YELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minutes

Monday 26 October 2026, 7.00pm

Mid Yell School

10/26/01 Attendees / Visitors

Community Councillors Present:

- Ms F Stirling (Chair), Ms J Eunson, Mrs Y Burns, Mr L Odie, Mr C Tait, Mr K MacCormack, Mr L Madden, and Mrs A Jamieson (via Teams)

In Attendance:

- Mrs Johnina Henderson (Clerk) and Cllr Duncan Anderson (Elected representative) (via Teams).

10/26/02 Apologies

- Mr R Jamieson, Miss M Johnson, Cllr Robert Thomson (Elected representative), Mr Michael Duncan (Community Councillor Liaison Officer), Ms Frances Browne (North Isles Community Involvement and Development Worker), and PC Scott Raeside (Police Scotland - North Isles).

10/26/03 Declarations of Interest

- Mr K MacCormack, Ms J Eunson and Mrs Y Burns declared an interest in Isleshavn.
- Mr C Tait declared an interest in Ferries.
- Ms F Stirling declared an interest in MYDC.

10/26/04 Minutes

The minutes were approved by Mr L Odie and Ms J Eunson. Clerk to send approved minutes to M Duncan.

10/26/05 Matters Arising

- Mid Yell Pier - it was noted that the erosion work has now been completed.
- Abandoned vehicle - the vehicle from above Hollygarth has been removed.
- Gutcher Post box - Clerk has contacted Royal Mail regarding the poor condition of the post box but no reply to date.
- Annual Reports and Accounts have been sent to M Duncan, the annual accounts were reviewed and found to be in good order, with no queries or concerns raised. The first annual report from Yell Community Council was also commended for being well presented and of a high standard, with no queries arising from its content.

10/26/06 Outstanding Business

6.1 Transport

- **Ferries**
  Ferries Update: Members noted concerns regarding the inability to cancel late ferry bookings after the booking office closes at 6.00pm. SIC Ferries had advise that an out-of-hours contact number is available on the timetable.
- **Additional Sailings:** A request for additional Friday and Saturday night sailings (22.30 from Ulsta and 23.00 from Toft) was requested of SIC Ferries. Feedback from ferry crew is being awaited, but it is hoped the proposal can be implemented without difficulty.
- **Ulsta Ferry Terminal Fencing:** Concerns were raised regarding sheep entering the car park through broken fence areas, causing fouling on pavements and marshalling areas. SIC Ferries advised that investigations by Engineering and Roads staff have identified a section of fencing behind the Booking Office requiring repair. A local contractor will undertake repairs shortly and assess the remaining fencing to identify any further maintenance required.
- **Roads**
  New Cullivoe Road – Gutcher to Cullivoe Improvement - B9082
- An update has been received from Jonathan Duncan, SIC Roads, Clerk will put a post on Facebook with photos and text received.

  Road Issues in Yell

- There are no updates on the other Road issues raised, Clerk to follow up.

- **Fixed Links**
- Following our last meeting, we are pleased to note that the SIC approved a route map with Yell as the first option for a proposed fixed link.

6.3 Renewable Energy Developments

- **CLG Statkraft Meeting**

  Mrs A Jamieson and Ms F Stirling attended the in-person meeting on 13th September and gave an update to the meeting. There is little additional information to report.

- **Community Benefit Workshops Report**
  Ms F Stirling gave an update following the workshops. A report summarising the discussions, feedback and outcomes from the sessions is expected to be published shortly. Members noted the update and looked forward to reviewing the report once available.
- **SSEN Transmission Feedback Update**
  Members noted an update on the ongoing assessment of the Arisdale Burn site. Following commitments made at the recent Burravoe public meeting, the site is currently being evaluated through the project site selection process. A multi-disciplinary site visit was undertaken earlier this month, and assessment work remains ongoing. It is intended that findings will be presented at a future public meeting in Burravoe once the evaluation is complete.

  Members also noted that the survey vessel Northern Maria is currently operating in Yell Sound undertaking environmental and geotechnical survey work as part of the project.

6.4 Local Place Plans

Local Place Plan for Yell

- Mr L Odie provided an update on progress with the Local Place Plan. Ms F Browne and the Clerk have been assisting with preparation of the draft document. Following discussions with David Wood (PAS Planning and Policy Manager) and Peter Mogridge (SIC Planning Officer, Development & Heritage), an extension to the timetable has been agreed. It is hoped that the draft Local Place Plan will be published shortly. Draft LPP’s from other areas have been published.

6.5 Housing Needs Assessment for Yell

- Members noted that a draft housing needs survey had been received from Luke Fraser. It was agreed to invite him to attend the next meeting to discuss the questions in the survey and answer any questions from members.

6.6 Power Cut Updates

- The Clerk reported that a letter has been sent to the local SSEN team regarding ongoing concerns about power cuts in Yell. To date, no response has been received. Members noted the lack of feedback and agreed that the matter should continue to be pursued with SSEN to seek information on the causes of outages and any measures being taken to improve the reliability of the electricity supply.

