

BRESSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minute of Bressay Community Council meeting:

Held on Monday 19 December 2022 in Bressay Hall.

This minute is unapproved until adopted at the next meeting of BCC

Present:

Alistair Christie-Henry
Shirley Gifford
Dee Henderson-Haefner
Richard Burrell
Amanda Sinclair
Margaret MacDonald
Lindsay Tulloch
Arwed Wenger
Gary Robinson

In Attendance:

Janice Jones (Clerk)
Michael Duncan

Agenda Items

1. Introduction and Apologies:

The Acting Chair opened the Meeting and welcomed guests and members to the hall.

Apologies were noted from:

Kath Duffus
Stephen Leask
Kevin Main

2. Declaration of interest:

The Chairman asked for declarations of interest – one received from Alistair for an item later in the proceedings.

3. Appointment of chair:

Nominations and seconds were requested for the appointment of Chair, after a show of hands Lindsay Tulloch was duly elected Chair and continued the remainder of the meeting. The Chair proposed a vote of thanks to Alistair as outgoing chair for his commitment and service to the Bressay community during his time as chair.

4. Appointment of Vice-Chair:

After a show of hands Shirley Gifford was duly elected Vice-Chair

5. Minutes of Previous Meetings:

The Chairman sought approval of the draft minute of the meeting 21 November 2022. Proposed by Amanda and seconded by Shirley

6. Matters Outstanding (actions not elsewhere on agenda or completed):

As there were no action points from the previous minutes (the Community Council had ceased to be in its previous form after the last meeting) the Chair asked to review items from the previous minutes so all had clarification on where we were.

i) Amanda asked for clarification on what was happening regarding gatherings of youngsters and cleanliness in the waiting rooms, as large gatherings were still going on. The clerk could confirm Marine Operations had requested the cleansing team visit the waiting room on a daily basis and that Stephen had spoken to Billy Mycock who would be happy to join a Community Council meeting in the future. Lindsay suggested we also involved the Police and it would be a good idea if our Community Police Officer could also join the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

ii) Amanda asked what was happening regarding the poster detailing what could and couldn't be carried on the ferry – Alistair could confirm he had had a further meeting with the Executive Director of Ferry Operations and had asked him for an update on the actions from the August meeting. He had been able to confirm a new Ferry Superintendent had been appointed and this had been passed to him address. He was currently out with Shetland however it was important a solution was looked at – one could be a mobile fireproof locker for fuel cans, dangerous goods (e.g, hay bales) loaded at the front or the rear of the ferry so they can be pushed off in case of fire, etc. A big issue was that the rules were interpreted differently by different Islands and crews, this was down to the interpretation by the Route Master and the Superintendent. Lindsay would be happy to accompany Alistair to any future meeting he arranges with the Ferry Superintendent.

Continuing Action: Alistair

iii) Broadband – Marvin Smith (Shetland Broadband) was still to visit to do a survey of the island, this would now be in the New Year, Richard will continue to liaise with him. Meanwhile a big thing that had come out of Richards meeting was that people needed to continually complain to their providers (on a daily basis) as BT will only act after a certain number of complaints (circa 1000). Richard will prepare a notice to publicise this to encourage people to keep complaining. The Connectivity grant was not sufficient to enable people at a distance to gain connectivity and it was the opinion of Shetland Broadband that this would be best reserved in the hope better solutions came available as the Grant would be a one-off payment. The new 4g mast in Skerries was not yet operational. Michael could confirm this was obtained with previously available financial support in the form of HIE subsidies.

Continuing Action: Richard

7. Member & Visitor Report:

Gary could confirm the SIC budget setting process had been delayed due to delays in the Holyrood budget. This is now delayed to February at the earliest and ferry fares would be looked at in that process. A new policy on Community Benefit on energy has now been widened to any energy development.

Arwed is still keen to look at cost across routes, if wages and cost are increasing what impact would this have on fares, and a lively discussion ensued regarding fares and the need to lobby for special consideration for Bressay, shortest route/greater traffic etc. this needs action. It was pointed out there is a further complication to the reduction of fares - the agreement with the Scottish Government to fill the gap if fares were reduced. It was pointed out current fares were set out using a methodology set 35 years ago. The MSYP did and Island Impact Assessment had established Ferries should be funded differently although a lot of this centered around transport studies on Northlink and the cost of cabins etc. One

argument would be that Bressay with a more frequent service and footfall makes less loss and we should be encouraging people to share cars/leave their cars to reduce their carbon footprint, this could be achieved by the fare structure.

A group strategy would achieve more with an Island view and perhaps request an Island Impact Assessment – this would be in the remit of Robina Barclay/Michael Craigie.

