

Scalloway Community Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday 19th October 2026 7pm

Location: Top Floor Kirk Business Centre, in person and via Teams

Clerk: Joanna Breeze

Chair: Lawson Bissett

1. Present

Lawson Bissett (Chair), Joanna Breeze (Clerk), Davie Sandison (Cllr), Kenny Pottinger (member), Zara Pennington (member), and Mark Burgess (Vice-Chair).

Also attending for Item 6: Sonja Inkster and Meg Laurenson, Scalloway Pool Action Group.

2. Apologies

Michael Duncan (SIC). Andrew Blackadder (member), Marie Williamson (member), Catherine Hughson (Cllr), Ian Scott (Cllr), and Moraig Lyall (Cllr).

3. Declaration of Interest

Mark Burgess declared interests in Scalloway Community Development Company (SCDC) and the Scalloway Youth Centre Committee. Davie Sandison and Joanna Breeze were also noted as having interests in SCDC.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Members requested that minutes be numbered to correspond with the agenda. A typographical error in the Waterfront Project section was also identified: “engineers finagling their design” should read “engineers finalising their design”. Subject to these amendments, the previous minutes were approved. Proposed by Zara Pennington and seconded by Mark Burgess.

5. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting (not otherwise on the agenda)

No notes supplied for this item.

6. Scalloway Pool Closure

Sonja Inkster and Meg Laurenson attended on behalf of the Scalloway Pool Action Group. Scalloway Community Council had received a letter from Shetland Recreational Trust. Lawson Bissett, Chair of Scalloway Community Council, will submit a response on behalf of the community council.

A meeting is arranged for 6 November 2026, chaired by Hannah Mary Goodlad, involving Shetland Charitable Trust, Shetland Recreational Trust and Shetland Islands Council. Tommy and Sonja will attend on behalf of the Action Group. Members discussed submitting

questions to the three organisations in advance so that considered answers could be provided at the meeting, particularly if time is limited.

Action: Lawson Bisset & Davie Sandison to draft a positive, supportive and encouraging letter in response to the SRT, ahead of the meeting scheduled for 6 November, fostering a constructive and collaborative approach to the discussions.

7. Scalloway Community Development Company (SCDC) Project Update

a) Caravan Park

The Caravan Park is closed until the end of December for maintenance work.

b) Community Transport

No further update from the previous meeting.

c) Active Travel

No further update from the previous meeting.

d) Waterfront

SCDC directors have been asked to comment on Stage 2 of the final report, which will shortly go out for public consultation.

e) District Heating

No further update from the previous meeting.

f) Business Hub

No further update from the previous meeting.

g) Heritage Project

The funding submission is expected to be made in the next few weeks.

h) Statkraft

No further information is available regarding community benefit. SCDC will seek further legal advice.

8. ASCC – External Meetings Update

Mark reported that he had added items to the agenda for the next ASCC meeting, scheduled for mid-November.

9. Roads Report

Nothing to report.

10. Police Report

Nothing to report.

11. Finance – Grant Applications to be Discussed

a) Community Benefit Fund

SCBF has confirmed that this year's allocation is £6,966.

b) Special Projects

Fisherman's Garden: A contractor has been appointed, with the work expected to be completed by the end of March 2027.

12. Correspondence

a) Take Some Breathing Space Bench Initiative

Correspondence was received from Nicola Balfour, Suicide Prevention Lead at NHS Shetland, concerning the Take Some Breathing Space bench initiative. Mark suggested a location on the seaward side of UHI Shetland in Scalloway, with sea views and a quieter position away from the entrance and windows. Members supported the initiative and the proposed location.

Action: Mark Burgess to Inform Nicola Balfour of the Community Council's support and suggested location.

b) Lord Lieutenant's Christmas Carol Service

Correspondence invited Community Councils to nominate people who had supported others in the community during the past year for a Christmas Carol Service in Lerwick on Saturday 5 December 2026. Nominations close on Wednesday 11 November 2026. Members agreed to nominate Tommy and Yvonne in recognition of their work for the Scalloway Pool Action Group.

Action: Joanna Breeze to submit the nominations by 11 November 2026.

13. Planning

Nothing to report.

14. Community Resilience Plan

No further updates from the previous meeting.

15. Financial Update from Clerk

Joanna reported that £5,380 remains available under the grant scheme. Scalloway Marina had contacted Mark to enquire about available funding; Mark will follow this up. The Youth Centre may also seek funding for a project within the centre.

Action: Mark to follow up with Scalloway Marina.

16. Christmas Vouchers and Cards

Mark Burgess reported that the Christmas cards had been ordered. Members agreed that Christmas vouchers and cards should be distributed to eligible members of the Scalloway community as in previous years. Local businesses will be approached for contributions.

Action: Joanna Breeze to contact local businesses to request donations.

17. Any Other Competent Business (AOCB)

a) Passing of Arnold Duncan

Members noted with sadness the recent passing of Arnold Duncan, former Chair of Scalloway Community Council, and acknowledged his many years of hard work and service to the Council and wider community.

b) Remembrance Sunday

Davie Sandison confirmed he would be happy to lay a wreath on behalf of the Community Council at the Shetland Bus Memorial and at Tingwall, should that ceremony go ahead.

c) Local Place Plan

Mark Burgess reported that the Local Place Plan was complete and would be circulated to members. Comments and feedback are requested by Monday 26 October 2026, ahead of the final submission deadline of Saturday 31 October 2026. The Chair and members thanked Mark for the substantial time and effort involved. Lawson Bissett proposed the Place Plan and Kenny Pottinger seconded it.

Actions: Mark to circulate the plan; members to provide feedback by 26 October; final submission deadline 31 October.

18. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 16 November 2026 at 7.00 pm, Top Floor, Kirk Business Centre, with attendance in person or via Microsoft Teams. Vice-Chair Mark Burgess will chair in the absence of Chair Lawson Bissett, who will be on holiday.