

MONDAY 4 MARCH 2019

At a meeting of LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in the Town Hall, Lerwick, at 7.00pm

Members

Mr D Ristori

Ms K Fraser

Mr E Knight

Mr A Irvine

Mr S Hall

Mrs A Simpson

Mrs M Hall

Mr A Carter

Mr A Johnston

Mrs J Williamson

Mr A Carter

Mr J Fraser

Ex-Officio Councillors

Cllr A Hawick

Cllr B Wishart

Cllr S Leask

In Attendance

PC G Owen, Police Scotland

PC I Eunson, Police Scotland

Mr A Malik, Candidate for LCC

Mr M Hall, Candidate for LCC

Ms K Scott, Candidate for LCC

Ms F Valente, Clerk

Chairman

Mr J Anderson

03/19/01

Circular

Mr Anderson welcomed everyone to the meeting and as there were some new potential members present and a new Shetland Times journalist that brief introductions should be made.

03/19/02

Declarations of Interest

Cllr Bell declared an interest in the Planning items, as member of the Planning Committee. Cllr Hawick declared an interest in the grant application made on behalf of Islesburgh Youth Club

03/19/03

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr P Campbell, Cllr C Smith, Mr A Wenger, and from Living Lerwick.

03/19/04

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting were approved by Mrs Williamson and seconded by Mr Ristori.

03/19/05

Business Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

03/19/06 **Police Scotland Monthly Report**

PC George Owen said that the February report was not ready yet and so he suggested that this would be a good opportunity for Members to raise any concerns they had. Mr Hay asked how the enforcement of parking in Commercial St was going. PC Ishbel Eunson replied that the Police were still active in the area when resources permitted and that some £30 fixed penalty tickets had been given to motorists who had not parked legally. The Chief Inspector was very aware of what an important issue this was for the community and issued frequent reminders to his colleagues to look out for anti-social parking and driving.

03/19/07 **Finance – Core Funding Report as at 26 February 2019**

There were no comments on the core funding report. Mrs Williamson reported on the training for Community Councillors on Finance which had been very useful. The Chairman agreed that it had been worthwhile hearing how Kerry Geddes, the Clerk for Gulberwick & Quarff had managed to obtain a £30,000 grant for a combined project with two other Community Councils .

Mr Fraser asked what progress had been made on closing the office at Stouts Court. The Chairman replied that this was an ongoing situation that would only be resolved when alternative storage could be found for old files and the stock of Town Hall Guides. Alternatively it might be possible to see if any other community group could make use of the office on a shared basis.

03/19/08 **Community Council Elections – Meet the Candidates**

The Chairman introduced the three prospective candidates for Lerwick Community Council and asked them to say a few words about themselves.

Atif Malik works for SIC, in the social work department, and has lived in Shetland since 2009 and is married with three young children. He said he had seen a lot of changes over the last decade and he is concerned about finding ways to encourage people to move to Shetland. He took the opportunity to stand for election as he is keen to be a part of the community.

Malcolm Hall said he lived in Shetland as a child although he was originally from South Shields. He had wanted to return to Shetland for many years and now that he was here he was back in touch with many old friends and was establishing himself as part of the community and feels that he could represent the views of many.

Karrol Scott has lived in Shetland since 1995 and has worked in hospitality and in social care for many years. She volunteers for the Folk Festival and is an active member of the community and feels she has a good appreciation of what goes on. She is particularly interested in protecting the interests of vulnerable members of society. She loves living in Shetland and wants to give something back to the community where she has made her home.

Cllr Bell said that it was great to have so much interest in the vacancy and he suggested that all the applicants should write to the Shetland Times as one way of communicating to the voters. The candidates had provided information and photographs for the LCC Facebook page.

Mr Malik said that other councils had allowed candidates to provide information about themselves that was distributed to voters along with the ballot papers and that it was a shame that SIC had not done this too. The Chairman agreed that SIC had missed a trick and that he would pass these comments on to Michael Duncan at SIC for the future.

03/19/09

Grant Applications:

Islesburgh Youth Club requested £1500 in order to provide a Saturday youth club at Islesburgh, with the hope of targeting children who have few opportunities to take part in activities. Cllr Hawick, who volunteers with the Youth Club said there were an average of 65 children using the clubs per night but the potential was a lot higher. They put on a variety of activities and special events for children over the year.

