



TINGWALL, WHITENESS & WEISDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Tingwall Community Hall on Wednesday 18th January 2023

(N.B. There was a change to the order in which items were considered at the meeting. The minutes reflect the order of the meeting)

1.0 Present	Andrew Archer (Chair)	Moraig Lyall
	Birgit Wagner	Ian Scott
	Charlie Hodge	Catherine Hughson
	Neil Leask	Davie Sandison
	John Clarkson	Angela Sutherland (SCBF Director)
	Paul Stevens (Clerk)	Margaret Cooper (Co-optee)

2.0 Apologies Linda Tulloch, Martin Randall, Roselyn Fraser

3.0 Declarations of Interest John Clarkson declared an interest in matters relating to Viking; Catherine Hughson and Davie Sandison in matters relating to planning; Neil Leask for Weisdale and Whiteness Hall; and Andrew Archer for SCBF applications.

4.0 SCBF

There was a brief update from Angela Sutherland due to the planned SCBF meeting being postponed:

- As funds were not being awarded as quickly as initially anticipated, the SCBF had decided that £100,000 would be placed into a high interest account until needed.
- A meeting with *IBP Strategy and Research* — who have been commissioned to help develop a business plan for the future Viking Community Fund — was postponed until next week. Their feedback is due by the middle of this year, with the news funds being launched early in 2024.
- The Governance group continues to look at compliance and best practice for the SCBF.
- There had been a discussion about funding applications being sent to multiple Community Councils. It was acknowledged that there was some dissatisfaction from CC members with this strategy but it will continue until such a time as it is superseded by a future scheme.
- TWWCC Director position: Angela Sutherland was willing to continue for now. This will be reviewed at a future meeting.

[Angela Sutherland left the meeting at this point]

5.0 Co-option for vacant CC positions

- Margaret Cooper had been proposed by Birgit Wagner and seconded by Andrew Archer. Margaret was present at the meeting and agreed to be co-opted. Members welcomed her onto the Community Council.
 - Charlie Hodge had asked whether there was a way of encouraging younger people to join the community council so Andrew Archer had contacted the SIC Youth and Employability Service. They had initially suggested Youth Clubs as a way of encouraging younger CC members, but even
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though the minimum age to be a community councillor is now 16, members believed that the youth clubs would be unlikely to have anybody old enough

- Members were asked to continue to seek potential candidates for the remaining vacant position, especially from the Tingwall area where representation was low.

6.0 Approval of Minutes

On a motion proposed by Neil Leask and seconded by Charlie Hodge, the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 30th November 2022 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

7.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- Christmas cards / vouchers: the Community Council thanked Linda Tulloch for her hard work on this. Four more thank you cards had been received, as well as in-person thanks. Members expressed their admiration for the beautiful cards the local children had made.
- Water supply at South Whiteness: A reply had been received from Scottish Water on the 9th December. They acknowledged an error wherein the official figures were much lower than reported cases, but, even after the figures were corrected, Scottish Water still concluded that this was not sufficient for the area to be brought forward in the repair schedule. Members felt that both the CC and local residents should continue to contact the water company where supply was inadequate, and to widen public awareness of the issues.
 - ACTION: Andrew Archer to post water company's reply onto the South Whiteness Community Group Facebook page for wider dissemination.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to write to Beatrice Wishart MSP, copying to Councillor Davie Sandison, to see whether there was any pressure that she could bring to bear on Scottish Water.
- Cycle groups: a reply had been received from the Lerwick Port Authority on 7th December, indicating that cycle groups were organised by individual cruise companies but that the LPA would welcome suggestions to improve cyclists' awareness of Shetland roads. Moraig Lyall suggested a leaflet stand at the port with relevant advice would be useful, and Birgit Wagner thought that contacting cruise companies directly might be helpful. Charlie Hodge acknowledged the valuable contribution of visiting cyclists to the local economy, despite these issues.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to write to the LPA suggesting the port advise cyclists to ride in smaller groups on narrow roads, and to emphasise the new Highway Code guidelines.
- Pedestrian visibility: Andrew Archer had contacted the SIC Road Safety Officer, who said that, while school children were given reflective armbands, there was no adult provision. A Facebook post was subsequently put up on the TWWCC page with advice for keeping visible, highlighting that pedestrians had priority in the new Highway Code guidance but also acknowledging the practicalities of keeping safe on Shetland's roads.
- Defibrillator at Weisdale shop: SSE had agreed to pay for, and provide, the necessary parts to repair the defibrillator, for which the TWWCC would then be responsible.
 - ACTION: Once operational, the Clerk to register the defibrillator with the British Heart Foundation's National Defibrillator Network.
- Food banks – local issues: Birgit Wagner had contacted the Health Visitor, who reported that, while not widespread, there are families in our area suffering acute financial hardship. However, the perceived stigma of using food banks was a barrier to them seeking help. TWWCC could help by continuing to raise awareness of local resources. Members' suggestions included the idea of 'open hall' events at local Community Halls, a self-service scheme similar to honesty boxes to avoid stigma, and gifting vouchers or cash donations to families in need. There was further discussion

about possibilities to reduce the perceived stigma and how best to identify people in need.

→ ACTION: Birgit Wagner to contact the Health Visitor and Sandra Summers (Anchor for Families) to enquire about possible coordination.

→ ACTION: Birgit to send the link to the section concerning open halls on the SIC [Cost of Living website](#) information to Moraig Lyall and Neil Leask, who will then raise the issue at the next hall committee meetings.

