

Lerwick Community Council

11th March 2024 6pm

Town Hall/ Teams Hybrid meeting

Minutes

Minutes subject to approval at the next Lerwick Community Council meeting

1. Chair's Welcome

2. Apologies for Absence

In attendance

(Town Hall):

Jim Anderson (Chair)
Kirsty Smith (Clerk)
Steve Mathieson
Karen Fraser
Dennis Leask
Johnathon Duncan
Averil Simpson
Diana Winfield
Arwed Wenger
Kevin Craigen
Stephen Leask
James Paton
Gary Robinson
Johnathon Williamson
Gareth Powell (guest speaker)

In attendance

(remotely):

Emma Williamson

Apologies:

Shayne McLeod
Neil Pearson
Andy Carter
Brian Harris
Cecil Smith
Stewart Hay

3. Declarations of Interest

None.

4. Minutes from meeting held for approval

4.1 6th February 2024

Approved – Diana Winfield

Seconded – Averil Simpson

5. Police report

5.1 December 2023 – January 2024

Diana queried the accessibility of pavements within Lerwick. Often the pavements are inaccessible by wheelchair and pram, meaning wheelchair users must use the road.

Chair to discuss with local police.

6. Actions from last meeting

6.1 Action tracker spreadsheet

Noted – No updates

7. Correspondence/ Discussion Points

7.1 2024 Gardening competition – attendance from Gareth Powell

Gareth Powell was invited as guest speaker to discuss his involvement in Species on the Edge. A project working in partnership with RSPB and the Amenity Trust. Working on the benefit of over 37

different species across Scotland's coasts and islands. Gareth strongly emphasised the rarity of Shetland's wildlife. The Curlew is currently on the red list of threatened species everywhere in Britain but Shetland. The Project runs many events to promote habitat management and monitoring. LCC mentioned previous discussions on the SIC and mowing habits around Lerwick. Gareth responded less mowing will bring benefits to wildlife. James Paton then discussed the various plants on the species list, and his experiences with Shetlands natural flora. Diana Winfield suggested using space at the Clickimin loch for native planting.

The Species on the Edge project has planned a bee walks in Bressay to monitor and identify bee populations in April.

Gareth confirmed he will be a judge for the Lerwick gardening competition and supply a prize. Karen will contact him next week to further discuss.

The LCC members have requested a copy of Gareth's presentation.

7.2 Replica mine – Victoria Pier

Quote from Shetland Composites for the GRP Replica Mine was confirmed as too expensive for the project to progress at this time.

7.3 Association of Shetland Community Council meeting – 21st March 6pm

It was confirmed that the Chair and Vice Chair would both attend the ASCC meeting.

7.4 Quoy's Path – Quote

The chair introduced the topic, noting the cost to fully restore the path from FLJ was £10,601.37. Diana then shared a PowerPoint presentation of the current path and proposed renovation. Appealing for high-vis paint be put on the stairs, wild flora be planted and outdated gravel to be updated into a wheelchair/pram accessible. The LCC members agreed this would be nice for the community, though there is no funding or CC member to take on a project like this. The idea will be passed on to the neighbourhood association.

7.5 Arven Offshore windfarm (recent consultation)

Noted

7.6 Lerwick Lanes masterplan

Mr Gibson's email was read and discussed.

7.7 Shetland funerals research

The water cremation is no longer an option in Shetland. A 30 page report can be found on the SIC website for discussion at SIC Committee.-

7.8 Consultation on engagement methods for Shetland's Next Local Development Plan

Community Council legislation will be updated. The current boundaries may be re-drawn.

Consultation phase 1 ongoing.

8. Disabled Parking

8.1 Voderview (Revocation)

Noted, no comments.

8.2 Haldane Burgess Crescent

Noted, no comments.

9. Finance

9.1 Financial update

Noted, no comments.

10. Planning Applications

10.1 2024/032/LBC

Address: 81 Commercial Street, Lerwick

Proposal: Minor alterations comprising installation of ventilation louvre and fan and new internal partition wall.

No comment.

10.2 2024/031/PPF

Address: 81 Commercial Street, Lerwick

Proposal: Proposing new ventilation louvres.

No comment.

10.3 2023/176/DCON1

Address: Gilbert Bain Hospital South Road Lerwick Shetland ZE1 0TB

Proposal: Application for consent, agreement or approval required by planning Condition 7 (Biodiversity) of Planning Application 2023/176/PPF

Agreed this would be a very good idea for the community, hospital users and local wildlife.

10.4 Windturbines Lerwick.

Jonathan commented the two proposed wind turbines could stifle further development on the hill. It was noted that the Shetland Mart seemed to be the owner of the adjacent land, and as such any area impacted by the development was owned by the developer.

11. AOB

11.1 Knabsite activity

James Paton requested a overview of progress at the Knabsite. The chair shared the SIC website where all updates and details were shared with the public.

11.2 Bins around Clickimin loch

Arwed shared a photo of a bin at Clickimin Loch where dog poo bags had been scattered around the bin on the ground. It was noted that it was highly unlikely that responsible dog owners would pick up their dog's poo to simply drop it on the path next to the bin. It was suggested that the Coastguard Helicopter may be responsible for turning contents of the bin out over the path during operations. It was noted that AHS janitors currently emptied the bins along the path, and if the bins were kept empty then the contents could not be strewn over the surrounding area.

Arwed went on to mention the ongoing issues with dogs off leads around the loch. Jonathon responded is it not a legal requirement to put dogs on leads and cannot be enforced only advised. LCC to write to Environmental Services to enquire if signage could be erected to advise dog owners to ensure their dogs are under control.

12. Date of Next Meeting

12.1 Monday 1st April