



TINGWALL, WHITENESS & WEISDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 20th October 2021 at Whiteness Hall

1.0 Present: Andrew Archer – chair
Winston Brown
Linda Tulloch
Dilys Evans
Neil Leask
Angela Sutherland
Martin Randall
Charles Hodge
Karl Mills – clerk

Ian Scott
Catherine Hughson
Moraig Lyall

Jamie Henderson - Police
Katrina Sandison - Police

2.0 Apologies: Steven Coutts
Theo Smith

Michael Duncan

3.0 Declarations of Interest

Linda Tulloch and Winston Brown declared interests in Viking-related matters.
Moraig Lyall declared an interest in item 10 - Planning.

4.0 Approval of Minutes

On a motion proposed by Angela Sutherland and seconded by Neil Leask the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 15th September 2021 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

5.0 Matters arising from the Minutes

- On 14th September 2021 the clerk wrote to Dave Coupe – SIC Roads, to express the community council's concerns about the Haggersta – Cova section of the A971 road, where increased traffic due to the windfarm development and the lack of crash barriers has made the current safety issues worse. Dave Coupe replied saying that there was no prospect of crash barriers being installed in the near future. In the light of this response the chair agreed to write again to Dave Coupe to request a lowering of the speed limit instead.
- Regarding the possibility of constructing a path between Kalliness and Whiteness Primary School, community councillors conducted a walk along the general line of the path in order to see the terrain in detail and consider possible routes for the path. Community councillors have now been informed by SIC-Roads that if a path were constructed, this could diminish the chances of road improvements being carried out. As safer walking appeared to be the biggest priority in the community's responses to the survey that is being carried out, it was decided to wait to decide on the next steps until the report on the survey responses was available. This was expected to take a couple of weeks to prepare.
- Representatives from the council's Orion project have agreed to attend the November community council meeting. The chair had stressed to them that the focus of their presentation should be on the anticipated impact on Shetland's landscape and how the community would be consulted for their agreement.
- Rory Tallach will be invited to talk to the community council at a future meeting on the subject of peat restoration.

6.0 Decisions made since last meeting

There were no decisions made by e-mail vote since the last meeting.

7.0 Finance

- The Financial Report dated 11th October 2021 was distributed to members.
- Two grant applications were considered by the community council:
 - Whiteness Welfare Committee asked for a grant of £71.40 to cover the cost of purchasing two wreaths for the Remembrance Day service. This was approved.
 - Whiteness & Weisdale Recreation Club applied for a grant of £1,000 to assist with the purchase of a new mat for sporting activities. This was approved.

8.0 Police Report

The Police Briefing Paper for August-September 2021 was distributed to community councillors prior to the meeting. Two Police Officers attended the meeting. They said that on-line fraud was a growing concern in Shetland, with bogus e-mails purporting to come from organisations such as Royal Mail or DVLA. The Police advised that suspicious-looking e-mails should be deleted without opening them. Another issue of concern was speeding lorry drivers in the Whiteness and Weisdale area, and the Police were asked to look into this.

9.0 Correspondence

- A letter was received from John Sinclair of Kalliness, dated 23rd September 2021, saying that he was very concerned about the prospect of large items such as turbine blades being transported along the A971. The clerk was asked to reply to him, saying that the community council agrees.
- Mark Burgess of Scalloway Community Council had been in touch to tell us about the 'friendship agreement' they have with a community in Norway to jointly remember and commemorate the operations of The Shetland Bus during World War II. Following changes to the structure of the community in Norway, Scalloway CC were debating whether to ask other local CCs to join the partnership. A formal approach might appear in the next few weeks.
- Andrew Morrison had been in touch to raise his concerns about multiple road safety issues along the A971 through Whiteness and Weisdale. His concerns were discussed and this formed part of the decision to request a lowering of the speed limit.

10.0 Planning

- 2021/302/S37SIM - Retrospective Consent for existing line subject to Section 37 consent - 11kV overhead supported by wooden poles Between HU38584376 and HU38534379 South Whiteness. The clerk to submit a response of 'No comment'.
- 2021/294/PPF - Demolish existing extension to the east elevation and erect single storey extension to the east/south, re-roof existing cottage and reconfigured layout at North House South Whiteness. The clerk to submit a response of 'No comment'.
- 2021/309/PPF – Erection of a polycrub at Setter. The clerk to submit a response of 'No comment'.
- Appeal re: access for new house at Stebbigrind. The clerk to submit a response saying that 'the community council considers the requirement for construction of a new access point to be excessive, and that a widening of the existing access point would suffice'.

11.0 ZetTrans survey

After a general discussion the following points were agreed:

- More car-carrying capacity and more cabins are needed on the Northlink ferry between Lerwick and Aberdeen.

- Cabins designed for single occupancy should be installed.
- High cost of travel on Northlink ferry should be reviewed.
- The method of collecting fares on the inter-island ferries needs to be modernised.
- There needs to be an improved return bus service from Tingwall and Whiteness to Scalloway.
- A bus service from Breiwick and Calif would help residents. Moraig Lyall reported that this had been promised but had not yet materialised.
- Car-park charges at Sumburgh Airport are too high.
- It should be made easier to take bicycles on buses.
- Thought should be given to setting up a community-based driver scheme.

12.0 SCBF

- Angela Sutherland said that a course on leadership was being run by SSE, and this would enable members of other benefit funds to exchange ideas. She said that planning for succession is important, and that an Induction Pack had been put together for the benefit of new directors.
- Consultants based in Glasgow have been appointed to run a Shetland-wide consultation programme on how the larger fund should be used. This consultation would start next year.
- The local survey conducted by the community council has resulted in the return of 130 questionnaires. These will be analysed, and a report will be issued in about two weeks.
- There have been no new applications for grants from SCBF since the last meeting.

13.0 Councillors' Reports

Councillors had nothing to report.

14.0 AOCB

- The dates of TWWCC meetings in 2022 was agreed. Meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each month. There will be no meeting in December 2022.
- Following the success of the first meeting of TWWCC to be held at Whiteness Hall, it was agreed that we would use this venue on a regular basis. The clerk will advise Whiteness Hall of the agreed meeting dates for 2022, and arrange the bookings.
- It was agreed that an additional voting member would be co-opted onto the community council and that two further non-voting members would also be invited to join. The additional voting member would be Patrick Ross-Smith of Weisdale.
- It was decided to run the Christmas voucher scheme again this year. The format would be the same as last year whereby vouchers and a Christmas card made by local school-children would be given to all residents over the age of eighty years. Adverts would be placed in the local shops and on Facebook to try to identify any residents who had turned 80 during the year. Linda said that she would contact the schools to ask them to produce the cards.
- Some residents at Kalliness have said that the tall trees near the residences need to be pruned to allow the wider views to be seen. The clerk was asked to write to SIC Housing about this.
- SSE has offered three possible dates for a visit to the converter station: 27/11, 4/12 or 11/12.
- Some people have mentioned the dirty state of bus shelters. Councillors advised that these are the responsibility of SIC Roads. The clerk was asked to write to SIC Roads accordingly.
- Andrew Archer agreed to write to SSEN about the issue of speeding or careless driving by their staff along the Cott road.

15.0 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 17th November 2021