



TINGWALL, WHITENESS & WEISDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Whiteness and Weisdale Public Hall on Wednesday 17th May 2023

1.0 Present:	Andrew Archer (Chair)	Ian Scott
	Linda Tulloch (Vice Chair)	Moraig Lyall
	Martin Randall	Catherine Hughson
	Charlie Hodge	
	Neil Leask	
	John Clarkson	
	Paul Stevens (Clerk)	

2.0 Apologies: Birgit Wagner, Margaret Cooper, Davie Sandison, Roselyn Fraser

3.0 Declarations of Interest: Linda Tulloch declared an interest in matters relating to Tulloch Developments, Andrew Archer in SCBF applications, and Catherine Hughson in matters relating to planning.

4.0 Approval of Minutes

On a motion proposed by Martin Randall and seconded by Charlie Hodge, the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19th April 2023 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

5.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- SSEN site visit: there had been problems finding a date. Andrew Archer was currently awaiting a response about a possible July date.
 - Review of raw data retention policy (deferred from May '22): it was decided that the data from the community council survey of local residents should be retained against future need but that all personal data could now be deleted.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to retain anonymised data.
 - 80+ event at Whiteness Primary: Andrew Archer thanked Linda Tulloch for organising the attendance invites and transport where needed. Linda reported that the event was much enjoyed.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Rachel Colclough for organising the event.
 - Wormadale crash barriers: the most recent response (14th April) from SIC was that the query had been passed on to Grant Anderson. There had been no other response.
 - ACTION: as per a recent communication from the SIC Executive about unanswered CC queries, the Clerk to follow this up with Maggie Sandison.
 - Speed limit outside Whiteness Primary School: Catherine Hughson reported that public consultation notices have been up and are about to expire, with no objections to date. The new 50mph signs should therefore go up soon. The school has also carried out a 'safe walking' audit and will put up some additional warning signs.
 - Andrew Archer brought forward the related agenda item 14 about reported speeding on the
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Veensgarth side of the Tingwall 30mph zone. This had also been discussed at the recent Win Furt meeting where the installation of a 'frowny face' speed indicator device (SID) had been suggested. CC Members agreed that this was a good idea that had been shown to be effective in other places in Scotland, especially where they had become permanent fixtures.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to write to Roads to request a SID be placed at the start of the Veensgarth 30mph zone, with a query as to whether this could be made permanent.

- Charlie Hodge had contacted Lerwick CC regarding the off-leash dogs at Clickimin (AOB, April 2023) but had not received a response. He will contact them again now that they have held their April meeting.

6.0 Decisions since last meeting

None.

7.0 Police Report

- The report for February/March was circulated to Members on 13th April.
- Andrew Archer had talked to Chief Inspector Andy Barclay (Road Policing North Area Commander) about residents' concerns about the police vehicles that escort the windfarm convoys. CI Barclay asked when the incidents had occurred as Road Policing operate a schedule of three officers being on placement for a three week period. An update was passed on to him along with more detail (i.e., that the police vehicles were perceived to be approaching at undue speed) and he will be coming up to Shetland at the end of May. There had been mixed reports from the public as to whether the situation had improved, with some feeling that the police vehicles are often so far in advance of the convoy that people are unsure as to why they are being stopped. Andrew Archer suggested future public notification in similar circumstances would benefit from including information on what the public could expect in terms of Police actions.
- Neil Leask raised the issue of an abandoned car that had been left at the end of the South Whiteness road for more than a week. He had reported details as a safety issue. Catherine Hughson responded that a statutory notice of removal label had now been affixed to the car.

8.0 Finance

- The Financial Report, updated to 10th May 2023, was distributed to members.
- VAS had completed their independent examination with no concerns raised, and SIC had now approved the 2022-23 accounts.

9.0 Correspondence

- A further response had been received from Beatrice Wishart MSP, containing a copy of Scottish Water's reply to her (dated 27 April).
 - ACTION: Andrew Archer to put relevant information from this on the Facebook page, copied to the website.
- Consultation on cemeteries: Andrew Archer highlighted a Shetland News article on this topic and asked whether members felt the CC should put something out to garner opinion? Members discussed this and one view was that Shetland has no green burial option (especially for non-religious people). Moraig Lyall pointed out that the Council-owned burial grounds were for general use without any specific religious connection. Martin Randall highlighted the fact that, under Scottish Law, people could be buried on private land, including their own garden, if they so desired [Note: planning permission may be required and the Scottish Environment

Protection Agency should be contacted for advice]. Charlie Hodge mentioned the Hundy Mundy Woodland burial ground as an example of green burial: an eco-friendly, 'natural' means of burial, though with associated rules such as no embalming, with biodegradable coffins and clothing being required. Members felt having options was important so they should be explored. It was noted that SIC want to avoid the expenditure of maintaining multiple 'active' sites, so one of their options would be to close down existing sites as they become full rather than expanding them. This would mean that only South Whiteness and Tingwall cemeteries would be available in the local area. Moraig Lyall felt that SIC's focus was on existing sites rather than creating new ones, as existing cemetery capacity across Shetland as a whole is sufficient for approximately 70 years.

