

to be approved by SCC Members via Zoom meeting on 17/04/23

SCALLOWAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Scalloway Community Council Meeting held on Monday 20th March 2023 at 7pm via Zoom on-line meeting.

1. PRESENT:

Mark Burgess
Andrew Blackadder
Lindsay Laurenson
Barbara Anderson
Joanne Holden

In attendance:

Joy Ramsay – Clerk
Cllr Catherine Hughson
Cllr Moraig Lyall
Cllr Davie Sandison
Marie Williamson

2. APOLOGIES:

Kennie Pottinger
Cllr Ian Scott
Roselyn Fraser – SIC
Michael Duncan – SIC

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2023 were proposed by Andrew and seconded by Mark.

4. ELECTION OF CHAIR/ VICE CHAIR

Mark was put forward as the temporary chair for the meeting, and Andrew was put forward for vice chair.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING NOT ON THE AGENDA

New Member: Andrew notified the committee that Joanne Holden has agreed to be co-opted as a member of the SCC committee. Her application was proposed by Andrew and seconded by Kenny, and the necessary papers will be passed onto her at the earliest convenience. It was also noted that Marie Williamson and Mark Wiggans were hoping to join the committee, and the paperwork for this will be passed onto them.

Action: Joy

Integrated Joint Board: the discussion raised at the previous meeting was once again raised as a point of interest, with a particular focus on who would be eligible, and the process of tendering projects. It was agreed that a formal response should be drafted and sent to the IJB to raise these concerns, a decision proposed by

Andrew, and seconded by Mark. The notes will be passed onto the clerk, and will be sent onto them.

Action: Clerk

Gritters: Moraig is still to meet with or message Neil Hutchison with regard to trackers being present on gritters, which will be shared with the members via email. Lindsay also noted that the number of private gritters seems to have risen, in place of the official council gritters.

Action: Moraig

6. SCALLOWAY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

Recreate Scalloway: a new development co-ordinator has been hired, to carry out further work on the feasibility study and organise discussions with interested parties. The aim is for this position to be made longer term.

Caravan Site: Davie informed the committee that the majority of the work is to be finished by the end of the month, with the meter hopefully being installed in April if things go to plan. Bookings for the site can begin on 31st March, with the site opening on 1st May. There are hopes for a local opening event, though this has not been confirmed.

7. ASCC UPDATE

BT: The March meeting was attended by Mark, and raised the item on BT landlines, and the issue of digital connections compared to the previous analogue lines. It was noted that this issue occurred in other constituencies, including rural Aberdeenshire. It was decided that BT Openreach would be contacted with regard to this issue, with Mark taking a lead on the topic. The aim would be to have a BT representative attend the June ASCC meeting. Catherine noted that this was already being looked into by the Community Safety Resilience boards, a part of a 'lessons learned' review of the December storms.

Rural Resilience: This was raised by the Yell representative; this was a suggestion that would ensure that rural communities were able to support themselves during times of extreme weather conditions, like those experienced in December 2022 and March 2023. This would include fuelled generators being set up at community hubs such as the local halls, with cooking facilities and support also being made available to the community.

Community Council Review: the SIC are planning on reviewing the current set up of the scheme of community councils of Shetland. The items include:

1. Undertake consultation with Community Councils, Community Councillors and clerks
2. Undertake consultation with council services, external partners, stakeholders and the wider community on the role of community councils
3. Undertake research into Community Council Schemes of Establishment operated by other Local Authorities

4. Consider and review legal format of Community Councils and explore alternatives that would enhance their legal capacity
5. Review number of Community Councils and existing boundaries
6. Review Local Election Rules and consider mechanisms to support Community Councils to be representative of their local communities
7. Consider Community Council funding, which will include Community Council core funding and its relationship to the Council's Community Development Fund grant aid scheme.

The SCC were in agreement that the above items should be discussed. Views from the SCC members have been welcomed. Davie questioned the timeframe for the review; this has been estimated to begin in April, with a council member's seminar. This will then go back to the community groups in May, and discussed during the June meeting. The first consultation stage will begin in July, and end in September. The aim is for the launch of the scheme to be in December 2024, within the two year appointment of the current community council members. There are also concerns that whilst the community councils are meant to be partially independent from the SIC, they are the ones that could possibly making changes as a result of the review, including possibly combining community councils. There are also concerns that if areas are combined, the number of community council members will be decreased, which could result in good members of the community councils being dropped as a result of a limit to members.

8. ROADS

Burwick Community Group: Liam Drosso from Outdoor Access Shetland was contacted on behalf of the community council, and has since responded to the request possible support options that could be available for the Burwick Community Group. Mr Drosso agreed that the Burwick track was part of the core path network, but that the core path network does not have any individuals that are in charge of maintaining pathways; further to this, whilst paths are to be maintained, this is for non-vehicular access, which is not what the group would require. Andrew noted that due to the possible width of the path, it could possibly be classed as a cycle path (up to 2.5 metres) which could be funded by classing the path as an active travel route. Lindsay suggested that the quarry could be approached about supplying chips for local roads through a voucher scheme, similar to the unadopted road grant scheme; Mark advised that an attempt similar to this was attempted some time ago, with the SIC being approached to waive the admin fee that is in place. This was, for one reason or another, not tenable. Burwick community group is to be advised of Andrew's suggestion.

Action: Clerk

Tingwall Valley Speed Limit: the speed limit in the Tingwall Valley being reduced to 20mph was raised during the meeting, and is to be brought to roads attention once again.

