

to be approved by SCC Members via Zoom meeting on 18/10/21

## SCALLOWAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Scalloway Community Council Meeting held on Monday 20 September 2021 at 7pm via Zoom on-line meeting.

1. PRESENT:  
John Hunter – Chair  
John MacKenzie  
Andrew Blackadder  
Lindsay Laurenson  
Louise Davis  
Mark Burgess

In attendance:

Joy Ramsay – Clerk  
Cllr Moraig Lyall  
Cllr Ian Scott  
Michael Duncan – SIC  
Roselyn Fraser – SIC

2. APOLOGIES:  
Kenny Pottinger  
Liz Walter  
Cllr Davie Sandison

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minute of the meeting held on 16 August 2021 was proposed by John M and seconded by Lindsay, with the following correction:

- Section 12, Planning: Lindsay corrected the minute with regard to the Co-op's status alongside the other shops, which should have said 'Lindsay pointed out that the Cooperative supplies the Checkout, Don Leslies and the Ulsta Shop (Brae Stores Group) and were throttling back supply to the Brae Stores group, to the extent where the Ulsta Shop had been forced to close for 2 weeks, due to lack of supplies from the Cooperative which supplies smaller shops.'

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING NOT ON THE AGENDA

**In Person Meetings:** Michael told the committee that community councils could meet face to face, as long as provisions were made for remote attendance and followed relevant covid guidelines, but recommended that meetings still be attended over Zoom. Andrew suggested that if face to face meetings did resume, they could be held in the main hall rather than upstairs, to allow for social distancing. John M noted that Zoom was a more accessible option for him, as it made hearing what was being discussed easier for him. Mark agreed that the main hall would be alright to meet in, suggesting

that amplification could be provided in this case. Wi-Fi or Broadband would be necessary to allow an external link, to allow for Zoom to be an option. Ventilation would be a concern, which could be achieved by opening windows, and CO2 monitors could be used to monitor air movement. Mark further noted that the Youth centre meetings were being held in person, with the CO2 levels being monitored.

The next meeting is to be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October, and Mark will attend to investigate how this works alongside a meeting. Lindsay wanted to know if meetings had been halted due to CO2 levels, and Mark confirmed that this had happened

#### 5. SCALLOWAY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

**Re-Create Scalloway:** Andrew informed the community council that the feasibility study had been postponed due to Covid reasons. SCDC will be having their AGM on Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of October at 7.30pm, which is open to everyone.

**Caravan Park:** Andrew informed the committee that from the four tenders received, SCDC have selected a preferred candidate and the other three companies had been informed. The tender was still unfortunately out of budget, so monies are being gathered in the meantime. A review of the works has been undertaken, and the results will be presented to the funding bodies at a meeting on the Wednesday. Roselyn suggested that after the meeting, that she would preview a newsletter proposed by Andrew for Re-Create Scalloway and if the timing was right, would review the letter. She suggested that this could be used to promote the AGM. Mark wanted to highlight that the Caravan site is a community council project, and ensure that they are not replaced by SCDC. There was also a discussion as to how to ensure a good turn out to this meeting, to ensure that there were a good range of perspectives. It was also noted that there may be a conflict of interest between members of the committee, and those with SCDC, which has been acknowledged.

#### 6. ASCC UPDATE

Meeting of the community councils occurred Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm via Microsoft teams. John H attended the meeting, and briefly summed up items that were discussed. Items of note included a presentation by Claire Ferguson on behalf of the Climate Change team and the issue of fuel poverty. David Thomson gave a presentation on the Activate Shetland project, which is aiming to encourage children to walk to school, and to get people to walk, run, cycle and explore their community. Michael added that this project would be tailored to what the community has, with the possibility of teams competing to see what area that they could cover in their community. General issues were also raised at the ASCC, which included cars being abandoned on Yell, the high volume of tourists and campervans travelling narrow roads, and litter being an ongoing problem.

**Action: Michael**

#### 7. ROADS

**Main Street** – Ian said that roadworks were still delayed, due to the tar master being on holiday. However, the works should continue and be finished soon. The work that has been done seems to have been done to a high spec.

## 8. POLICE

Police report is to be received by the clerk every second month; the next report will be in the October meeting

## 9. FINANCE

**Grant Applications:** Scalloway Boating Club have applied for £500 for a new mains distribution board and EICR inspection. Mark noted that the £500 is a large amount of money, which may be more beneficial to groups with less access to funds. John M asked if the Boating Club were wanting the community council to pay for their maintenance, and whether this could be covered. Ian told the committee that the Boating Club are trying to upgrade the entire building, and have already spent thousands fixing the roof, which is estimated to last for ten years. When Andrew asked for the reason that they would have noted the VAT, Ian argued that the club has a new committee, and this would have been a result of that. John M appreciated their enthusiasm, but thought that the bigger picture would need to be seen. John H pointed out that with both of the grant applications made by the Boating Club, they could be receiving £3000 in grants money. Michael thought that the Boating Club already had healthy funding, and that locally there is more fundraising that they could do. Ian informed the committee that a quantity surveyor has been at the Boating Club building, with regard to heating and security systems for the building following a five to ten year strategy. After further discussion, Mark suggested that the decision to grant the application should be deferred, and praised the ongoing funding that the Boating Club is currently doing and finding their efforts admirable. It was agreed to defer the grant application

**Special Projects Grant:** Davie has not passed on further information

**Supporting Communities Fund:** Davie has not passed on further information

**Scalloway Hall:** John M confirms that the works are almost complete, waiting for the finials, due to a transport and materials delay. Waiting on the Malakoff. Works of the hall have been completed, which included the flagpoles and lighting, rails the last to complete. Bus shelter is outstanding, but the council is to deal with that. Lindsay asked about the third bicycle rack, would the hall like to have it brought down. Mark will raise this.

