

Lerwick Community Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6th January 2025
AT TOWN HALL/MS TEAMS AT 6.00PM

1. Chair's Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Present

Jim Anderson (Chair)
Shayne McLeod (Vice Chair)
Karen Fraser
Stewart Hay
Averil Simpson
Jonathon Duncan
Diana Winfield
Brian Harris
Cllr Arwed Wenger
*Amanda Hawick

In attendance

Dawn Ratter (Clerk)
*Steve Mathieson (Living Lerwick)
Shetland Times
*Shetland News

Apologies

Andy Carter
Jonathan Williamson
Scott Nicolson
Emma Williamson
Joanne Fraser
Cllr Neil Pearson
Cllr Cecil Smith
Bryan Leask
Police Scotland

Ex-Officio

Cllr Gary Robinson
*Cllr Stephen Leask

* On-line Via MS Teams

3. Declarations of Interest

12. Planning – Cllr A Wenger
8.6. UHI – Amanada Hawick

4. Minutes from meeting held for approval

4.1 2nd December 2024

Approved by: Shayne McLeod
Seconded by: Cllr A Wenger

5. Police Report

5.1 October/November update
No Comments.

6. Attendance from Bryan Leask, Hjaltland Housing Association

Mr Bryan Leask was unable to attend the meeting. Item to be carried forward to February.

→ ACTION: Clerk to add to February agenda.

7. Actions from last meeting

7.1 Action tracker spreadsheet

Hillhead Railings: There has been a slight delay with the works and the retaining wall needs to be rebuilt. This should be completed in time for UHA.

Sletts Sea Wall: The intention was for this repair to be done in the summer but there were no suitable contractors available at that time. Roads Service have had discussions with contractors and will now be seeking quotes over the winter months. Work on these repairs will commence in early 2025.

Leog Wall: The Road Service will be undertaking these works 'in-house' early next financial year.

North Loch Drive: Bryan Leask (HHA Chief Executive) will attend the next meeting to provide an update.

4G Signal in Lerwick: Emails sent to UK Govt and Kate Forbes – awaiting replies.

Bicycles on Public Transport Buses: Letter sent to Chair of Environment and Transport Committee – awaiting reply.

8. Correspondence/ Discussion Points

8.1 Proposed 20 Mph Zones, Lerwick

Members discussed the proposed 20 Mph zones for Lerwick.

Cllr S Leask felt strongly that the speed limits need to be reduced to make the roads safer for the people in Lerwick and this would bring Shetland in line with other local authority areas. He went on to explain that there is evidence to show that limiting speeds make a safer environment for children, elderly people and people with disabilities. In favour of the proposal, Cllr S Leask felt that the proposed zones should be extended to cover the whole boundary of Lerwick and not just specific roads/lanes.

All members agreed with Cllr S Leask, noting specifically that King Harald Street which is adjacent to a play park and South Road and Lochside which both have existing 20 Mph restrictions in place for school crossings, have been omitted from the proposed zones.

DW added that limiting the speed to 20 Mph could help support active travel and may encourage more children to cycle/walk to school. She also noted that roads are thought of as car users, but this is not always the case. She does not feel safe having to go on the road as a wheelchair user.

JD asked if the proposed 20 Mph limits are implemented, would existing traffic calming measures e.g. speed cushions, be removed from around the town. Cllr A Wenger agreed with this comment, noting that he felt the removal of these measures

would be beneficial to Lerwick town centre and could encourage more people to go to the street.

SH added that the bottom line is people safety. When speed is reduced, safety is enhanced.

Cllr S Leask thanked all members for their input and noted that this will help to inform his decision at the committee meeting.

→ ACTION: Clerk to email Roads for clarification on why the proposals do not include the whole boundary of Lerwick, and clarification that traffic calming measures would be removed if the proposed speed limit restrictions are implemented.

8.2 Stoura Off-Shore Wind Farm

No comments.

8.3 Survey on inter-island transport connectivity

No comments.

8.4 Community Winter Pop Ins

KF shared to Facebook.

8.5 De-Fib & CPR Training

→ ACTION: Clerk to circulate email to gauge interest in a session and arrange a date with Scottish Fire & Rescue Services.

8.6 Next Steps in the Marine Restoration and Enhancement Action Plan (UHI)

Share survey to all members when received.

8.7 Sustainable Tourism (requested by Emma Williamson)

EW not in attendance. Item to be carried forward.

9. Shetland Islands Council Community Council Scheme Review – Phase 3

DW stated that she would feel more comfortable if there was a statement included in the code of conduct to acknowledge that neurodivergent individuals are welcome and any reasonable adjustments will be made to accommodate them, as necessary.

SH felt that personal behaviour was being confused with the conduct of a meeting. A code of conduct is about how you conduct a meeting. In conducting a meeting, all individuals in attendance would be considered, but in terms of policy, he does not feel a specific statement on the attendance of neurodivergent individuals is necessary. A code of conduct would be established to ensure a meeting is conducted effectively and efficiently.

