

**GULBERWICK, QUARFF & CUNNINGSBURGH
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5th JULY 2022
VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING AT 7.30PM

A. THE CIRCULAR CALLING THE MEETING HELD WAS READ BY THE CLERK.

Nominations for chair were called for but none were forthcoming. Mr C Clark agreed to stand in as interim chairperson for the meeting.

B. PRESENT Mrs L Johnston Mrs P Christie Mr S Douglas

EX OFFICIO Dr A Armitage

IN ATTENDANCE Mrs K Geddes

CHAIRPERSON Mr C Clark (interim)

APOLOGIES Mrs S Wishart Mr M Duncan Mr E MacPherson
Mr R Skinley Mr B Peterson Mrs M Davis
Mr R McGregor Mrs A Arnett

NOT PRESENT Mr A Duncan

Information – due to the Covid-19 Virus pandemic meetings are being held online.

C. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 10 MAY 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10 May were approved on the motion of Mr C Clark and seconded by Mrs L Johnston.

1. MATTERS ARISING

1. Meetings in Cunningsburgh Primary School

An email from Cunningsburgh Primary School headteacher Mr Melvyn Clark was read and noted. He had indicated the school would be willing for us to use them as a venue when face-to-face/hybrid meetings can happen once again. The clerk has already been in contact to say thank you and that we will get in touch when we would like to meet there again.

2. Update from ASCC Meeting

Mr S Douglas attended the ASCC on June 14th and said that there was nothing outwith what had already been shared by Michael Duncan to tell members about.

The meeting was a hybrid one for the first time, and Mr Duncan emailed the following update after it:

The ASCC had Chris Bunyan along from Shetland Community Benefit Fund Chair Chris Bunyan in attendance who provided an update on SBCF plans to consult on the future use of its funds and answered a range of questions.

DRAFT MINUTES – Subject to approval at the August 2022 meeting

A discussion took place re issues about parking in inappropriate places such as turning points, laybys and blocking roads. A number of ideas were raised to remind drivers.

There was a discussion about Community Council core funding which has not changed for a number of years. Further discussions took place about the existing core grant funding calculations and options for the Community Development Fund. It was agreed that the ASCC contact SIC Finance in the first instance to request an annual increase in funding.

There was also an update on plans to publicise the 2022 Community Council elections. It was agreed that the ASCC apply to the Community Development Fund to help cover the cost of the agreed action plan. A copy of the action plan is attached for information – Community Councils are encouraged to discuss local publicity and to actively promote the elections locally over the coming months. Community Councils may wish to use some of the ideas and/or start conversations with potential candidates.

Lastly, I write to ask if your Community Council have any agenda item requests for the next ASCC meeting on Tuesday 13 September. If you wish to put forward agenda suggestions please complete in full and return the attached pro-forma to me by no later than 1pm, Friday 22 July. Meeting papers will be issued asap after this.

2. POLICE REPORT

The clerk read out details of the Police Report for April and May. There were details of a road safety course delivered to schools. All S6 & S5 pupils from Anderson High School and Brae High School had Drive Ambition delivered by Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue, Scottish Ambulance Service, a local Driving Instructor and Shetland Island Council. Total Energies sponsored the event.

There were seven incidents recorded for Gulberwick, Cunningsburgh and Quarff which were summarised as follows:

- Concern for person (3)
- Road Traffic offence (No MOT)
- Child protection
- Mental health
- Minor Road Traffic Offence

3. FINANCE

The bank statement on July 5th reads £6,693.81.

The only activity in the account outwith the usual is the fact that the Shetland Charitable Trust has deposited the £4,500 grant for the Free Hot Meal project.

The Community Development Fund application for £3,000 has been approved as has our core funding of £9,923. The money should be in the account fairly soon. None of our grant budget has yet been spent.

Financial Year End

The accounts have been prepared and will be submitted to VAS for independent verification before the next meeting.

Covid Relief Fund/Free Hot Meals Project

The Cunningsburgh Hall has been paying for the meals using the GQC CC grant awarded. When those funds run out we have the SCT Small Grants Scheme Grant to use. We still have a few grocery vouchers left for Mackenzie's and Sound.

4. GRANT APPLICATIONS & SHETLAND COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND UPDATE

The grant acceptance letters for the Shetland Islands Council grants have been signed and submitted and the money should be in the account soon. These are the £9,923 Core Funding and £3,000 Distribution Fund grants.

