

Unst Community Council

Chair

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Clerk

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**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 6th December 2021
at 6.30 pm in the Music Huts, Baltasound School and by WebEx Phone Conferencing**

Present:

Patrick Fordyce, Chair
Claire Priest, Vice Chair
David Cooper
Caroline Hunter
John Peterson
Janice Priest
Alec Priest, North Isles Councillor (ex-officio)

Attending:

Josie McMillan, Clerk

01/12/21 Apologies

Hazel Spence
Julie Thomson
Duncan Anderson, North Isles Councillor (ex-officio)
Ryan Thomson, North Isles Councillor (ex-officio) sent apologies after being unable to connect via WebEx link.
Frances Browne, Community Involvement and Development Officer
Michael Duncan, Community Council Liaison Officer
Gordon Thomson, Unst Partnership

Patrick welcomed everyone to the first face to face meeting for over a year and a half.

02/12/21 Declaration of Interest

Janice declared an interest in agenda item 05/12/21 SaxaVord Space Port (SVSP). Claire declared an interest in agenda items 10/12/21 Application for Donations – Unst Youth Centre and 1st Unst Brownies. Caroline declared an interest in agenda item 10/12/21 Application for Donations – Unst Football.

03/12/21 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes from the meeting held on Monday 25th October 2021 were proposed by Janice and seconded by David.

04/12/21 Matters Arising from last minutes**13/10/21.4 Christmas Light Up**

Each of the halls are organising lighting their outdoor Christmas trees as they did last year.

05/12/21 SaxaVord Space Port (SVSP)

The Community Council received the revised planning application for the Space Centre on 30th November 2021. SIC Planning state that “the revised proposals the applicant has submitted are primarily aimed at addressing the outstanding objection that Historic Environment Scotland has lodged. They include a revised site layout which changes the position of some of the support infrastructure on site, as is detailed in the submission, and amendments to elements of the submitted Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), where required. These revisions are submitted the applicant says to safeguard a number of historical assets associated with RAF Skaw.” There was a discussion about when this would come before the Planning Committee again. Alec said that the consultation period is 31 days. The SIC has agreed that they will have a special Planning meeting, if it misses the scheduled one. Then it has to go to the Scottish Government for approval. Patrick had met with Frank Strang on the 24th November 2021. SVSP are confident they will reach an agreement with Historic Environment Scotland (HES). Patrick was told that parts of the road at Skaw are private. Businesses are on standby for when the work will start, with D.I.T.T. already advertising jobs in Unst. Patrick will write a response to the planning application, along the lines of see response to original application. There was a discussion about what long term employment is going to be created. Alec said that there will be a lot of secondary support jobs. The numbers quoted in the media vary a lot. Patrick will ask Frank Strang about this.

06/12/21 Shetland Community Benefit Fund (SCBF)

David said that there is a SCBF meeting on Wednesday night. SCBF will be discussing the proposed Community Benefit coming from offshore windfarms. The proposed windfarm north of Unst has a footprint the size of Glasgow. These developments will look at reducing the percentage of funds that go into Community Benefit funds. David said that SCBF take each application on a case-by-case basis. The three Unst groups that applied for funding in October are still waiting for their funds to come through. David said that funding is usually sent promptly. The Clerk will follow this up.

07/12/21 Unst Partnership (UP) Update.

Gordon emailed in his report.

1) The Partnership shop has opened for a Christmas Shopping Night on 25th November and has been forming part of the Christmas Trail on the 20th November, 4th and 11th December as part of its normal opening hours. 2) The “UP2U” participatory budget event was under-subscribed, with only four groups applying for a share of the £3000. Directors therefore decided that an evening event was not necessary and just decided to give each group the £500 they requested. (The applicants were Unst Brownies, Unst Football Association, Haroldswick Hall and Ability Shetland’s Inter-generational club.) If any other community groups have a project in mind for the New Year, they should contact the Partnership. If the money is not spent, it will go into the pot for the next “UP2U” event. 3) UP are expecting the Recycling Centre Feasibility Study from Malcolmson Architects to be completed by the second week of December. Once this has been read and circulated within the community, they have been offered the services of a consultant, funded by HIE, to look at the project and determine what the key points of a Business Plan will be. The main aspects to look at will be Planning and Building costs, along with the Running costs when the building is completed. The building will need to cover its costs and be sustainable in terms of energy costs, staff costs, equipment, materials etc. There is no point in proceeding if the building is not going to be able to cover its costs in the long run. Such a study could also have an impact on the type of building. For example, if it is going to be too expensive to run, it may have to be scaled down. Assuming that the project is viable, the next stage is to seek funding for a detailed Plan and design of the building that can go out to tender. It is estimated this design could cost £50k-£100K and funding would need to be sought from various sources such as the

Coastal Communities Fund and other funding bodies at HIE or SIC Economic Development. The same bodies and others will then be approached about full construction costs, likely to be in the region of £500k-£1m. 4) The next Community Skip Day is not until 26th February.

08/12/21 Community Involvement Update

Frances attended the meeting for a short time, but had to leave because she was poorly.

09/12/21 Applications for Planning

Planning Ref:	2021/225/PPF
Proposal:	Retrospective change of use application on the former Westside Shop petrol station site to a Class 3 Food and Drink café, with decking and seating area
Address:	Adjacent Pier House, Uyeasound, Unst, Shetland ZE2 9DW
Applicant:	Mr Fabien Kuntz
Date of Consultation	2 November 2021

There were no objections to this application. The Community Council is glad to support this application for the Food and Drink café.

