

BRESSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minute of Bressay Community Council meeting:

Held on Tuesday 29th September 2026, in Bressay Hall.

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

Present:

Lindsay Tulloch
Margaret Macdonald
Graham March
Andrea Sanchez
Stephen Leask
Arwed Wenger
Gary Robinson

In Attendance:

Janice Jones (Clerk)

Agenda Items

1. Introduction and Apologies:

The Chair opened the Meeting at 19.15, welcomed members and visitors to the hall and verified the meeting was quorate.

Apologies were noted from:

Katrina Gifford
Stephen Anderson
Michael Duncan
Sonny Thompson
Andrew Inkster

The Chair informed members that sadly Ruth had decided to step down from the Community Council, he and members expressed their regret at Ruth stepping away and paid tribute to the work she has done. Not only did this leave a membership

vacancy but also a vacancy for a Vice-chair; he then invited nominations for a Vice-Chair. Andrea was nominated and seconded and duly appointed Vice Chair.

3. Declarations of interest:

Andrea for the upcoming planning application.

4. Minute review:

The minutes from the previous meeting of 25th August 2026 were reviewed and approved. Proposed by Graham and seconded by Lindsay.

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

The infrastructure report is quite comprehensive and extensive. Much has been addressed and some will be ongoing; reviewing will be deferred to the next meeting as addressing the Place Plan will take precedence at this meeting. **Action: Chair**

Margaret had a query from last month's infrastructure report where Andrew had stated the problem with ferry fare transactions not being processed timely was predominately on the Fivla and was resolved on the Leirna with the use of Starlink. She disagreed with this as the problem is still happening (as confirmed by a member of the crew). Gary could confirm this as when he had travelled names were being taken as the system was down. A new ticketing system has been approved by the SIC, this will take time to go through the purchasing system.

Action: Andrew to Clarify.

SCBF drawdown on next year's funding will be addressed under finance.

Investigate design and cost of a logo – the Chair will continue this on. **Action: Chair**

Local groups have been contacted to host a skip, so far, the Hall and Ella's Park have responded. A reminder will be issued to those who have not responded.

Action: Clerk

5. Member and Visitor Reports:

At the SIC it has been quite a busy month with many committee meetings, many don't impact directly to Bressay. There had been a report from the school's inspectorate and from development. The key area has been on Tunnels and the funding that is coming from the Scottish Government, £23million for preliminary investigations, probably Yell first with Bressay further on down the line. This was a permission for the previously granted capital funding to be converted to revenue for tunnel use. This had also come back with a condition that it was to be spent on investigations for Yell, Unst and Whalsay. It is estimated £20 million will need to be spent on Yell in the first instance, to the point it where the project can go to tender. There is still work to be done on exploring build financing. The Scottish affairs

committee has still to report, if that comes back positive that will be helpful. There is still a lot of interest in the Space Port, currently the launch vehicle can only just fit on the largest ferry and if they want to go bigger something will have to be looked at. The SpacePort and Saxavord will be big influencers. The consultants have also looked at how to get the best use out of the ferries during transition. We know we will have to replace the Bluemull sound ferry but if we get the Yell tunnel by 2034 then we know we don't have to replace that ferry. Doing two tunnels in tandem has been discounted to doing them in sequence. The Bressay ferry will need replacing during this time, ferry funding will still be divided by allocated route so therefore Bressay would keep its ferry funding. Ferry Do Max was just a paper exercise to demonstrate a tunnel equivalent service. Slightly misleading, as some people thought it was a viable offering. All three SIC members had been involved in the Joint Valuation Board, and a twinning meeting, developing the links with Maloy to be more Shetland wide.

In the media it has been shown that the procurement process for the new spare ferry had been halted, this was not due to any problem at Ferry Services but due to a dichotomy between the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) and Lloyds of London regarding criteria particularly in the specification to ensure crew could swap between ferries in a seamless manner.

The bid for the 2028 Town of culture is of interest given the proximity of Bressay to Lerwick - could Bressay play some part? This project is not driven by the Council but by Shetland Arts. One way we could be of benefit is next year the Cullinsbroch Stone will be in the Lerwick Museum and there is a corresponding revamp of our Heritage Centre.

6. Infrastructure

The detail in the Infrastructure Report will be deferred to the next meeting.

