

BRESSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of Bressay Community Council meeting:

Held on Monday 27 March 2023 in Bressay Hall.

Present:

Lindsay Tulloch
Shirley Gifford
Dee Henderson-Haefner
Richard Burrell
Amanda Sinclair
Kath Duffus
Stephen Leask
Arwed Wenger

In Attendance:

Nicqui Jones
Joanne Fraser

Agenda Items

1. Introduction and Apologies:

The Chair opened the Meeting and welcomed guests and members to the hall.

Apologies were noted from:

Alistair Christie-Henry
Margaret MacDonald
Gary Robinson
Michael Duncan

2. Declarations of interest:

The Chairman asked for declarations of interest – none received.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings:

The Chairman reviewed the draft minutes of the meeting 27 February 2023 and sought their approval. Proposed by Shirley and seconded by Richard.

4. Matters Outstanding (actions not elsewhere on agenda or completed):

CAP1. Status of Trowlands Road. Action on Gary – no report yet

CAP2. Carriage of Goods on Ferry. Action on Alistair – No update yet, Clerk to write to Andrew Inkster/Kevin Main to chase for notice on the Ferry

CAP3. Island Broadband Provision. Action on Richard, no update yet as Shetland Broadband been unable to schedule a visit.

AP1. Funding for Footpaths. Shirley had spoken to Neil Hutcheson who had intimated he hoped to attend this meeting. Main priority was the path up the Maryfield Road and lighting

etc. to enhance safety which had been discussed previously with park run and notified by a number of constituents.

Action: Shirley

AP2. Review of Infrastructure Report. Kevin Main to provide an update with timescales. Action for clerk to follow up with Kevin.

Action: Clerk

AP3,4,5. Done

AP6. Household Hardship Fund. Richard has progressed and will present later.

5. Member and Visitor Reports: It has been a fairly quiet time at the council for both our Councillors, mostly attending seminars. The big Issues has been around ferries. Shetland Partnership Plan says that no community should be disadvantaged or have any inequalities, Bressay does not have the same amenities as other islands therefore it is important to keep this to the forefront. Hiccup on Ferry regarding season tickets, passengers were given misinformation this will be addressed by Ferry Management. The Cost of going to medical appointments is a good example of inequalities. Stephen has addressed this with Brian Chittick, which was in turn picked up by the press. Having to buy a big package of tickets is again another inequality to those who can't afford a big spend. A lively discussion ensued regarding Oyster Cards and the technology used for bus cards - the technology that already exists in the SIC. The visitors from Lerwick were quite shocked at the cost for the distance in coming to Bressay – especially relating this to the daily cost the cost for commuting. This is an area being explored by Arwed. Who noted that Road Equivalent Tariff seems to have been forgotten.

6. Social Security Scotland. Nicqui Jones is the team leader for Social Security Scotland which formed in 2016 to support independent Scotland with a view to devolving benefit claims from the UK Government. This is an Executive agency and has a different Directorate to the rest of the Scottish Government and set up to give dignity, fairness and respect to clients. Formed differently to DWP, this started in 2018 and went out to citizens and asked what they wanted. One of the main functions is to help people filling informs for the twelve benefits they provide, so they can get it right first time and a fair decision is made. This is particular for Adult Disability Payment where there are in House practitioners to provide assessments and we can get information directly from medical practitioners to support those people. Only down side is the time it can take. A peculiarity in Shetland was a lot of people not claiming due to a sense of Pride. To counter this, they have set up centres, for example the Hub in Scalloway and outreach in Brae, where it was easier for clients or potential clients to come along in supportive groups. Some time ago they approached the Bressay Hall to be an outreach centre. This would tie in well with the Household Hardship Fund which has now moved up the agenda.

12. Household Hardship Fund: The Household Hardship fund is sponsored by Corra and lottery funding. We have been successful in being awarded £3,000 which we can confidentially distribute to anyone who needs support. We envisage this would take the form of vouchers to be spent at the shop for provisions. To distribute we would like to open up the hall on a weekly basis, this could well fit in with Social Security Scotland where they could be there at the same time. We are suggesting advertising that this is available to get vouchers on Fridays from 4.30 to 6.30, until the vouchers run out, the distribution of which needs to be completed by the end of June - this could fit in with Social Security Scotland. From our point of view it would be a good way of getting people to come forward by us championing Social Security Scotland. Winter heating payment from Social Security Scotland is one of the items that would help the vulnerable if we could get the word out. Richard explained the mechanics of how the hardship fund would be distributed by vouchers for the shop, £50 for a single person and £80 for a household (of two or more persons). The shop is on board and all vouchers would have an expiry date, so they can be redeemed

promptly, and would exclude alcohol and tobacco. To maintain confidentiality the only information we would record would be a post code which would correspond to a voucher number. There was a unanimous decision to run with the scheme. The Chair and members expressed their thanks and appreciation to Richard for such a good piece of work.

