

DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chairperson

Fiona Mitchell
Stackhoull
Fair Isle
Shetland ZE2 9JU
Tel: 01595 760314

Clerk

Shirley Leslie
Ringesta
Quendale
Shetland ZE2 9JD
Tel: 01950 460922

E-mail: clerk@dunrossnesscc.shetland.co.uk

Minute of ZOOM Meeting of **Dunrossness Community Council** held on Monday 27th June 2022.

PRESENT

Fiona Mitchell (Chair) Hugh Harrop (Vice Chair) John Robertson
Cllr Bryan Peterson (ex officio)

APOLOGIES

Aileen Brown Allen Sinclair Gordon Waddell Sharon Waddell
Michael Duncan (SIC) Ana Arnett (SIC) Cllr Robbie McGregor (ex officio)
Cllr Alex Armitage (ex officio)

ABSENT

Helen Moncrieff Cllr Allison Duncan (ex officio)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Shirley Leslie (Clerk)

22/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

22/23 MINUTE

The Minute of the meeting held on 25th April 2022 could not be adopted as the meeting was not quorate

22/24

27 June 2022

page two of six

22/24 POLICE REPORT

A Police Report for the months of April & May 2022 had been received and reported as follows:

There have been 11 incidents recorded for Dunrossness & Sandwick, which can be summarised as follows:

- *Vandalism (2)*
- *Sudden death (2)*
- *Damage to property*
- *Concern for person*
- *Child protection (2)*
- *Minor RTC*
- *Reckless discharge - firearm*

Other incidents were of a routine/minor nature.

The Clerk reported that she had emailed Police Scotland enquiring why Dunrossness & Sandwick are now being reported as one area when they are separate Community Councils. A reply is awaited.

22/25 MATTERS ARISING

1) Road Matters:

a) Roadside Verges: Further to the Community Council's recent email to SIC Roads seeking clarity on what the regulations are regarding placing items such as stakes, stones, fences (electric & standard) on roadside verges and how the SIC deals with such matters if they contravene these regulations, a reply had been received from Neil Robertson. The reply reads as follows:

The SIC as Roads Authority manage and maintain the public road network according to regulations and statutory duties under the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984. Further guidance and duties are prescribed in; The New Roads and Street Works Act 1991, Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Transport (Scotland) Act all to ensure management of the road network for the safety and convenience of road users. The Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 defines the extents of the road as a matter of fact, basically what looks like the road is the road, which includes the roadside verge and any adjacent roads drainage. Regardless of ownership of the road solum, the extent of the road and its management is vested in the roads authority, so even if you may have title to the land that the road is built on, you have no right to carry out any works within the road, including fencing, cable laying etc. without permission from the roads authority.

22/25/1a

22/25 MATTERS ARISING

1) Road Matters:

a) Roadside Verges (continued):

The SIC as roads authority claim a nominal verge width of 1.5m or to the rear of the ditch. In addition, areas which form part of a visibility splay at junctions, top of any cutting or the toe of an embankment, forming part of the structure of the road, are also included. Any works (including erection of stakes, 'wild gardening' or placing large boulders) within these areas should have permission from the roads authority. Some of these issues will be picked up during our regular inspections and dealt with at the time. Issues which are brought to our attention by the public are usually dealt with promptly and without any problems. Sometimes however, people are not so considerate and these issues often take a little longer to resolve. We will always try to avoid a heavy-handed approach but often need to quote the relevant legislation to ensure due diligence is followed.

2) Proposed Kirk Yard Bench: The Clerk reported that, further to the Community Council's request to have the Memorial Permit Application fee waived in this instance, a reply from SIC Burial Services had been received stating that, following further discussions, a decision has been reached that Community Council's will not be charged for burial ground memorial bench application fees in future. This news was welcomed. The Clerk reported that AA Fencing have now been given the go-ahead to install the bench.

3) Mainland's Mini Market Defibrillator: There was nothing new to report. The Clerk will contact the Bigton Shop to see if they have made any progress with regards to repairing the fault with their Defibrillator Cabinet.

4) Glass Recycling Bins at Dunrossness Industrial Estate: Hugh Harrop reported that he had been informed recently that the bins were full and people were once more leaving bottles on the ground by the bins. Hugh had contacted the SIC Waste Services regarding the matter and they will send a member of staff to gather up the loose bottles. The members agreed to enquire if it would be possible to have a third bottle bank provided at the site, but keep the emptying schedule as is.

5) Boddam Signs: As agreed, the Clerk had emailed Suzanne Shearer, SIC, for an update regarding the 'Private Land' signs at Boddam. Suzanne had replied that the matter is currently with the SIC Legal Team and she had therefore passed the Community Council email to the Solicitor dealing with the matter and requested that they provide an update. The Clerk had also copied in SIC Legal Services. No reply has been received to date.

