

<b>DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL</b>
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**Chairperson**

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Minute of Zoom Meeting of **Dunrossness Community Council** held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

**PRESENT**

Fiona Mitchell (Chair)            Aileen Brown            Irvine Burgess            Dawna Phillips  
Cllr Bryan Peterson (ex officio)            Cllr Robbie McGregor (ex officio)  
Cllr Alex Armitage (ex officio)

**APOLOGIES**

Agnes Tallack            Vicky Tylsar            Michael Duncan (SIC)

**ABSENT**

Helen Moncrieff            Allen Sinclair            Ana Arnett (SIC)  
Cllr Allison Duncan (ex officio)

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Shirley Leslie (Clerk)            Kate Allan (UHI Shetland)

**24/88 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Robbie McGregor declared an interest in any planning matters.

**24/89 MINUTE**

The Minute of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024 was adopted on the motion of Fiona.

The Minute of the special meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2024 was adopted on the motion of Aileen.

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## **24/90 POLICE REPORT**

The Police Report for the months of October and November 2024 had been received and reported as follows:

There have been 12 incidents recorded for Dunrossness which can be summarised as follows:

### Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder

- Public Nuisance
- Vandalism

### Acquisitive Crime

- Attempted Theft
- Theft
- Theft by Housebreaking

### Protecting Vulnerable People

- Concern for Person
- Mental Health (2)

### Other

- Drugs – Possession
- Firearms Seizure
- Sudden Death
- Wildlife Matter

## **24/91 MATTERS ARISING**

### **1) Road Matters:**

**a) Robins Brae Bus Shelter Light:** There was nothing new to report.

**2) Kirk Yard Bench:** There was nothing new to report.

**3) Church of Scotland Brigades Fund:** There was nothing new to report.

**4) Dunrossness Kirk Yard Gate:** There was nothing new to report.

**5) Bus Shelter Bike Racks:** There was nothing new to report.

Kate Allan, UHI Shetland, joined the meeting at 7:15pm

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## **24/92 MARINE RESTORATION & ENHANCEMENT ACTION PLAN FOR SHETLAND**

Fiona welcomed Kate Allan, UHI Shetland, to the meeting. Kate gave the members a small presentation on the Marine Restoration & Enhancement Action Plan project for Shetland which covers up to 12 nautical miles from shore. Details from the presentation as follows:

### **Introduction:**

New national land regulations mean that developments must contribute to nature enhancement. Examples include tree planting & removing barriers to allow salmon to migrate upriver. It is anticipated this will also come into effect in the marine environment. In other parts of the UK, examples have included planting seagrass meadow, salt march restoration and underwater litter removal. Projects done elsewhere may not always be appropriate for Shetland for various reasons.

### **Purpose of the Project:**

To create a roadmap for Marine Restoration and Enhancement Action tailored to meet Shetland's unique marine environment and needs. To identify current and future local actions and potential projects. To develop a set of guiding principles for the future marine restoration and enhancement action

### **Marine Restoration and Enhancement:**

Marine Restoration and Enhancement refers to actions that aim to improve the health of the marine environment such as protecting habitats and species, reducing pressures such as marine litter and bycatch and repairing or restoring damaged habitats such a seagrass and native oysters.

### **Community Involvement So Far:**

A total of 160 people have taken part in the initial phase. Focused discussions have been held with the marine industry, government, environmental NGO's and community councils. Public drop-in events have also been held and there is currently an online survey running until 14 February which can be found at <https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/uhi/mreap>

### **Success Stories:**

Marine Litter Reduction – Da Voar Redd Up; Ghost fishing creel recovery  
Sustainable Fisheries – SSMO closed areas; inshore fish surveys; scallop survey

Biodiversity & Habitats Restoration – Rat prevention; Seagrass; Marine invasive non-native species monitoring

Dawna left the meeting at 7:30pm

Kate left the meeting at 7:45pm

CLlr Alex Armitage left the meeting at 7:45pm

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**24/93 FINANCE AND GRANT APPLICATIONS**

There were no grant applications for consideration.

**24/94 FEEDBACK FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS**

No relevant external meetings had been attended.

**24/95 COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS**

There was nothing new to report

**24/96 FAIR ISLE**

**Fiona reported as follows:**

- 1) **Bird Observatory:** Work is carrying on at pace to complete the project.
- 2) **Head Teacher Post:** The closing date for applications has now past and the islanders have been assured that applications have been received.

**24/97 CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1) **Community Council Scheme Review:** Phase 3 consultation is open for comments until 31 January 2025. The Clerk was requested to forward the link to the Final Draft Amended Scheme on to the members again.
- 2) **Proposed 50mph Speed Limit, A970 Levenwick:** Chris Cope, Shetland News Reporter, had requested a copy of an email which the Community Council had received from Neil Hutcheson, SIC regarding the above proposed speed limit and which had been referred to in the Minutes of 18<sup>th</sup> December. The members agreed to suggest that Mr Cope approach Neil Hutcheson direct for assistance.

**24/97 CORRESPONDENCE (continued)**

- 3) **Email ref. Disabled Toilets at Grutness:** An email had been received from a member of the public stating that “the area set out for disabled parking is NOT in the spot most suited for a disabled person” and requesting that the Community Council “have it corrected”. Fiona reported that the skipper of the Good Shepherd had raised concerns that should the disabled parking spot be in use, it might restrict access for lorries delivering goods to the ferry. The members discussed this further and agreed that the Clerk contact both SIC Ports and Harbours and the Fair Isle Ferry Project Team to enquire if this parking layout is the final draft or is there likely to be further modifications as part of the new ferry project.

**24/98 ANY OTHER CURRENT BUSINESS**

- 1) **Local Place Plan:** Bryan Peterson reported that the Local Place Plan Steering Group will be meeting in Sandwick this week. He also informed the members that he has approached SCBF verbally regarding the possibility of securing funding for the employment of a Project Officer to assist Community Councils who are interested in developing a Local Place Plans for their area. Bryan believed that any such funding application to SCBF would be considered more favourably if each participating Community Council were willing to provide some match funding. The next closing date for such an application is the end of January and the members agreed, in principle, to the allocation of some match funding.

Cllr Robbie McGregor left the meeting at 8:20pm

**24/99 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING MATTERS**

- 1) **2024/183/PPF: Change of use of unused Scottish Water pump house to shed; erect new bothy building; create new access, turning area and parking Rerwick Booster TWP, Geosetter, Bigton, Shetland ZE2 9GA by Mr Thomas Mushet.** The above planning application had been refused by Shetland Islands Council. The applicant had therefore emailed the Community Council, as suggested by his architect, as he intends to appeal this decision and hoped that the Community Council “might see the merit” of his original application and be willing to provide “a written submission in support” to be included with his appeal. The members noted all the details provided by the applicant and unanimously agreed that they believe this matter sits with SIC Planning and not the Community Council and therefore they will not be taking part in the Appeal process.

DRAFT MINUTE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT MEETING

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There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

Chair

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF DUNROSSNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY 24<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2025.**