7. Planning Applications: None

8. Infrastructure (Ferries, Roads, Transport, Communications):

Community resilience Plan – this was discussed at the last ASCC and we have asked the NHS to look at a medical evacuation plan for the island so it would be good for us to have a Community Resilience scheme, e.g. SSE did a scheme a few years ago where Halls got a grant for generators etc. which might become available again. We need to put a plan together should we face the situation that other parts of Shetland faced this year. The Chair is happy to pull this together. It is possible there is a template already as in the SSE plan or similar, however this would need expansion to cover all eventualities, ferries, ships ashore etc.

Action: Chair

Roads: The issues of pot holes going up to Fullaburn is getting worse – it is on the infrastructure report and needs to be prioritised.

One of the proposals for the Tall Ships was a Fun Run to top of the wart we need roads tidied up by then. We will write to Infrastructure for an update. The allocated quarry cleaning is still sitting at the north end of the island and we could give a deadline to move these or have them reallocated, perhaps to the Wart Road, if not moved by the end of April.

Action Clerk

9. NHS Project: The Chair asked Kim Anderson for an update – last week's meeting didn't take place however they are now planning a wider community consultation meeting to discuss the proposals and will set this up for later next week.

10. Correspondence:

Emails have been circulated throughout the month. Kath went to the Planning Workshop and will distribute the slides. The Lord Lieutenant circulated an email regarding events for the Coronation should any organisation be planning anything there was provision for assistance.

11. Financial Report and Grant Applications:

There were two SCBF grant applications. The first was for Park run for £500 to support ParkRun organisers for the cost of Ferries in bringing a vehicle to Bressay weekly to accommodate signage etc as there are no on Island options. This was unanimously approved. The second was for the Outpost in Burra to add disabled toilets and parking. This was widely discussed as to the benefits to Bressay and the wider Community. Kath and Amanda could provide clarity on the project - that it was a really good venue for family visits and attended by visitors from the Eric Grey Centre and other care centres where interactions with the animals was available as well as viewing. Some questions remained which precluded immediate acceptance - has a planning application been approved and SEPA engaged? The Community Council will support in principle depending on the answers to the questions.

Action: Clerk

13. Community Council Scheme Review. Chair has circulated the current details – one concern from members had been the amalgamation of Community Councils however the Chair could reassure there were no plans to amalgamate Bressay. This applied to some

Community Councils in the South Mainland. Training proposed for Community Councillors would be very beneficial.

14. Bressay Groups Update: The Tall Ships meeting was very positive – the main action on us is to get involved with safety concerns, e.g., getting action on traffic support from the Police. Potential to get a shuttle bus from the ferry to the lighthouse.

Action: Chair

The Sports Club is having a Sunday tea in the hall on 9th April, to be advertised on our FB page.

Action: Clerk

The Hall will be holding their Voar Quiz in April – the date will be publicised shortly.

13. Any Other Business: Kath is attending the Firework Control zoom meeting and hopes to encourage the use of silent fireworks. Workshops coming up on Active Travel etc. Kath also went to the Scottish Sentencing council workshop and will share information soon. Richard asked if there was any further information on the Shetland Cycleway – none as yet.

14. Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be on Monday 24th April..

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.45 and thanked those attending.

Chairman: *Lindsay W Tulloch*

Date 24/04/23

Appendix 1

BRESSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Bressay Infrastructure Inspection report 22 August 2022