8.0 Decisions since last meeting

None

9.0 Police Report

This was circulated to members on 19th December 2022. A police representative had sent apologies that they were unable to attend tonight's meeting but Members were welcome to email questions to the police CC liaison, via the Clerk.

Moraig Lyall raised the issue of speeding on local roads, which was an ongoing issue with residents. Catherine Hughson said she continued to seek a permanent speed reduction near schools in the area and would keep the CC informed of progress.

10.0 Finance

- The Financial Report, updated to 11th January 2023, was distributed to community council members.
- John Clarkson raised a general point about the remaining TWWCC 2022-23 funds asking whether these might be used as a hardship fund or for projects like local halls maintenance. Charlie Hodge thought that the 3 priorities used by the CC for SCBF applications might also be useful for TWWCC applications. In response to Neil Leask's point about a lack of applications at this point in the financial year, Catherine Hughson suggested the CC might proactively approach local groups, to see what small grants they might find useful.
 - ACTION: Andrew Archer to put a post on the Facebook page and website asking for applications with a closing date in time for decisions at the February and March TWWCC meetings.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to send Members a list of grants awarded to date, including which local areas had benefited.

11.0 Correspondence

- Trucks to salmon farms: residents had contacted Neil Leask to reported a significant increase in traffic going to the Scottish Sea Farms site at South Whiteness. Members discussed the problems of having HGV trucks on narrow, already busy roads, with the conclusion that a polite letter to the company, encouraging more awareness of local traffic and pedestrians, would be helpful.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to write to Scottish Sea Farms to outline residents' concerns.
- 'Love Learning, Love Life' day: Linda Tulloch had received an email from the Whiteness Primary Headteacher, announcing a forthcoming celebration of diversity and inclusion in which local children would showcase their African drumming skills. The school wishes to invite local residents of 80 and over, and asked if the CC would be able to coordinate this, providing transport as necessary.
 - ACTION: Based on the Christmas card list, invites would be sent to age 80+ residents. Should any need transport, the CC will arrange this.

[Davie Sandison needed to leave the meeting at this point]

- Power cuts and buried cables: Andrew Archer queried whether the SIC would be holding any post-event analysis following December's prolonged outage. He felt that SSE's policy on when power lines should be buried should be more explicit. Catherine Hughson suggested that the CC might provide input to future Resilience Board meetings.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to contact the SIC Emergency Planning & Resilience Officer to ask (i) whether there is an existing forum for questions about buried cable policy and (ii) how much of the recent problems were due to insufficient maintenance of power line poles.
- Water coming off track (HVDC cable site) onto A971 carriageway on rainy days: Andrew Archer had emailed SSEN to ask whether any future drainage work was planned. They suggested that they could not see evidence of a problem, but that they would continue to monitor if planning permission were to be granted to keep this track. Members felt that the lack of evidence for water runoff during SSE's inspection may have primarily been due to the fact that the ground was covered in snow when they went to have a look.
 - ACTION: Andrew Archer to write again to SSE to suggest that they look again during a period of rain.
- Water safety sessions: Information had been received from a Scottish Community Interest Company, *Embers Aquatics*, who hope to offer water safety workshops to local schools at some point in the future.

12.0 Planning

- 2023/005/PPF. Erect extension and decking to existing dwellinghouse. 5 Greenwell Gott Tingwall Shetland ZE2 9UL.
 - ACTION: Clerk to email planning department link to members, who will respond with any comments within one week.

13.0 Viking

- Monitoring of reinstatement works. The Clerk had written to the council to ask how reinstatement work would be monitored. A reply had been received from Norman Sineath, the SIC Planning Enforcement Officer, explaining that this would be through the existing process of the monthly Project Monitoring Reports produced by Ramboll. Members didn't feel that this was totally satisfactory but agreed that there was little more that they could do at this stage. Neil Leask suggested the CC could arrange a future visit to a site where reinstatement works had been completed.
 - ACTION: Andrew Archer will ask for specific borrow pit plans, a water quality update, and details of which remedial measures are in place at the VCLG meeting on 24th January.
- Based on resident queries, Neil Leask also asked whether the CC could request a reconsideration of the criteria for burying wind farm cables
 - ACTION: The Clerk to write to the Energy Consents Unit to express the CC's further support for 133kV cables to be buried, based on the recent power cut issues due to downed power line poles.

14.0 Footpaths

Andrew Archer gave an update. Win Furt launch sessions will be held from 9am-12pm on both Saturday 21st January and Saturday 28th January. They are keen to have new members sign up to show their support and play a role in future developments. More information on this will be publicized

soon. They are also looking into possible alternative funding to enable a Whiteness settlement audit.

15.0 Councillors' Reports

- Moraig Lyall had primarily been involved in useful budget meetings regarding the expected shortfall in Scottish Government funding for the next financial year.
 - There were no issues that Ian Scott wanted to raise.
 - Catherine Hughson had been busy with various meetings, including a lot of constituency work.
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16.0 AOCB

- Charlie Hodge raised the issue of barriers still being needed at the bottom of Wornadale road. Andrew Archer responded that the SIC Roads Department had previously indicated they would be completed this year.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to write to Neil Hutcheson asking for update on new crash barriers by Wornadale beach.
 - John Clarkson had been approached by a resident concerned about unlit bus stops discouraging people from using the service. Members suggested that solar lighting might be the only option in some areas. Catherine Hughson recalled a previous government scheme for this, where Neil Robertson had been the contact person.
 - ACTION: Ian Scott to talk to Neil Robertson about the possibility of bus stop lighting.
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17.0 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 15th February 2023, at Tingwall Community Hall (in the peerie hall).