It was agreed that the Code of Conduct was more than suitable as proposed.

Question 1 – Shetland Islands Council proposed to include the changes to the Scheme as listed on page one of this survey form. The final draft amended scheme, including these changes can be viewed at www.shetland.gov.uk/ccschemereview. Please use the space below to tell us what you think account the final draft amended scheme.

Members would like to record a note of thanks to all officers, community council members and the public for their work, time and comments on the review. Members felt that the draft amended scheme covers everything previously discussed and felt content that the consultation has taken on board what people have said.

Question 2 – Shetland Islands Council proposes a new funding mechanism that will be based on the following criteria:

- **Shetland Town / Rural / Islands classification;**
- **Access to key services; and**
- **Population**

Please tell us what you think about this proposal, including whether you like or dislike it.

Members feel that the new funding mechanism is unnecessarily complicated and find some of the allocations to be quite contrived. E.g. under the Access to key services, Gulberwick, Quarff & Cunningsburgh will be allocated the full amount, receiving the same as remote island communities.

Shetland Islands Council proposes to amend the Associate Membership minimum age form 16 years old to 12 years old. Associate members do not have voting rights. Shetland Islands Council further proposes that closer links between Community councils and existing youth forums and groups should be developed. This would include support and guidance from the Council's Youth Service and Community Planning & Development Service. Please tell us what you think about this proposal, including whether you like it or dislike it.

All members are happy with this proposal.

This forum could be a place where young people gain confidence to speak publicly, which is an important skill. It is really encouraging that the scheme proposes to go beyond school level, to include engagement from the whole youth service area. It provides another means of helping young people to build confidence.

Question 4 – Please use the space below to provide any other feedback you may have in respect of the final draft amended scheme proposals.

None.

→ ACTION: Clerk to complete and submit survey, deadline Friday 31st January.

10. Finance

10.1 Financial Update

Forms completed and signed to change the signatories on the bank accounts.

→ ACTION: Clerk to submit bank mandate forms.

10.2 Shetland Charitable Trust – Small Grants Scheme

Members agreed to apply to SCT for funding to replace public benches at Lochside and one at the bottom of Water Lane.

→ ACTION: Chair to obtain quote and submit application.

10.3 National Lottery Community Fund

Noted.

10.4 Community Led Local Development (CLLD) Funding

Noted.

Members notes that funding opportunities often arise, it would be good for members to have a think about possible suggestions for future funding avenues.

11. Planning (all plans can be viewed at: <https://pa.shetland.gov.uk/online-applications/>)

11.1 To install an electric vehicle rapid charge point in the staff carpark to serve two parking bays; cable is to be ducted underground to the charge point from the building plant room

Islesburgh Community Centre King Harald Street Lerwick Shetland ZE1 0EQ
Ref. No: 2024/290/PPF | Received: Mon 25 Nov 2024 | Validated: Mon 25 Nov 2024 | Status: Awaiting decision

[No comments.](#)

11.2 To site glamping pod

4 Coastguard House, Twageos Road, Lerwick, Shetland ZE1 0BB
Ref. No: 2024/294/PPF | Received: Fri 06 Dec 2024 | Validated: Tue 10 Dec 2024 | Status: Pending Consideration

[No comments.](#)

11.3 Proposed porch extension to existing house

3 Andrewstown Brae, Lerwick, Shetland ZE1 0RF
Ref. No: 2024/302/PPF | Received: Mon 16 Dec 2024 | Validated: Tue 17 Dec 2024 | Status: Pending Consideration

[No comments.](#)

11.4 Construction and operation of 132kV substation and ancillary infrastructure and associated works to connect Mossy Hill Wind Farm to the Transmission Network

600M West Of The Wester Extent Of Lerwick BNG HU 44730 42646
Ref. No: 2024/303/PPF | Received: Tue 17 Dec 2024 | Validated: Tue 17 Dec 2024 | Status: Pending Consideration

There was some concern from members regarding connections to the substation and members did not feel comfortable agreeing to any consultation where connections would not be underground due to the effect overhead powerlines have on the landscape.

Members agreed to submit an objection as they felt there was a lack of information presented with regards to how the existing infrastructure would be connected to the proposed substation. Members would like clarification on the underground connection routes and where, to and from these will be connected to the existing infrastructure.

→ ACTION: Clerk to submit objection to Planning.

12. AOB

New Path

There was a discussion on the new path at the Tesco Roundabout. SM asked if there was further work to be completed on this project. JD informed members that a bus stop is to be installed for people heading north, as the current bus stop is on the south carriageway. There is also plans to link the paths together.

→ ACTION: Clerk to contact Roads for an update on the project.

Harrison Square

BH noted that one of the shelters at Harrison Square is currently lying on its side.

→ ACTION: SM will report this to Roads.

13. Date of Next Meeting

13.1 The next meeting will be held on Monday 3rd February 2025.