1	Bressay Road Network – RESPONSES (Updated 24 April 2023)	Priority
Map Ref	Work required	1 - 4
C	<p>Road falling away between Heogan & Cruester grids, potholes now beginning to appear.</p> <p>The overlay resurfacing of this section of road is likely to be programmed for next financial year, possibly 2024-25 depending on how other road lengths deteriorate over the winter months. The Area Foreman has been in Bressay to identify any repairs required in the meantime.</p>	2
S	<p>Signage to inform of children playing or possible reclassification of speed limit between Gardie junction and Gut Factory. Suggest that there are additional signs added. Slow down children & blind summit signs.</p> <p>Traffic & Safety Engineer will visit site to consider the provision of additional warning signs. However, a “Children” warning is not an option as they should only be used at schools and playgrounds. Over use would reduce their impact and be detrimental to road safety elsewhere on the network in the vicinity of schools and playgrounds.</p>	2
R	<p>Grid at Cruester requires fastening mechanism repair. Bolt currently falls out.</p> <p>A works order for the repair of the gate has been issued to our contractor.</p>	4
R	<p>Fencing to right of grid damaged and encroaching into road.</p> <p>A works order for the repair of the fencing has been issued to our contractor.</p>	4
E	<p>Foliage in drains on Voeside road.</p> <p>Ditches will be excavated/cleaned during the ditching season at the end of the summer.</p>	3
I	<p>Large hole appearing between Voeside and marina road on right hand bend as you are travelling towards the ferry terminal. Temporary fix has been applied, but already lifting.</p> <p>Works order for this repair has been issued.</p>	1
G	<p>Road between Mail shop and Upper Glebe (near Mizpah House turnoff creates a blind corner due to overhanging and excessive bushes. Advise that this is risk assessed by the roads inspector.</p> <p>Firstly, we will write to the owner of the property requesting the removal of the foliage that has overgrown the boundary wall into the roadside verge. We have powers under the Roads (Scotland) Act to remove the bushes should the property owner fail to do so.</p>	3

	<p>A number of illuminated signs across the island either have no working or intermittent/flashing lights.</p> <p>Please provide more detail of the location of these flashing sign lights.</p>	Complete
J	<p>Dog waste bin to be located near Glebe Park , Hamilton Park, Voeseide & Ham Kiosk</p> <p>Passed to Environmental Services for their attention.</p>	4
J	<p>Potholes on road and parking area at Upper Glebe (& surrounding areas) need filling and verge needs strimming.</p> <p>A works order has been issued for the repair of these potholes.</p>	4
K	<p>Verge between Ham & Kirkabister in various places is too narrow and sloping, the ditch is very deep. This gives pedestrians little room to vacate road. Suggest that the sloped verges are levelled off. Advise that this is risk assessed by the roads inspector.</p> <p>Traffic & Safety Engineer will visit site to determine what can be done to widen verge.</p>	2
F	<p>Road between Wirlie and Hovesta junction has very deep ditch with sloping verge, giving little to no space for pedestrians to vacate road. Advise that this is risk assessed by the roads inspector.</p> <p>As above.</p>	2
D	<p>North of Cruetown Grid requires the creation of a designated and signed passing place. Gap between existing passing points is quite excessive.</p> <p>There is no longer a capital budget for the provision of minor works such as passing places. Capital works have to go through the business case process to secure funding where they are considered alongside all of the Council's proposed capital works, not just those that would be undertaken by the Roads Service. Prior to being considered for a business case schemes of this type are added to the Council's "Prioritised List of Capital Road Improvement Schemes." We will add this passing place to the list and it will be ranked according to the approved scoring system. We will contact you when this has been done in order to let your know where this improvement scheme placed in the rankings. For your Council's information, since the introduction of the prioritised list, there has been an average of two of these minor improvement schemes implemented each year as and when funds have become available.</p>	3
B	<p>Road from South Beosetter into Beosetter beginning to split and fall into ditch, caused by ditch widening during last cleaning operation. In places verge is now too narrow.</p> <p>No further sign of settlement. Cracks will be sealed to prevent water ingress. Will be monitored for further movement.</p>	2
A	<p>Grid at Beoster needs to be cleared of foliage</p> <p>Grass growing in pit but not sufficient mud/silt to warrant cleaning at this time. Will monitor as part of routine inspections.</p>	4
U	<p>Grid at Pettifirch junction is sunken and needs to be raised.</p> <p>We will inspect the Pettifirch grid to determine the cause of this issue and a suitable repair.</p>	2

	Grid towards Setter needs to be cleared of foliage Grass growing in pit but not sufficient mud/silt to warrant cleaning at this time. Will monitor as part of routine inspections.	4
M	Grid towards Noss needs to be cleared of foliage Grass growing in pit but not sufficient mud/silt to warrant cleaning at this time. Will monitor as part of routine inspections.	4
H	Trowlands road still requires realignment. (Over 20 years since first requests) Same response as for location D above.	4