Mr Fraser said the youth club was a safe, central, well run organisation and approved the grant. It was seconded by Mr Knight.

Shetland Gymnastics Club had applied for £374 in order to help finance a young Lerwick gymnast to take part in events outside of Shetland. The young gymnast was still in primary school and therefore required a parent to accompany them which added to the cost. Mrs Simpson moved to grant the request and this was seconded by Mr Ristori.

Shetland Rape Crisis had asked for £1000 in order to purchase equipment that would be used to support training events. Mr Fraser asked why, as a third sector organisation, they couldn't use the facilities at Market House or Islesburgh. Ms Fraser suggested that as there was general support for helping the organisation but a lack of clarity about the need for the equipment it was suggested that members of the organisation could be invited to the next meeting to answer questions about the grant application and to speak about the work they carry out.

Hillswick Wildlife Sanctuary had asked for £100 as a contribution to a touring Marine Wildlife Roadshow that would be coming to Shetland in May. Mrs Simpson moved to support the request. Mr Carter seconded it.

03/19/10

Consultation from Historic Scotland

The wreck of the Queen of Sweden lies off the coast of Lerwick and a consultation on its protection was sought by Historic Scotland. Members considered that the wreck should already have protection under SIC's seabed lease, however, there were no objections to the proposals.

03/19/11

Revocation of Disabled Parking Space

There was no objection to the revocation of the disabled parking space at Baila that was no longer required.

03/19/12

Scottish Government Consultation on Fireworks

The Scottish Government was consulting widely on the sale and use of fireworks. Members were asked to respond directly to the questionnaire if they had any thoughts on this, or to send comments to the Clerk who would respond on behalf of the Community Council. The general opinion was that there should be a move towards more organised displays rather than private individuals using fireworks. Private displays were more likely to create distress to animals as there was often less warning to pet owners that a display was going to take place.

03/19/13 **Knab Dyke – Condition of Wall**

The Chairman shared some recent photos of the wall around the top of the banks, below Lerwick New Cemetery which showed that the wall was bagging out and could become unsafe without some maintenance work. The clerk was asked to write to SIC to report this.

03/19/14 **North Ness – car parking around the White House**

Now that the White House is being reoccupied it has been reported that the car park for the Council offices did not appear to meet the needs of staff as there appeared to be frequent parking in car parks belonging to other companies, and on the roads around the area. The question about whether the car parking spaces met the intended original plans for the White House was asked. Cllr Bell said that there was no illegal parking going on and that the staff were still in the process of moving back and there was no more people working there than before the evacuation.

03/19/15 **Planning Applications:**

2018/186/PPF Mossy Hill Wind Farm had been returned for further consultation on amendments to the size of turbines. There were no comments.

2019/024/PPF Wind Turbine at North Hoo Fields. The application was for a single turbine for North Hoo Fields. There were not comments or objections.

2018/368/PPF Ladies Drive was for a change of use of land to provide for a testing area for vehicle and motorcycle driving tests.

03/19/16 **A.O.B.**

- a. Mrs Simpson said that path from the Health Centre to the Sletts Path was in need of a handrail to aid safety. It was also noted that the work around this area had not been completed and there were cables that needed to be covered over. The Clerk was asked to report this.
- b. Cllr Leask said that SIC would shortly be consulting on street lighting in the town and it was suggested that someone from the street lighting team should be invited to the Community Council to talk about the prospective changes to street lighting.
- c. Mrs Hall said that the Voar Redd Up was on the horizon and that the normal area that LCC helps to clean up is not looking too bad, but the Holmsgarth Road, around the Shetland Hotel and Bolts was in need of street cleaning. The clerk was asked to inform the Voar Redd Up organizers that LCC would like to revise the area for this year.
- d. Mr Fraser said he was concerned about the lack of announcement on Radio Shetland about the Community Council meeting. The Clerk was asked to inform “What’s On” to ensure the event is announced.
- e. Mr Fraser asked to chase a response from the Post Office regarding the request to relocate one of the post boxes in South Lerwick.
- f. Mr Carter reported that the winter storms had really made a mess of the sea defences along the Sletts behind Lerwick Hotel. The old flat pier was an area where people had parked in the past but this was no longer possible. The Clerk was asked to report this to the coastal protection team at SIC.

There being no further competent business the meeting concluded at 8.20 pm.

Minute ends.

CHAIRMAN
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chairman.....

Date.....