

# Sandsting & Aithsting Community Council

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Minutes of a meeting of Sandsting & Aithsting Community Council held in the Rankin Lounge, Aith on Monday 20 June 2022 at 7.30pm.

Present: J Priest Mrs S Deyell  
M Bennett A Johnston  
G Morrison  
Ex officio: Cllr Liz Peterson Cllr John Leask  
In attendance: Mrs L Fraser, Clerk

Mr J Priest presiding

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**APOLOGIES:** Apologies were intimated on behalf of Ms D Nicolson, Mr J D Garrick, Mrs J Fraser and Mr M Duncan, Community Council Liaison Officer.

**MINUTES & REPORT:** The minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2022, having been circulated, were taken as read and were approved. Moved by Mr M Bennett, seconded by Mrs S Deyell.

**BUSINESS ARISING:** **Police:** No information.

**Broadband:** Nothing to report.

**Road Matters:** **Road past Garderhouse:** Cllr L Peterson had requested and received an update from Mr N Hutcheson at the Roads Dept saying that the safety barrier contract will be slightly delayed but it will hopefully start about the end of June. The design work for Phase 2 of the Garderhouse improvements is progressing and the contract is now due to be tendered at the start of August with a start on site towards the end of that month.

**Roads Reports:** Reports received and circulated to the members.

**Speed of traffic coming down the hill towards Sandsound junction:** Mr M Bennett had kindly put together a summary of events and issues relating to the provision of the speed limit at Tresta. It will be circulated to the members and Councillors for information.

Cllr L Peterson had received a message from Mr D Coupe at the Roads Dept saying how the information gathered is felt to be sufficient.

**Viking Energy Wind Farm:** An amended copy of the minutes from the meeting of the Viking Community Liaison Group held on 19 April was received and circulated to the members.

**Shetland Community Benefit Fund (SCBF) Advance Grant Scheme (AGS):** The Clerk had completed the survey as the Clerk and had also, with the assistance of the Chairman, completed one of behalf of the Community Council.

A further application was received and considered:-

180251 – Shetland Amenity Trust to expand their tree nursery operation at Staney Hill enabling them to increase tree production and planting.

The members are sympathetic towards the project and agreed that the Trust does a good job in encouraging the growing of trees in Shetland. However, Shetland Amenity Trust is a

Shetland-wide group and the Community Council are aware that there are local groups who are preparing AGS applications for bigger projects. It was felt, therefore, that it is prudent to grant the finance available to local groups. It is hoped that the Amenity Trust will be successful in applying for grants from other sources.

**Update on grants:** Investing in Communities Fund: Final meeting not yet been held.

Community Development Fund – Distribution 22/23: CDF grant now been deposited in the Community Council's bank account.

**Funding:** Various funding information was received from Mr M Duncan, Community Council Liaison Officer.

**Association:** Ms D Nicolson had represented this Community Council at the Association meeting on 14 June and sent a report to the Clerk. She will circulate it to the members.

A message was received from Mr M Duncan thanking everyone who attended the hybrid meeting. This will hopefully be the format of ASCC meetings going forward. He attached a brief summary of the meeting informing members what items were discussed.

Mr M Duncan also attached a copy of the action plan for publicising the 2022 Community Council elections.

**Orion Project:** On going.

**Turning area at inner end of Sandsound road:** Mr M Bennett had sent a message to Mr N Robertson at the Roads Dept enquiring about the provision of the sign at the turning point in Sandsound. Mr N Robertson had replied saying he had delegated this provision and was unsure why it has not yet been provided but he will investigate.

**Speed of traffic passing Cake Fridge:** The signs and road markings near the Cake Fridge has not yet been provided. An enquiry will be sent asking when this work will be done.

**Brig at Burn of Lunklet:** Cllr L Peterson had contacted Mr N Hutcheson for information regarding the repair to this bridge. He had replied saying that they had considered undertaking the repair "in-house" but have concluded that it would be better to employ a contractor so that their Roadworkers can continue with their more regular duties such as patching and ditching. They will be seeking quotes from contractors to rebuild the wall using the original concrete blocks to ensure a match with the parapet wall on the other side of the bridge. Their availability and likely start date on site, not just the price quoted, will be part of the selection process. He will provide an update when this process is concluded.