Action: Clerk

9. POLICE

The police briefing papers for February/March 2023 will be sent on to the committee members and read out during the next meeting.

10. FINANCE

Community Development Fund: The Scalloway Youth and Community Centre Submitted two grant applications to the community council; one application was for £200 for the purchase of gardening equipment, and another for £150 that would fund a summer art project that would run at the same time as the Tall Ship Races in Scalloway. Mark declared a conflict of interest with these applications, and Andrew stepped in as chair. The applications were approved by the members in attendance, who noted the benefits that this would have to the street appeal of Scalloway.

Action: Clerk

It was noted that whilst the financial year was coming to an end, there was still £1,587.27 left in the Community Distribution Fund, which would otherwise be returned. It was suggested that community groups should be contacted before the end of the month, and encouraged to apply for grants if they had not already done so. If applications do come through, the decision was made that these will be approved over email in the meantime, until the end of March.

Action: Clerk

Community Benefit Fund: TSB Junior Football Club applied for £500 to purchase football training equipment for their weekly football sessions. It was agreed that whilst the SCC was in support of fully funding this application, it was noted that the grant would be eligible to come out of the CDF. It was suggested that Glenn Gilfillan should be contacted, and suggest that the funding should be requested from the CDF rather than the CBF, which has the deadline of September to be used.

Action: Clerk

As detailed in the previous meeting, the Shetland Recreational Trust applied for £300 for the recruitment of a person able to work one to one with groups or individuals that may require additional support whilst engaging in physical activities. An enquiry was made as to how this would specifically benefit Scalloway, how the tendering process was carried out, and what other methods of funding the project had been taken by the SRT. In SRT's response, they indicated that at least one individual in Scalloway receiving one-on-one support from SKAPA, other companies had been looked into before SKAPA was decided as the most appropriate candidate, and they had applied to the Whiskey Fund, which was unfortunately not successful, but they have so far received £2,500 from the SCBF. It was decided in light of this information, that the funding would be granted, with the clerk to alert the CBF to this decision.

Action: Clerk

Special Project Grants: The monumental stone mason is going to send a quote to Mark for the cost of the works. An extension for the project is to be requested, due to a number of factors that have caused delays.

Action: Mark

Jamieson Trust: work is still to be carried out by the electricians, who still have other work to do in the hall.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

All relevant email correspondence circulated to all members.

Burwick Community Group: a letter was received from a representative of the Burwick Community Group, regarding the condition of their unadopted road, and the possibility of an unadopted road grant to aid with the maintenance. The damage to the road is to the extent that essiekerts and post vans are no longer willing to drive along this road. The group has been in touch with SCC regarding this in the past. The annual road grants that may have been used by the group in the past no longer runs, and a number of the alternative grants options suggested were deemed inappropriate in this instance. Andrew noted that as the area is more populated than previous years, the road being adopted may be more viable than it was in the past. There were enquiries into whether parts of this road could be classified as a core paths, which could gain support from the Core Paths Network. Mark also noted that Paths for All could be an option for the community group to look into. The clerk is to get back in touch with the Burwick Community Group to inform them of the committee's discussion, and contact Liam Drosso, Access Officer for Shetland, regarding the road's status as a core path.

Action: Clerk

12. PLANNING

Davie declared interest, as a member of the Planning Committee.

2022/290/PPF: Application for the addition of storage laydown facility to complement existing facility at Black Gaet, Scalloway. Lindsay had been approached by Neil Nicolson with regard to this application, who requested a letter of support for this application. Planning had not passed this application onto the clerk, so this seems to have been missed. It was agreed that a letter of support is to be written by Lindsay, once an official request is submitted to the clerk. Planning and Development is also to be contacted to ensure that major applications are passed onto the community council.

Action: Lindsay, Clerk

13. AOCB

Active Travel: Andrew discussed the meeting with Robina to discuss the Active Travel around Scalloway. He confirmed that the information from the audit is now accessible for the general public. The audit suggested that there are 18 areas of

intervention that should be prioritised, including accesses to the school, health centre and leisure centre, the East Voe junction, and the Mill Brae to Trondra brig. It was noted that the community needs to be engaged in this process, and therefore need to be consulted on decisions being made. There was also a discussion on the possibility of SCDC becoming involved with Active Travel's work, due to both SCDC's own Waterfront Feasibility study, and their involvement with the community. Catherine had raised in committee that there should be more collaboration between community groups and the audits, to ensure that works that are in development are not being planned at the same time as projects that are already in development. It was decided that Andrew and the clerk should ask to set up another meeting with Robina, and that this discussion should be continued during a future meeting.

Action: Andrew, Clerk

Flood Risk Management: There is to be a meeting to discuss Scalloway's flood risk management plan at the Scalloway on 28th March; SCDC are involved due to the waterfront feasibility study, and how this plan could be influenced as a consequence. Davie is to get in touch with those organising the event, and also attend the meeting.

Action: Davie

Highly Protected Marine Areas: Lindsay notified the committee that there is to be a consultation with regard to HPMA; 10% of Scotland's sea are going to be marked out to be a HPMA, resulting in the boats, fishing and other man made items being removed from these areas. It is too soon to see if this will directly affect Scalloway and its aquaculture industry. Davie noted that the consultation has been extended to 17th April. Lindsay is to pass relevant information onto the Clerk, who is to draft a response from this information. Mark is to also speak to Michael to organise a response from the ASCC.

Action: Lindsay, Mark, Clerk

14. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next full meeting of the Scalloway Community Council will be held on Monday 17th April 2023 via Zoom on-line.

Meeting ended at 21:54.