Action: Lindsay

Michael (and his department) is currently working on the review of the Community Council scheme. This is a statutory process, commencing early next year from which time there will be a consultation and creation of process.

He could also confirm Pat Christie is standing down as Bressay Development Officer and he would request the person filling her position get in touch.

8. Planning Applications:

One planning application was received to build a dwelling house at Heogan, Alistair mooted it was nice to see a young family moving to the North end of the Island and everyone indicated their support for the application.

9. Correspondence:

Two emails of thanks and appreciation for the over 70s Christmas vouchers (from Di Newbold and William Blackwood) was shared. Amanda/Shirley could confirm 57, £25 vouchers had been delivered.

Two applications for Concession Ferry Runs had been circulated prior to the meeting one from the Up-Helly-Aa Committee for BUHA night, the other from the Hall Committee for the Hop Night. The Chair recommended we support these for the wellbeing of our Island and both were unanimously approved. The Clerk will forward to Selliness for further approval and allocation.

Action: Clerk

A letter from the Up-Helly-Aa committee was shared, requesting any information regarding the new ownership of the burning site and help in finding a new burning site. This was discussed at length, no one could provide any information nor was it an issue within the remit of the Community Council. The Clerk to reply and suggest they try the Registrars of Scotland to ascertain ownership and perhaps they approach the Crazings Committee for an alternative site.

Action: Clerk

A number of email items had been circulated including the Regional Transport Survey. The Chair emphasized the importance of all members (and friends and family) addressing this and suggested this should also be done at a Community Council level. This is to complete on 24th February so perhaps should be viewed at the next meeting. Meanwhile we will share with other organisations and encourage them to circulate.

Action: Clerk/Chair

An e-mail was shared regarding a First Aid course coming up at Speldiburn on 5th January if of interest to anyone,

10. Financial Report and Community Benefit Fund:

Grant Applications - SCBF Applications:

None

Distribution Fund Applications:

None

11. Any Other Business

The Infrastructure Report had been updated by the SIC Infrastructure Managers and circulated. It was suggested this suggested this be looked at in detail at a future meeting,

meanwhile the comment was made that traffic on the Heogan Road seemed to have calmed a bit although that may be as a result of the bad weather conditions. Alistair commented that the SIC said the condition of the Mail pier was not their responsibility as the SIC did not own it, however he could confirm it was on their Asset Register – asset number 30100005271. The Clerk asked Michael for an update on the CDF Project Grant. Alistair declared an interest and took no further part in the discussion. The Clerk explained to the new members we had initially applied for a Project Grant in March to install a second defibrillator in the Ham kiosk and that since the last meeting the SIC had disputed the BCC ownership of the kiosk (as Community Councils can't own assets) and had submitted this to SIC legal. Following this Stephen Anderson had agreed this could be attached to his fence. Michael could confirm they had now further submitted this to legal to ascertain if BCC could indeed own the defibrillator. Meanwhile there would be new rules coming in the New Year regarding local government subsidies and it was decided to delay looking at this further until that comes in. It was pointed out that this was important for the health of Islanders where we had no on Island Medical support. There was a national shortage of defibrillators and the existing quote was only valid until the end of December. Margaret suggested the one existing defibrillator was enough for an island of this size and there were cities who might need them if there was a shortage, however it was decided the clerk should write to the supplier and ask for an extension on the quote. **Action: Clerk**

With a new Community Council there needed to be a new appointment of a delegate to the Hall Committee – Richard agreed he was happy to continue in this role and this was unanimously agreed.

11. Location and date of next meeting:

Some discussion took place on the date of the next meeting and to set the draft timetable for the year. The majority favoured Monday as the day of the week and to make timetabling easier favoured the last Monday of the month, based on ten meetings in the year there would be no meeting in July or December, therefore the next meeting would be Monday 30th January 2023.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.30 and thanked those attending.

Chairman:

Date

The remainder of this document does not form part of the public minute

Summary of new and outstanding action

Continued AP1: Status of the Trowlands Road with Roads/Capital Action: Gary

Continued AP2: Status of Carriage of goods on ferry Action: Alistair

Continued AP3: Island Broadband provision Action: Richard

AP1: Invite Billy Mycock/ Community Police Officer to future meeting. Action: Clerk√

AP2: Instigate Island Impact Assessment Action: Chairman

AP3: Submit Concession Runs application to Selliness Action: Clerk√

AP4: Reply to Up-Helly-Aa committee re burning site Action: Clerk√

AP5: Write to Njordr to request quote extension. Action: Clerk√

AP6: Share Transport Strategy with island groups Action: Clerk/Chair