The members were surprised that the original concrete blocks, which are at present in the burn, are to be used for the repair and felt that it may be more appropriate to put modern sides on the bridge instead. This suggestion will be forwarded to Mr N Hutcheson.

**Bin at Sand beach:** Mrs S Deyell agreed to check whether the bin had been replaced and, if not, an enquiry will be sent.

**UNADOPTED ROADS:** The advert inviting applications for assistance towards unadopted roads was placed in the Shetland Times and has been displayed on the Community Council's Facebook page. Notices will also be on display in the local shops. The closing date is Friday 8 July and the applications will be considered at our July meeting. The account from the Shetland Times will be settled.

**PLANNING APPLICATION:** The following planning application was considered and approved:-

2022/134/PPP Erect dwellinghouse (Planning Permission in Principle), Plot 3 Marthastoon, Aith by Mr Norman Leask.

**SHETLAND EXTERNAL TRANSPORT FORUM:** A message was received from Mr M Duncan saying that Alistair Christie-Henry (Bressay CC) is to attend the Forum (21 June) on behalf of the Association of Community Councils.

**COUNCIL CUSTOMER SURVEY:** The SIC launched an online survey looking for feedback on customers' experiences of SIC services. It closed on 17 June.

**SURVEY ON SEAWEED:** Ms Mairi Telford Jammeh, a Student at the University of the Highlands & Islands, is carrying out research for her Masters degree. She is looking for people who would be willing to take part in a survey about community perspectives of seaweed harvesting and cultivation in community in the north west Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

Shetland has not been much involved in the seaweed industry.

**SCOTTISH LAND COMMISSION:** Information about the Scottish Land Commission Public meeting was received from Mr M Duncan. The Chairman and Cllr L Peterson had joined the meeting and had found it interesting.

**ACCESS TO PERIOD PRODUCTS CONSULTATION:** Details of the survey regarding access to period products was received from Ms Frances Browne, Community Involvement & Development Officer for the North Isles. The survey closed on 12 June. The members agreed that it is good to have products available in as many public places as possible.

**TINGWALL AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM & HERITAGE CENTRE:** A letter was received from Mr Harry Irvine, Chairman to Tingwall Agricultural Museum & Heritage Centre, saying that the Committee are preparing to submit a fresh application for funding for their project to the Heritage Lottery Fund now that Covid related restrictions have been lifted. They aim to build a suitable facility to house the extensive collection of agricultural artefacts belonging to the late Mrs Jean Sandison MBE of Tingwall along with the many other items from private individuals who wish to donate them as there is no other museum in Shetland with the capacity to either store or display them. They ask for a Letter of Support for their project on behalf of this Community Council in order to aid their application.

The members agreed that this is a very worthwhile project and a letter will be sent.

**INITIAL CONSULTATION ON THE USE OF THE VIKING COMMUNITY FUND:** IBP Strategy & Research has been commissioned by Shetland Community Benefit Fund to undertake an independent programme of community consultation with the communities of Shetland to guide the development of a business plan for the use of the Viking Community Fund, to be delivered through Shetland Community Benefit Fund. This will be an extensive process, delivered over an 18 month period, which will involve IBP engaging in details with the local community and stakeholders to consider what they might wish to see delivered via the Fund and how this might work in practice. They are undertaking initial consultations to gather insights from some key stakeholders as to the issues that are already impacting on Shetland or will do so in the future. This will feed into an initial Situation Review that will guide the subsequent consultation and business planning work. They have scheduled two initial Briefing and Discussion sessions with Community Council representatives.

**VAS REPORT:** The agenda of the AGM of Voluntary Action Shetland to be held on 30 June was received along with their 2021-2022 Annual Report.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held on Monday 25 July 2022 at 7.30pm in the Rankin Lounge, Aith.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.  
The meeting closed at 9.15pm