22/26 FINANCE AND GRANT APPLICATIONS

- 1) South Mainland Community Association – To provide and maintain the Sports field, Pavilion & Changing Rooms at Boddam:** The members were pleased to note the new initiatives being adopted (ie advertising panels etc) to raise funds. Unfortunately, as the meeting was not quorate, no final decision could be taken on the grant application and it was therefore deferred to another date. It was noted, however, that all three members present would be happy to award the requested sum of £625.

22/27 FEEDBACK FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

- 1. Association of Shetland Community Councils:** A meeting of the ASCC had been held on 14 June 2022. Michael Duncan, SIC, had emailed the following brief summary of the meeting:

Chris Bunyan, Shetland Community Benefit Fund Chair, attended and provided an update on SBCF plans to consult on the future use of its funds and answered a range of questions.

A discussion took place re issues about parking in inappropriate places such as turning points, laybys and blocking roads. A number of ideas were raised to remind drivers.

There was a discussion about Community Council core funding which has not changed for a number of years. Further discussions took place about the existing core grant funding calculations and options for the Community Development Fund. It was agreed that the ASCC contact SIC Finance in the first instance to request an annual increase in funding.

There was also an update on plans to publicise the 2022 Community Council elections. It was agreed that the ASCC apply to the Community Development Fund to help cover the cost of the agreed action plan. Community Councils are encouraged to discuss local publicity and to actively promote the elections locally over the coming months.

22/28 FAIR ISLE

Fiona Mitchell reported that materials for the construction of the new Bird Observatory have started to arrive on the Isle and discussions are being held with Open Reach regarding the Fibre Optic Cable.

22/29/1
27 June 2022

page five of six

22/29 CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) **IBP Strategy & Research email ref Shetland Community Benefit Fund consultation:** IBP Strategy & Research have been commissioned by SCBF to undertake an independent programme of community consultation to guide the development of a business plan for the use of the Viking Community Fund, to be delivered through SCBF. This will be an extensive process, delivered over an 18-month period, which will involve IBP engaging in detail with the local community and stakeholders to consider what they might wish to see delivered via the Fund and how this might work in practice. There will be opportunities for Community Councils to contribute throughout the planned consultation process.

22/30 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 1) **Bird Flu:** Hugh Harrop reported that the island of Noss has been shut to visitors and Hermaness is installing signage and potentially paths to try and restrict the spread of bird flu. Fiona Mitchell reported that there is additional signage and information in Fair Isle and Tingwall and no bird ringing is currently taking place.
- 2) **Sandwick Junior High School:** Hugh Harrop informed the members that 13 of the 15 Primary 7 pupils who are about to leave Dunrossness Primary School will be going straight to the Anderson High School after the summer holidays and bypassing Sandwick Junior High School. It was noted that there is a high degree of concern within the community regarding the findings of the 2019 education inspection and the ongoing difficulties in recruiting staff for certain subjects. Cllr Bryan Peterson reported that in 2019 Education Scotland had carried out a procedural inspection, and due to their findings, had been scheduled to return in 9 months. However, Covid had hit and therefore their follow up visit has only taken place in June 2022. Unfortunately, at this inspection, the school was found to still be falling short of the required level, with the full report expected at the end of August. In the meantime, Samantha Flaws has been appointed as Temporary Head of the school to push forward the required changes before the inspectors return visit early next year.
On a positive note, Bryan reported that the provision of Breakfast and After School Clubs at the school had just been 'signed off' and it is hoped that this will help fill a gap for parents who work in the town.
Hugh suggested that SJHS be placed on the Community Councils 'Matters Arising List' to receive updates regularly from the local Councillors. Fiona Mitchell suggested that a standing Agenda Item be created for Councillors reports. This was agreed. Cllr Bryan Peterson stated that he would be happy to offer feedback on matters relating to SJHS as he is a member of the SIC Education and Families Committee.

22/30/3

27 June 2022

page six of six

22/30 ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Continued)

- 3) AHS School Transport:** Hugh Harrop reported that the buses travelling from the Anderson High School are often full, with some pupils having to stand in the aisles as far as Sandwick. In light of the fact that more South Mainland children are planning to attend the AHS as opposed to SJHS, he hoped that this issue can be resolved before the start of another term. Cllr Bryan Peterson stated that it was his understanding that passengers shouldn't be allowed on the bus if there were no seats available. Both Bryan and the Community Council will raise this issue with SIC Transport Dept.
- 4) HIAL Website:** Hugh Harrop stated that the flight information on the HIAL website is hopeless and never updated. John Robertson stated that inaccurate information is worse than no information and if it can't be fixed, the facility should be removed from the website. Hugh suggested that the Community Council write to HIAL and enquire why the information is not updated and if it is something that can be fixed. This was agreed.

22/31 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING MATTERS

- 1. Installation of new 6m mast to support transmission dish, Fitful Head, Dunrossness by MCA & Arqiva Ltd - There were no objections.**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8:00 pm.

Chair

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY 29th AUGUST 2022.**