We have had correspondence regarding the state of the verges and ditches particularly in the road between Sissy's corner and the shop. This affects more roads than just Sissy's corner. This has been previously reported and passed on to the Roads Department and Neil Hutchison. It is already in the Infrastructure Report and it would be handy to invite the Executive Manager of Roads to the next meeting. It would be good to understand where growth is cut and not: the policy is where it affects visibility. She had also added in her email a query as to whether it would be possible to have more Dog Litter bins. The policy is now to use ANY litter bin for dog litter as it all goes to incineration. There is still a lack of picking up of dog mess. Members discussed where bins were available, and the possibility of adding a bin outside the former school. It was decided whilst asking for the replacement of the bins at the Broch Loch to add one outside the school.

Action: Clerk

7. Local Place Plan

When the Local Place Plan creation was originally instructed two or three years ago it was felt there was insufficient capacity within the Community Council in order to

progress it despite considering it was a positive thing for the community. Through consultation and discussion with previous staff at BDL; given the work they had done in relation to energy and the other social issues they had explored through consultation, we understood this would help in developing this plan. Ruth and Andrea took on to deliver the Place Plan with the support of BDL. The consultation period has commenced and some issues have been highlighted, for example not engaging with landowners in the development of the plan, and lack of communication on the purpose of the plan. It is not a blueprint for development but aspirations for and protection for the Island. Gary could confirm that a landowner would not have to give up land if they did not want to so do and this is often how development works identifying particular ideal areas. The amount of work for communities in producing a piece of work of this magnitude and complexity is significant; most feedback has been positive and constructive.

Andrea took members through the plan and a number of amendments were suggested, e.g. the why and purpose of the plan etc. as a bigger introduction, and also what it is not, as well as removing some specific maps developed by Energy Scotland, references to Noss which is managed by Nature Scott and the Lighthouse which is now in private ownership. Some other items will need to be added in. Andrea will apply for an extension on submission of the plan to allow for fine tuning, she will then share it with the members and island groups before final submission.

Action: Andrea

8. Correspondence: All correspondence has been shared. The meeting of the Shetland Partnership plan had been due to be attended by Ruth; it was difficult for members to fit this around working hours. Lindsay will try to fit this in if no-one else could be available as he will be there in another capacity.

9. Planning Applications: One planning application was on the system, this was for the base and routing of services for the community polycrub at Fullaburn. The community council are keen to see this supported.

10. Annual Report: Two of the organisations we had canvassed for feedback on the allocation of grants had replied, the Hall Committee and the Sports Club. These and any others will be incorporated into the report along with a graphic from SCBF.

Action: Clerk

11. Finance: Grant applications & Financial position: The Clerk had attended a Zoom meeting on SCBF funding and could confirm how we draw down future years funding if necessary. We have been allocated £6,700 plus a CPI adjustment for this year's allocation (£209) we have drawn down against that for the allocation to Bressay Development and Park Run so we have £5,700 for allocation this year. She could explain the bands for tier 1 and tier 2 and that draw down can occur for up to five years funding for a big project. There is also a fund about to open up - the Community Hall Grants - which can give halls up to £10,000. The Shetland wide funding no longer impacts on our local funding – this is allocated at director level.

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

The Heritage Group replica stone will be arriving in a couple of weeks. We still have the £10,000 available for the generator – it was agreed that the whole sum should be given to the Hall specifically to purchase and run the generator project. We were also noting that it would be time to be looking at supporting the Hall for their senior citizens Christmas party and we will remind the Hall to apply for this. There was some discussion if there could be anything we could provide for resilience for the population for winter.

13. Any other business:

We have pushed back on the Christmas Ferry runs but we have not had a reply and the runs don't fit in to workers.

14. Meeting Review: No comments

15. Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be on Tuesday 27th October 2026. There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 21.30.

Chairman:

Date

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

The remainder of this document does not form part of the public minute

Summary of new and outstanding actions

AP1: Arrange a physical review of Infrastructure report for consideration at the next meeting **Action: Chair**

AP2: Investigate how far Ruth has gone with design for a logo **Action: Chair**

AP3: Follow up on the non-responses to invitation to man a skip **Action: Clerk**

AP4: Explore changing type of bin at Broch and adding one opposite the school. **Action: Clerk**

DRAFT