6.7 Isleshavn Update

- Members considered the update received regarding Isleshavn and noted that recruitment is ongoing, with a small number of applicants having been invited for interview following recent advertisements for a senior post and care assistants. It was also confirmed that further recruitment will continue, that agency staff remain in place, and that refurbishment work is progressing.
- Members noted that approximately 99 staff hours per week still require to be filled before residential services can safely reopen. Communication with existing staff is ongoing, with a meeting scheduled for November, and there remains a commitment to providing 24-hour care within Yell.
- Following discussion, members agreed that the information provided did not fully address their questions and requested further detail and clarification on the responses received.

6.8 Future of Burravoe School

- Mr L Odie and Mrs A Jamieson reported on their attendance at the drop-in session held on 28 September regarding the future of Burravoe School. The session was well attended, providing an opportunity for community members to discuss the proposals, ask questions, and share their views. Members noted the strong level of local interest and engagement with the consultation process.

6.9 Ulsta Carpark

- Discussed under Ferries, SIC are carrying out repairs to the broken fencing.

6.10 Meeting Dates for 2027

- Members discussed and agreed on the schedule of Community Council meeting dates for 2027. It was agreed that the Clerk would forward the approved dates to M Duncan and make the necessary arrangements to book Mid Yell School as the meeting venue for the year.

6.11 Community Resilience Planning

- Members noted that Community Councils have been asked to identify a lead body for resilience planning by 31 October, with Yell Community Council proposed as the lead organisation. It was recognised that while a Yell Resilience Plan already exists, further development and consultation with local organisations, development groups and other stakeholders will be required to produce the comprehensive island-wide plan being sought. Members also noted that related government initiatives are ongoing. Mrs A Jamieson will follow up with M Duncan regarding arrangements for progressing this work.

10/26/07 New Business

7.1 Heritage Signs

- Information regarding proposed heritage signs for Yell was circulated to members for consideration. Following discussion, the information was noted.

7.2 RVS Transport for Yell

- Mrs A Jamieson outlined the RVS Transport for Yell scheme following concerns raised through the Yell Health Centre Support Group regarding transport for health centre and hospital appointments. Members noted that the service also assists residents with other essential journeys, including shopping and hairdressing appointments. The benefits of similar community initiatives, including the Islesburgh Lunch Club, were also discussed. It was agreed that the matter would be considered further at the next meeting.

7.3 VCF 26/27 CPI Allocation

- Members noted that, following publication of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), the Community Grant Scheme allocation had been increased by £209. The total

allocation for 2026/27 is now £6,966. YCC has a total of £16,046 to award from the fund.

7.4 ASCC Update

- Members noted that Shayne McLeod had resigned as Chair of the Association of Shetland Community Councils and a new chair will be appointed on 23rd November.

7.5 ASCC Meeting – 23 November

- The next ASCC meeting will be held on 23rd November. Members discussed the papers for the forthcoming ASCC meeting in detail. Mrs A Jamieson and Mr K MacCormack confirmed they would attend remotely and Mrs A Jamieson will present Yell Community Council's views on the agenda items, including Local Government Reform, the Shetland Community Benefit Fund, Large Trusts Freedom of Information requirements, and the Retrospective Islands Impact Assessment for NPF4. The Clerk will confirm attendance with ASCC.

7.6 IITC: Strategic Environmental Assessment Public Consultation

- Members noted that the Chair and Vice Chair will complete a response on behalf of Yell Community Council to the consultation on the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the emerging Shetland Inter-Island Transport Connectivity Programme (IITCP). It was noted that the six-week consultation seeks views on the Environmental Report, which assesses the potential environmental impacts of transport options under consideration and identifies measures to avoid or reduce adverse effects while supporting wider community benefits.

7.7 Yell Sound Marine Survey Update

- Members noted that marine survey work in Yell Sound has commenced to help inform the routing of the proposed subsea cable between Yell and the Shetland mainland. It was reported that all necessary permissions are in place and engagement has taken place with relevant marine stakeholders, including the Shetland Fishermen’s Association and SIC Ports and Ferries. Previous survey work undertaken before the summer was not completed in full, and the remaining work will now be carried out. Members also noted that proposals for a marine link have been under discussion since 2020, with the most recent stakeholder engagement events having taken place in July 2026.

7.8 Report on Scottish Government Transport Committee Evidence Session

- Members noted a report from Paul James, Skerries Community Council, who attended the recent Scottish Government Transport Committee evidence session on behalf of the Association of Shetland Community Councils. Members welcomed the update and thanked Paul James for representing Shetland community councils at the national level.

7.9 Viking Community Fund Annual Report

- Members noted the 2025/26 Viking Community Fund Annual Report, which highlights the fund's achievements during the year, details funding awards made, and outlines the positive impact delivered across communities throughout Shetland.

7.10 Letter to Community Councils – Christmas Concert

- Members noted receipt of a letter from HM Lord Lieutenant of Shetland inviting Community Councils to nominate 4 individuals who have made a positive contribution to their communities during the past year. Successful nominees will be invited to attend a Carol Concert in Lerwick on 5 December 2026. Members agreed to consider potential nominees, and the Clerk was asked to also seek suggestions from the community via a Facebook post.

