

Sandness & Walls Community Council

Chairman:

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Minutes of a virtual meeting of Sandness & Walls Community Council held via Zoom on Tuesday 5th January 2021 at 7.00 pm

Present:

I Walterson (Chair)
I Sandison (Vice Chair)
M Forrest
J Puckey
G Jamieson
Cllr T Smith
Cllr C Hughson

In Attendance: D. Forrest (Clerk)

1. Chairman's Welcome

I Walterson (Chair) welcomed all those present.

2. Apologies

Cllr S Coutts

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr T Smith declared an interest in Housing, should any matters pertaining to the Hjaltland Housing Association arise because he is a board member of the Association.

4. Police Report

The Chairman acknowledged receipt of the most recent report from Police Scotland received via email on Friday 4th December.

5. Minutes from 3.11.20

The adoption of the minutes of the meeting of the 1st December 2020 was proposed by I Sandison and seconded by I Walterson.

6. Matters Arising

Re: 17.3 of 11/20 Virtual Sandness and Walls Community Conversation

The Clerk indicated that he had yet to receive Roselyn Fraser's notes on the Virtual Sandness and Walls Community Conversation.

Re: 16.3 of 10/20 Abandoned Car

The Clerk stated that the car was still there but that the wheels had been removed.

Re: 8 of 12/20 Roads

The Clerk stated that he had not received a response from Mr M Malcolmson regarding parking at the Walls Play Area. I Sandison informed the members that she had been in contact with Mr Malcolmson on another matter and that during their exchange of emails she had asked about the parking issue. Mr Malcolmson responded by stating that the matter would be considered in due course.

Re: 12 of 12/20 Active Travel Strategy

The Chair stated that a response from the Sandness and Walls Community Council had been submitted.

Re: 15.1 of 12/20 Item for Happyhansel Sensory Area

The Clerk indicated that he was awaiting documentation on this in order to make a payment.

7. Housing

The Chairman raised the issue of planning consent for housing outside a housing cluster. He expressed the view that planning policy should be altered to enable such houses to be built. G Jamieson expressed the view that all housing requests that

could bring families to areas outside the central area of Shetland should be encouraged.

8. Roads

Re: 8.2 of 10/19 Broken Verge at Norby Junction, Sandness

G Jamieson indicated he had spoken to the contractor who had carried out the work on behalf of BT and the contractor informed him that he had yet to be asked by BT to make good the damage to the road surface.

9. Shetland Community Benefit Fund

9.1 Change to Funding Strategy/ Application Process

G Jamieson provided an update on the SCBF based on a conversation he had had with Mr J MacBeath (Member of the Shetland Community Benefit Fund Board for Sandness and Walls). G Jamieson indicated that the SCBF is changing its funding strategy to remove the middle tier of funding and that the proposed application process would prove quite onerous for small groups and organisations. Mr MacBeath had argued for a simpler process.

9.2 Other Matters

- It is uncertain as to when the first round of funding will take place
- SCBF money must be spent
- The application process may take up to four months dependant on the SCBF meeting cycle
- General concerns were expressed over the way in which SCBF is run given that it was set up by the ASCC
- Given SSE's desire to control the fund, it was pointed out that it is illegal for a funding body to attempt to micromanage the disbursement of funds
- Mr MacBeath to be invited to attend a future meeting of the S&WCC following the next SCBF meeting.

Action: The S&WCC Chair to speak to other CC Chairs to discuss the above concerns.

10. Health Centre Matters

After some discussion concerning the Walls Health Centre, The Chair pointed out that Miss Edna Mary Watson and Mr Brian Chittick would be attending the February S&WCC meeting virtually.

Actions: 1. Members are asked to decide in advance of the meeting what questions they wish to put to the Health Board Officers

2. The Clerk was asked to circulate to the Members all relevant emails and letters relating to the Walls Health Centre

11. Communities Recovery Fund

11.1 The Response, Recovery and Resilience Fund

The Clerk indicated that £500 had been received in relation to the RRR Fund and that it had been distributed anonymously to 11 recipients via Co-op gift vouchers.

11.2 Communities Recovery Fund

An application has yet to be made for CRF funding and it may be possible to access this through VAS Shetland. Needs will be based on a survey of local groups and organisations and it is intended to seek help on this from Roselyn Fraser.

Action: The Clerk to Liaise with Roselyn Fraser to compile and circulate a survey to local groups and organisations.

12. Financial Update

12.1 Current Financial Position

The Clerk provided a verbal report on the current position of the Community Council's funds.

12.2 Unadopted Roads

After some discussion, it was decided to extend the closing date for receipt of unadopted roads' invoices until the February meeting of the Community Council.

Action: The Clerk to contact 2020 applicants to inform them of this change and to find out if they are able to comply with the new deadline.

12.3 Funding Request from 1st Walls Brownies

After some discussion, it was agreed to provide £300 towards the cost of the annual fees charged to the Brownies.

Action: The Clerk to make this payment

13. Correspondence (including Emails)

No additional items of correspondence have been received.

14. AOCB

No additional items were raised.

15. Date of Next Meeting

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.

The date of the next meeting was set for Tuesday 2nd February 2021 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

Draft minutes of January 2021 S&WCC meeting subject to approval at next meeting)