Application 2021/207/PPF - Change of use to shop (Ground floor) showcasing art and fine crafts for sale at Hamars, Haroldswick

Members discussed this application again. There are still concerns about parking, but it was agreed that the Community Council is happy for the SIC to apply their usual standards on parking criteria in the planning application process.

Planning Ref:	2021/005/PPF
Proposal:	Vertical launch space port including launch pad complex, satellite tracking station, assembly and integration hangar buildings, with associated security fencing, access, servicing and infrastructure
Address:	Land at Lamba Ness, Unst, Shetland
Applicant:	Shetland Space Centre Limited
Date of Consultation	30 November 2021

This was covered in agenda item 05/12/21 SaxaVord Space Port (SVSP). Patrick will compose a response to the planning application, along the lines of the response that was submitted to the original application

10/12/21 Application for Donations

10/12/21.1 Unst Youth Centre

It was agreed to give £750 towards the costs of purchasing stackable, cleanable chairs for the Centre.

10/12/21.2 1st Unst Brownies

It was agreed to give a donation of £500 towards the costs of annual subscriptions, a planned sleepover and excursion to Lerwick.

10/12/21.3 Unst Working Mens Society (Baltasound Hall)

It was agreed to give donation of £370 towards the costs of preparing “Goodie Bags” to deliver to the households of over 60s in Unst. This is being done instead of the Christmas Meal which was held in previous years.

10/12/21.4 Unst Football Club

It was decided to ask for further information about this, so that members could decide on the level of funding they would award.

11/12/21 Correspondence

11/12/21.1 Tourism/Visitors meeting update

This meeting has been rescheduled to the beginning of the year. Various reasons, including illness, has meant earlier meeting dates had to be changed. Once a suitable date has been agreed this will be circulated. The meeting will be in the Uyeasound Hall. Steve Mathieson, Visit Scotland; David Nicol, Promote Shetland and Tommy Coutts, SIC all intend to be at the meeting.

11/12/21.2 Haroldswick Public Car Park - Fred Schlomka

Fred Schlomka contacted the Community Council with plans for a car park at the back of Hamarsgarth and the Boat Haven, Haroldswick. There was a discussion as to who the parks belonged to. It was thought that it belonged to Shetland Amenity Trust, although this was not definite. There was a question asking if there is a need for more parking in Haroldswick.

11/12/21.3 Road Markings in Yell

A member of the community had asked that this was put on the agenda. There was a discussion about this, especially the newly tarred stretch of road not far from the Ulsta ferry terminal. Driving on this stretch in the dark and wet, it is very difficult to see the edges of the road. It was agreed to write to Neil Hutcheson about these concerns.

11/12/21.4 The Queens Platinum Jubilee Beacons – 2nd June 2022

It was agreed to put this on the agenda for the January meeting.

11/12/21.5 Community Council Meeting Dates for 2022

Meeting dates for 2022 have been set for January 10th, February 21st, March 28th, May 9th, June 20th, August 1st, September 12th, October 24th and December 5th.

11/12/21.6 Clerks Meeting - 6th November 2021

The Clerk attended this meeting in Lerwick and found it very informative. There is a new finance form to be completed at the end of the financial year.

12/12/21 Community Council Finances

A spreadsheet showing up to date expenditure was circulated. This showed what funds are still available until the end of the financial year , 31st March 2022.

13/12/21 A.O.C.B.

13/12/21.1 Belmont Trust

A reply to the Community Council letter was sent to Patrick directly. There was a lot of discussion about this as members were unsure of what happens when the Trust is wound up and what will happen to the proceeds of the sale. Patrick has written again to Belmont Trust and has agreed to follow up on these queries.

13/12/21.2 Lund Road

This issue has been on the agenda regularly over many years. The SIC was asked for and provided quotes for what the work will cost to get the road up to standard. These quotes have been passed to the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) who own the road. Patrick has spoken to Clea Warner, NTS who is happy to discuss Lund Road but would not give any promises that NTS would pay for the repairs.

Patrick asked Ms Warner for a copy of their documentation to see who is responsible for the road. She said that she would send these but, to date, these have not arrived. Patrick will follow this up with Ms Warner.

13/12/21.3 Out of Hours – Unst Health Centre

Unst Health Centre has changed its out of hours system. When someone calls the Health Centre, they will be asked to call the Gilbert Bain Hospital Reception, who will take your details. They will then contact the on-call GP on your behalf. Concern had been raised to a Community Councillor as they had followed this procedure and had to wait slightly over an hour before the GP called them back. The patient had thought there was no doctor on Unst. Claire said that any concerns need to be reported to the Health Centre so that they can be monitored. She said that the Health Centre had used this system in the past and that it is used by other health centres in Shetland. Claire said that if in the long term this system doesn't work, they will look at other options.

13/12/21.4 Ferries

There was another discussion about ferries not leaving at the scheduled time. This has been brought up before and fed back to Ryan. Alec said that he had spoken to John Smith, Director of Infrastructure, SIC, about this and UCC is to feedback which ferry times this is happening with. Patrick said that he, Claire and Frances had attended a ferry meeting on the 9th November. There was to be a report to come out from this meeting. The Clerk will contact Ryan about this. Patrick will circulate his notes and Ferries will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

14/10/21 Date of next meeting

The next meeting is set for Monday 10th January 2022

Chairman: _____ Date: _____

Clerk: _____