10/26/08 Correspondence Received

Correspondence received 21st September - 26th October 2026

1.VAS Volunteering Awards 2026
2. SIF Annual Meeting & Community Gathering
3.Scottish Islands Federation - September 2026 News
4.Making Waves / Scotland's Marine Futures - General Update
5.SEPA: Prepare and Be Aware Flood Resilience Campaign
6. Viking Community Fund - Community Halls
7."Take Some Breathing Space" bench initiative
8.SSEN is now at Yellow Alert in northern Scotland ahead of Storm Boelo

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10/26/09 NI Councillors' Updates

- Cllr Duncan Anderson advised that elected members will shortly be meeting to discuss the Scottish government's draft proposals re local government reorganisation. Members noted that no meeting papers or further information have yet been issued on the proposals, and the situation will be monitored for future updates. It will be interesting to note the role of CCs as part of this reorganisation.

10/26/10 Community Involvement Update

- Ms F Browne has advised that the winter pop-in sessions will be commencing shortly. Members noted the update and welcomed the continuation of opportunities for community engagement during the winter months.

10/26/11 Local Police Update

Community Police Report (August/September 2026)

The Community Police Report for Yell was noted. Members were advised that four incidents had been recorded during the reporting period, comprising one road traffic collision resulting in minor or no injury, one fraud-related incident, one concern for a person incident, and one wildlife matter.

10/26/12 Finance / Grants

Mileage Claims

Members were reminded to submit any outstanding mileage claims in advance of the next meeting.

MYDC Vouching

- Ms F Stirling left the meeting whilst this item was discussed. Members noted that MYDC had provided the figures for the detailed design stage of the project. It was

proposed by Mr L Odie and seconded by Mrs Y Burns that Yell Community Council agree to accept the £500 pier purchase fee as part of the project costs, enabling MYDC to vouch for the full project amount. The motion was approved.

Invoice for CB workshops

Members noted that an invoice had been received from Burravoe Hall for hall hire associated with the Community Benefit Workshop. The Clerk was authorised to arrange payment.

10/26/13 Planning Applications

Planning Ref: 2026/195/PPP

Proposal: To erect dwellinghouse; parking for 2 vehicles and turning; install associated drainage (Planning Permission in Principle)

Address: Site, Vatster, Yell, Shetland ZE2 9BU

Members considered the planning permission in principle application and agreed that, due to the limited detail currently available regarding the proposed development, Yell Community Council could only offer ‘support in principle’ at this stage. Members noted that a more informed view could be taken should further details become available as the application progresses.

10/26/14 Any Other Business

Local Government Reform Consultation:

Members noted that the Scottish Government is holding two online engagement events for Community Councillors as part of the national conversation on the future of local governance in Scotland. Community Councillors are encouraged to participate and provide feedback directly to Scottish Government officials. Details of the events and registration arrangements were noted. Check that these sessions were open to all CC’s or just Chairs)

Date of Next Meeting

The meeting ended at 8.55pm.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 24th November at 7pm in Mid Yell School. Visitors to be confirmed.

Action List – Yell Community Council Meeting, 26 October 2026

Ref	Action	Responsible
26/10/01	Send approved September minutes to M Duncan.	Clerk
26/10/02	Publish update on the New Cullivoe Road, including photos and information received from SIC Roads, on Facebook.	Clerk
26/10/03	Follow up with SIC Roads regarding outstanding road issues previously raised.	Clerk
26/10/04	Invite Luke Fraser to attend the next meeting to discuss the draft Housing Needs Survey and answer members' questions.	Clerk
26/10/05	Continue pursuing a response from SSEN regarding concerns over power outages in Yell.	Clerk

26/10/06	Forward agreed 2027 meeting dates to M Duncan and arrange bookings for Mid Yell School.	Clerk
26/10/07	Follow up with M Duncan regarding arrangements for Community Resilience Planning.	Mrs A Jamieson
26/10/08	Consider the RVS Transport for Yell proposal further at the next meeting.	Members
26/10/09	Attend the ASCC meeting and present YCC views on agenda items.	Mrs A Jamieson & Mr K MacCormack
26/10/10	Confirm YCC attendance at the ASCC meeting.	Clerk
26/10/11	Prepare a draft YCC response to the IITCP Strategic Environmental Assessment consultation and circulate for comment.	Chair & Vice Chair
26/10/12	Seek community suggestions for nominations to the Lord Lieutenant's Christmas Concert via Facebook.	Clerk
26/10/13	Submit any outstanding mileage claims.	Members

26/10/14	Arrange payment of Burravoe Hall invoice for Community Benefit Workshop Hall hire.	Clerk

Items to Monitor

- Publication of the Community Benefit Workshops Report.
- Arisdale Burn site assessment and future Burravoe public meeting.
- Publication of the draft Yell Local Place Plan.
- Isleshavn recruitment progress and further information requested by members.
- Additional Friday/Saturday late ferry sailings proposal.
- Repairs to fencing at Ulsta Ferry Terminal.