### **Action: Mark**

Mark suggested that since the works had been completed, that a ceremony to celebrate the completion, with the possibility of raising the Scalloway flag, or aligning it with another event. Ian agreed, and also noted that some people are interested in purchasing flags of their own. Ian has also decided to take the flag down later this week, due to the risk of wear and tear due to poor weather forecasts. Moraig agreed that the overall works on the Scalloway hall is looking good.

### **Action: Ian**

Mark further suggested that to celebrate the completion, a walk could be organised around Scalloway, ending at the hall. Lindsay suggested that the walk could be used to

highlight the projects that the community council have helped and worked on throughout the years (eg benches). Moraig suggested passing the new boards, and John H added that the museum could be involved. Michael agrees.

**Jamieson Trust:** Mark electrical engineer is currently working on other projects, will be contacted again in three weeks

**Action: Mark**

10. CORRESPONDENCE

All relevant email correspondence circulated to all members.

**Historic Scotland:** clerk received an email from Historic Scotland, who wanted information on who maintained the flowerbeds and access to the electricity box at Scalloway Castle. Sarah Kay maintains the flowerbeds on the West elevation. Was originally set up by the community trust, before being passed onto the community council. John H remembered that the castle used to be floodlit, paid for by the community council. Mark informed the committee that the floodlights were initially installed for a community light up scheme started by an electricity company. Installation was done by someone else, but the community council paid for it and the annual electricity bill for a number of years, before the vandalism of some of the lights resulted in the rest of the lights being taken away. The concrete plinths and electric cables are currently still there. Floodlights could still be installed, according to Historic Scotland, as long as the ground was not disturbed. Enertech's Christian Leith offered to do the work and supply the lights for free, but insurance ended up being too expensive for the community council. Museum declined to be involved with the project. QA Fish, after building an extension offered to install lights to light the building from the East, but nothing has come of this. Lights would need to be insured if on the castle grounds, or be someone else's responsibility if outside of the grounds. John H wanted to know if the community council still had the key for the electrical box, which Mark was unsure of, but thought that Edna may know, and that he would make enquiries with the previous members of the community council. Michael pointed out that Lerwick's community council pay for the electricity at one of Lerwick's historic sites, wasn't sure about the insurance. Mark notes that Clickimin Broch is on Historic Scotland's land, and that it's a sore spot that Scalloway castle doesn't get the same support. Lindsay asked if they were using energy efficient lights, which was confirmed, and Mark suggested that vandal resistant lights could be used, then this could be a long term solution.

**Action: John H**

**Vacant House:** Ian informed the committee that when the last residents moved out, the house was deemed unsafe; shortly afterwards, the house flooded due to the water not being turned off. The property requires redevelopment according to George Martin, but is currently unfit for habitation. Davie messaged the committee additional information prior to the meeting, the council was looking for a contractor, but this has been empty for four years. The current plan is to demolish it, but this was prior to the flooding. Louise said that the resident was notified that the house would be rebuilt, then was returned to the council in 2017 after one of the owners went into care, with a letter

saying it would be rebuilt being received in 2019. Would like to know if the council would need to be chased up. The council currently cuts the grass and maintains the trees in the properties garden. Housing is to be contacted.

**Action: Clerk**

11. PLANNING

**2021/203/PPF:** Erection of two wind turbines at Scord Quarry. They are to be 15m. Planning consultation had not been received by the clerk as of this meeting, but this will be passed to members once received.

12. COMMUNITY COUNCIL BY-ELECTION

Michael lets the committee know that there were 27 vacancies across 13 community councils before the election. There were 10 new nomination forms across 6 community councils, with only one contested seat (Fetlar). There is still a vacancy for the Scalloway Community Council, so the next step is to co-opt the seat with an interested party. Louise suggested that Julie Buchan may have been interested, though this may not still be the case. Mark suggested that there was a Mrs Holden that was interested on the facebook group, and will try to contact her to see if this is still the case.

**Action: Louise and Mark**

13. AOCB

**Vouchers:** John H suggested that the voucher scheme for the over 80s should be done again this year. Louise wanted to ensure that we had the finances to commit to this, as well as ensuring that the vouchers are posted out. Mark suggested getting in contact with the over 60s club to gather a list of names, and offered to speak to them. A late donation was made last year, so there should be enough funds for the vouchers again. Local businesses will be contacted to support the scheme, and Andrew has offered to supply a list of local businesses from last year, and Mark suggested contacting the legion as well. The local Brownies and Rainbows already give gifts to the over 70s so it was suggested that they be contacted to avoid duplication.

**Action: Mark and Joy**

**Scalloway Hotel:** Mark told the committee that the picnic benches outside of the Scalloway Hotel are in disrepair, being already broken in some places, and being a potential danger. As the hotel is in liquidation, the liquidators will need to be contacted so they can deal with this issue. Louise agreed, further pointing out that there seems to be nails sticking out of the wood, and that with winter coming up, this needs to be dealt with quickly.

**Action: Lindsay and Joy**

**Scalloway swimming Pool:** Louise noticed that the fence and pool sign looked like they could use a coat of paint, and that the Recreation Trust should be contacted about this

**Action: Joy**

**Salmon Nets:** Lindsay said that salmon nets at the harbour sometimes 'bulge out' onto the public footpath, causing an obstruction to locals and tourists using the path. The water that runs off the nets tends to go over the footpath, which could be off-putting to pedestrians. The harbour master is to be contacted with regard to this.

**Action: Joy**

14. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next full meeting of the Scalloway Community Council will be held on Monday 18 October 2021 via Zoom on-line.

Meeting ended at 8.50pm.