→ ACTION: Andrew Archer to ask for any views from local residents via Facebook and the website, to be fed back to SIC by mid-July. The different options discussed would be included.

- Community council scheme review: Andrew Archer confirmed that the report had now been reissued with the originally missing TWWCC opinion included.
- Emergency plans: Michael Duncan had circulated some example information about this. Members did not feel there was any need to have an additional TWWCC plan.
- Harry Irvine (Chair, Tingwall Agricultural Museum Steering Group) had contacted Andrew Archer to enquire about potential funding towards the planned agricultural museum: they will soon need new storage containers but acquiring these will exhaust their current funds. Andrew had asked Harry whether there were any more definite timescales for the project, given that it has been ongoing for several years. CC Members are invited to the group's forthcoming AGM to hear the revised plans.

10.0 Planning

- Andrew Archer circulated a response to his query about NPF4 and its relevance for Community Councils. This advised that CCs would be advised on any future changes but that the status quo would be maintained for now with only one exception: new planning applications will include a biodiversity component.
 - There were five new planning applications to be considered:
 - 2023/117/PPF Erect agricultural shed, Swinister Farm, Tingwall (this replaced 2023/093/PN, a refused prior notification seeking permitted development)
 - 2023/069/PPF Replace garage with a single storey extension and install air source heat pump, Springburn Gott
 - 2023/108/PPF Proposed extension to existing dwelling house, New House (West of Keloupa), Griesta, Tingwall
 - 2023/101/ADV Installation 3x A2 panels, Lochend, Girlsta
 - 2023/071/PPF Erection of a rear extension with both internal and external alterations, and the installation of an air source heat pump, 18 Clach Na Strom
- ACTION: the Clerk to respond with 'No comment' for all of the above.

11.0 Viking

- Andrew Archer reported that the ECU had made the decision made to go ahead with the power lines. The only remaining course of appeal would be a judicial review, which is not a viable option for the CC. There had been no response to his further query regarding the different way SSEN

was handling the powerlines issue in Skye.

- There was nothing of CC relevance to report from the last VCLG meeting.
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12.0 Footpaths

- Andrew Archer gave an update on the Win Furt meeting held last Monday. Talks with landowners regarding possible path options were ongoing but were currently on hold until lambing is completed. The Trustees had looked into the idea of filling in parts of the roadside ditches as a 'respite from walking on the road' option but Barry Scobie (SIC Roads) had replied that this would only be considered where the integrity of road structure had been compromised. In addition, the typical coarse filling material would be unsuitable for walking on and the only alternative to that would be the greater expense of buried drainage pipes. Andrew suggested a meeting of Councillors and representatives from the Roads department could be useful to explore possibilities under the remit of road safety — focusing on areas of greatest pedestrian danger — and possibly funded from the Active Travel budget or SCBF funding.

→ ACTION: Andrew Archer to contact Neil Hutcheson to explore possibilities.

- Win Furt Trustees in Tingwall have continued to look into options for planting of bulbs, etc. around bus stops. Materials and other funding for this have been sourced locally and they will be looking for local help to do the planting.
 - Three new trustees had been recruited: Erik Peterson, Neil Clubb, and Natasha Clubb.
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13.0 SCBF

- Angela Sutherland was on leave so there was no update this month.
- 180414 Whiteness Primary Parent Council. Two polycrubs £13,000 [Andrew Archer recused himself from this decision]

→ ACTION: the Clerk to inform Eleanor Gear that the full amount was awarded.

14.0 Tingwall Speed Limit

This was covered earlier under Matters Arising.

15.0 Councillors' Reports

- Catherine Hughson had nothing specific to report other than it had been a busy week.
 - Moraig Lyall wanted to flag that there was an upcoming meeting in Scalloway about the potential closure of youth clubs in area.
 - Ian Scott did not wish to report anything.
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16.0 AOCB

- Linda Tulloch brought up the issue of fallen passing place poles in the local area, such as at Kergord and on the South Whiteness road.

→ ACTION: the Clerk to contact Roads.

- Moraig Lyall suggested that 'roads' be added as a standing item, as was common practice with some other CCs.

→ ACTION: the Clerk to add 'roads' as a standing agenda item.

- Linda Tulloch reported that Scottish Sea Farms (SSF) had contacted her to say that they would
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help with litter collection later this summer. More volunteers would be needed to stack piles of collected rubbish for SSF to then collect by boat. Potential volunteers should note that taking part would involve walking from the school over to the back of the voe.

→ ACTION: Andrew Archer to publicise this on Facebook, copied to the website.

17.0 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 21st June 2023, at Whiteness and Weisdale Public Hall (in the small hall).
