said that was not what he asked and repeated his question about due process. He added that there seemed to be a complete lack of leadership from SIC and SIC would need to be seeking legal advice. Cllr E MacDonald said that SIC had gotten legal advice from the planning department and that SSEN were following the due process. CCllr R McGeady asked if SIC have had any independent legal advice that the EIA is being followed. He also asked for assurance that Cllr E MacDonald would go back to legal team in Planning. Cllr E MacDonald assured CCllrs that she would speak with the Planning legal team. CCllr J Parry highlighted the need for a cumulative Environmental Impact Assessment for all the projects across Shetland rather than the piecemeal basis that is happening. Cllr E MacDonald said that SIC had asked SSEN to do this, but SSEN responded saying it is separate projects, so they do not need to do one. CCllr R McGeady said that SIC need to get legal advice because it is wrong what SSEN are doing. The CCllr present agreed with CCllr R McGeady. CCllr J Parry added that it is all very well for ASCC to work with MSP and MP but the community need leadership from the council. CCllr D Brown asked if NCC need to write a letter or will Cllr E MacDonald take concerns back to SIC. Cllr E MacDonald said she would take concerns back.
8. Community Resilience Plan	Clerk had circulated examples of other resilience plans ahead of the meeting. Ollaberry, Sullom and Eshaness areas still need contacts. Action: CCllrs to share contacts with clerk
9. Local Place Plan	Clerk said she was drafting the plan and it should be ready next week. CCllr R McGeady asked that it be circulated once ready. Clerk confirmed it would be as part of the statutory 28 day consultation period.
10. Budget	Clerk shared the current budget sheet and highlighted that the Environmental budget which was usually given to groups that had taken part in the Voar Redd Up couldn't be distributed this year due to groups not sharing their details through the SAT form. CCllrs suggested contacting usual groups to see if they had taken part this year.
11. Correspondence	2025-2026 Annual Report - Shetland Islands Citizens Advice Bureau CCllrs discussed the report and the help CAB offers Shetland residents. CCllrs asked for CAB to be invited to a future meeting. Action: Clerk to invite CAB Association of Shetland Community Councils - revised meeting date The next ASCC meeting has been moved to Monday 23rd November 6-8pm in the Town Hall. Could you help us reach crofters ahead of the 2027 elections?

	The Crofting Commission has a survey out at the moment ahead of the crofting commission elections in 2027. Action: Clerk to share on social media Shetland Communities - Energy Network A meeting was held on the 26th August. Clerk had asked for an update but hadn't received anything back yet. Shetland Cruise Impact Study CCLrs suggested forwarding to Tangwick Haa. Action: Clerk to forward The Electrical Safety Fund is now open for new applications Grants up to £10000 are available to deliver projects around electrical safety in the home. Help shape SSEN's ED3 Business Plan Online session on Monday 14th September seeking your views on our proposed commitments across four key areas: Investing for the Energy Transition, Resilient Networks, Responsible and Sustainable Business, Smarter Networks.
12. AOCB	CCLr I Arthur said that a community member had told him the snow fence above the Hillswick Junction is falling down. CCLr D Robertson added the passing place sign at Greenfield is missing. CCLrs also discussed the verges between the Hillswick Junction and Eela Water. CCLr D Brown said that Scottish Water are meant to repair after work is completed but should they be paying for remedial work during construction phase. CCLr I Arthur said it was in everyone's best interest to do now. CCLr D Brown asked if roads department claim back from Scottish Water. Action: Clerk to contact roads. CCLr J Parry asked if Cllr E MacDonald had any updates. Cllr E MacDonald said there is currently a Scottish Government programme looking at how local government and NHS are run and there would be a 3 month consultation period coming up soon. The clerk highlighted that NCC still had an empty seat. CCLrs said they would think about people that could be approached to be co-opted onto the community council.
13. Date and time of next meeting	Monday 5 th October 7.30pm in the Ollaberry Primary School

The meeting ended at: 20.30