

WHALSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes subject to approval at next Community Council meeting

Minute of the Whalsay Community Council (CC) meeting. Held on Tuesday 24th Jan 2023 at 7pm face to face at Whalsay, Heritage Centre and WebEx.

PRESENT:	
	Roselyn Fraser – Community Involvement & Development Officer (RF)
Cllr William Polson (WP) - Vice Chair	
Cllr Gilbert Irvine (Gil)	
Cllr Margaret Hughson (MH)	
APOLOGIES	Robert Thomson – North Isles Cllr (RTH)
Cllr Jackie Leslie (JL) – Chair	Dana Jamieson - Police Scotland
Michael Duncan - Community Council Liaison Officer (MD)	John Smith – Director Infrastructure Services, SIC (JS)
Ryan Thomson – North Isles Cllr (RT)	Andrew Inkster - Executive Manager Marine & Air Operations SIC(AI)
Duncan Anderson - North Isles Cllr (DA)	Greg Maitland - Harbour Master SIC(GM)

MINUTE TAKER: Gina Irvine – WCC Clerk (GI)

WELCOME:

WP chaired meeting and welcomed all.

APOLOGIES:

Apologies noted.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

None declared.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

WP asked if all were happy with minutes. MH approved, Gil seconded.

FINANCE REPORT:

Current accounts was shared with members by clerk. Clerk asked to follow up on Final Accounts with examiners for last year still pending. All discussed getting extra community skip run before end of budget.

Accessible Toilet Facilities

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Ongoing since 26/10/21 – Works started on the disabled toilets but no timescales for completion given. All reiterated the state of the existing waiting rooms and toilets. SIC exploring options on replacing existing waiting rooms with portacabins.

ACTION: Clerk asked to get date from Claire Christey for completion date. To follow up on waiting room as well.

The Old Dock and Grieves House

Condition of old docks was surveyed in August 2021 arranged by AI, no reports shared to date on findings of survey.

Hazel Sutherland emailed 13.1.2023 that external funding options and costs were being reviewed and hopes to share for next meeting.

WP expressed concern that these options was not addressing an immediate need for the Old Docks to be made safe for the locals and public as currently placed barriers were not fit for purpose whilst a decision is being made. This area was dangerous and immediate works or temporary fixes was also needed. Existing barriers are no longer fit for purpose.

ACTION: Clerk to follow up with Hazel for next meeting

Dredging

No update since 26th Oct 2021, work still incomplete. Copy of Hydrographic survey not received.

ACTION: Clerk asked to follow up .

Roads

Cattle Grids – Saeter, Houll, Harledale Cattle grids still outstanding.

ACTION: Clerk asked to follow up

FENCE AT DUMP

23.11.2022 RTH received email from Carl Symons to indicate that this area would be made safe when the weather is calmer. SIC sent officers to look at area last year, this was shared by clerk.

ACTION: Ongoing and clerk to follow up

ROADS , STREETLIGHTS CYCLE & WALKING PATHS

Active Travel document in place with scope of works and priorities.

RF informed all that funding was being done for this project via Active Travel, this is a long process firstly funding is needed followed by design with necessary approvals followed by constructions . Construction is predicated for 2024 to commence.

ACTION: Clerk to follow up with timescales.

FERRIES

WP and MH asked Clerk to put in a request for 2 morning and 2 evening ferry runs to SIC for 2022/23 Festive timetable. Also ensuring that timetable times cover Vidlin journey and proposed the following to put forward;

- Symbister 9.00 – Laxo 9.45
- Symbister 11.00 – Laxo 11.45
- Symbister 18.00 – Laxo 18.45
- Symbister 20.00 – Laxo 20.45

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ACTION: Clerk asked to follow up

CDF PROJECT WHALSAY SIGN

Clerk informed all that planning application is now in progress

ACTION Clerk to follow up on getting up to date costs on installation and source funding.

WHALSAY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP (WCDG)

All agreed that it was difficult to get these group set up as there was lack of interests to set up committees. MH reminded all that RTH expressed interest in helping to get group going. Possibility of Tunnel Working Group an option to explore. RF mentioned the Kirk Development group however this was set up for the preservation of Kirk and would need to be changed for other projects.

ACTION Ongoing

NEWSLETTER

Rhea Kay to be tasked. Topics to include Participatory Budget, WCDG, Sign - on hold

ACTION Ongoing

JIMMY ARTHUR ESTATE

Clerk informed all that the legal fee offer by Tait is no longer available. MH suggested that the Crofters would need to pursue this further as WCC have explored options as further investigation would incur legal expenses for which there is currently on funding.

ACTION No actions

BUS SHELTERS FOR SCHOOL BAIRNS

MH reiterated that there is a need for this project as existing services does not match the current need on the isle and asked for the findings from isle visit in 2022.

ACTION Clerk asked to follow up with RTH and Elaine Parks .

POLICE MATTERS

Clerk informed all that a request for police presence was put in and due to lack of resources this could not be done during the times needed.

ACTION: None .

SKIP HIRES

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All agreed for skip hire for either 21st or 28th Feb.

ACTIONS: Clerk to arrange and confirm

Bu Water Road – Build up of loose stones. MH viewed planning application and one found for the road widening and suggested contacting Scottish Waters and GI suggested contacting Roads.

ACTIONS: Clerk to follow up

Other matters discussed

Dentist on the isle – clerk to follow up

Learning Centre replacement – clerk to follow up

Meeting closed at 20.40

Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting scheduled for Tuesday 7th March 2023 7pm, at Heritage Centre for locals and Webex for others considering joining.