There were two applications from the Shetland Community Benefit Fund Advanced Grant Scheme. The first was awarded the full amount requested:

The Shetland Bus Friendship Society - £300 towards enhancing the slipway

Shetland Amenity Trust requested £1,000 towards expanding their tree nursery operation but members decided not to award anything due to only having a small amount left in the grant budget, and because it was a Shetland-wide application. Members felt that discussions needed to be had about what Shetland-wide applications had to demonstrate – if anything – to be in with a chance to be awarded money. Members were keen to support green initiatives such as tree planting but felt that a small local fund was not perhaps the way to do it. Some of the Shetland-wide applications which had been successful in the past would probably be looked upon differently now.

ACTION: Clerk to complete and return the paperwork for the SCBF.

5. ROAD ISSUES/CAMPAIGN FOR REDUCED SPEED LIMITS

There was no update on any roads issues but members took the opportunity to share more information with newly appointed SIC Councillor Dr Armitage on what some of the issues were. In particular the Black Gaet junction, the speed limit in Quarff and Cunningsburgh, and lack of verges and passing places in many single-track roads – especially those which have been getting busier and seeing larger vehicles using them.

Dr Armitage said that he shares the concerns of members and will 'join the noise and hopefully help push the issues.' He was able to speak from a road safety point of view, as well as a Green Party member supporting safe, active travel, but also with his paediatric emergency medic hat on.

He has already had meetings with SIC Officials in the Roads Department and will continue to do so. Members also advised him to speak to Cllr McGregor for background from an SIC Councillor point of view.

ACTION: Dr Armitage to continue to meet with SIC Road Department officials and also to speak to Cllr McGregor for some background on the issues.

6. GULBERWICK, QUARFF & CUNNINGSBURGH DEVELOPMENT GROUP UPDATE

Mr Clark gave Dr Armitage some background on the group and what has happened with it so far. The group would like further information on the best way to set up to ensure their objectives can be met. They would like to be able to push on projects which will benefit the community across the GQ&C area and apply for funding for the projects too. A meeting has been set up with group members and the Scottish Community Development Centre and with VAS to gain extra insight on how to proceed. The meeting will be on July 14th at 6.45pm via Zoom.

An idea for the group to consider was sent in via email by Mavis Robertson and circulated as an attachment to the agenda:

DRAFT MINUTES – Subject to approval at the August 2022 meeting

The Gulberwick Burn goes under the road and passes through a piece of rough pasture. It used to be full of wild flowers but is now too overgrown. It needs to be grazed or cut at the end of the season to remove longer stronger grasses. (As on SSSIs, eg Cunningsburgh Meadows).

I think it belongs to Alistair Harper at Trebister. I talked to him about putting sheep in at an appropriate time but he said the problem was inadequate fencing. Perhaps, if Alistair were agreeable, funding could assist with replacing the fencing and we could enjoy a rich mixture of wildflowers once more.

Members agreed it was a good idea to investigate and Mr Clark said he had already added it to the spreadsheet.

ACTION: Mr Clark to keep everyone informed.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were two planning applications which members were required to comment on. None of them had any objections to return though comments on members concerns about the need to upgrade the infrastructure in the area to meet the demand of the extra traffic will be added to the feedback for the development of five houses:

[2022/130/PPF](#): Construct five houses with ASHPs and associated access roads and drainage, Plots, Greenmow, Cunningsburgh

[2022/141/PPF](#): Site static caravan with access and parking, Plot at Orlee, Aithsetter, Cunningsburgh

One other application was on the planning website but did not require comment:

[2022/133/PPF](#): Extend and alter house and install ASHP, Linga, Easter Quarff, Quarff

ACTION: Clerk to send responses to SIC Planning.

8. SUPPORT LETTERS

Correspondence requesting support from the Community Council for two projects were received and members agreed to support them both with letters to aid their bids for funding.

The Tingwall Agricultural Museum is aiming to build a suitable facility to house agricultural artefacts and is applying to the Heritage Lottery Fund to do so.

Shetland Table Tennis Association are applying to the Coastal Communities Fund to employ a part-time Development Officer for a three-year project.

ACTION: Clerk to write letters of support to both organisations.

10. AOCB

1. Get Well Soon Card for Cllr McGregor

Members all agreed that they would like to send a get well soon card to Cllr McGregor.

ACTION: Clerk to send a card on behalf of all members wishing Cllr McGregor a speedy recovery.

2. Thank you from Dr Armitage

Dr Armitage thanked members for having him and for introducing him to each of the issues on the agenda.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 23rd August 2022.

Meeting Ends – 8.13 pm.

CHAIR

12. OUTSTANDING ITEMS

January 2021 - Torches for school children from Elaine Skinley, SIC Road Safety Officer. To be distributed when the schools open again.

February 2021 – Radicle Road – an SIC Roads engineer is to look at the road to see if any maintenance work can be done to the verges to improve the road for all users.

September 2021 – Heathery Park Path Clearing – a third meet-up to clear the last weeds off the path was unable to be organised. Members to look again in spring 2022.