

NORTHMAVEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chair: D Brown
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Minute of Ordinary Meeting of Northmaven Community Council on Monday 15th May 2023, held in North Roe Primary School and remotely, using Teams

This minute is UNAPPROVED until adopted at the next meeting

Present:

CCllr D Brown
CCllr R Doull
CCllr D Robertson
CCllr G Anderson
CCllr J Parry
CCllr R McGeady
CCllr B Wilcock
PC M Work

In attendance:

I Davidson – Clerk
N Hutcheson – SIC Roads Dept.
I Park – Shetland Gas Plant
Sgt. L McCabe – Police Scotland

1. Apologies Submitted:

CCllr. E Robertson
Mr M Duncan - SIC
Ms L Hall - SIC

Ex Officio Present:

Cllr E MacDonald
Cllr T Morton

The meeting started at: 19:30. CCllr D Brown Chaired

Agenda Item	Narrative
2. Declarations of Interest	CCllr J Parry for any SCBF-related business CCllr R McGeady for any HHA or NCDC related business
3. Approval of Previous Minutes	Minutes of Meeting held 3 rd April 2023 were approved by CCllr D Robertson and seconded by CCllr R Doull
4. Police Report	Chair apologised for the delay in coming to Police Report as Item 6 had been brought forward Sgt. Lara McCabe attended the meeting and reported that there had been 13 incidents in Northmavine in previous 2 months. All 13 related to "Concern for Person". Sgt. McCabe then invited any questions from the members but, there being none, she was thanked for her attendance and left the meeting
5. Matters Arising	Eshanness Development No update Swarthoull Chair acknowledged receipt by members of the Resurfacing and reconstruction programme for 2023 and noted that Swarthoull was listed. However, it was not established if Rock Armour was to be used and NH agreed to take this back with

him. He was also asked to request updates on Orbister, Hamnavoe and Eela Water stretches of road. Other issues relating to Roads which were raised were: the gate at the Cattle Grid above Zoar was in need of replacement and there was brief discussion about the latest policy on verge cutting. This is currently being discussed to try to balance the needs of biodiversity and the hazards of weeds such as ragwort.

NH was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting

NCDC

It was reported that a Planning Day had been held on 23rd April and this had been very worthwhile and would lead to several new projects. The proposed visit to Eshaness Lighthouse was unable to proceed but directors visited Johnnie Notions Bod and were impressed by its condition and facilities. There was no update on the Food Hub

Hillswick drains

Drains had been repaired but Scottish Water still need to come and repair the leaking pipe under the road at Hillswick Shop

Action: Clerk to contact Scottish Water for update

Abandoned Vehicles in North Roe

There had been no further action on this but a member suggested that NCDC and NCC could jointly organise a Redd-Up to time in with Bruckland Festival being planned and work with Amenity Trust and SCBF (funding) to offer the community assistance with removing large-scale scrap such as vehicles. This idea was welcomed by all and NCDC directors said they would take it to next NCDC meeting, later this month.

Action: Add to NCDC agenda

Community Food Drop-off Points

Nothing further

Anti-Social Behaviour Officer

This had to be delayed again due to busy agenda but it was agreed that invite should be put to Mr Mycock for June meeting

Action: Clerk to contact Billy Mycock

Discussion of Amenity Trust Properties in Northmavine

See NCDC item

Winter Activities Fund

Nothing further but NCDC would progress in conjunction with LH

Action: Remove from next minute

Regional Transport Strategy for Shetland

No response yet received

Query regarding Memorial

Nothing further. Agreed to remove until/if further info was received

Action: Remove from minute

ASCC Meeting – 14th March

	<p>Nothing further Action: Remove from next minute</p> <p>Scotland’s Deposit Return Scheme Reply received from BW with attached ministerial response. Halls not exempt but whole scheme postponed until next year Action: Remove from next minute</p> <p>Saltire Points Had received a response from Lavinia Schmidt providing useful information to help to promote the scheme and on how both individuals and organisations go about registering. LS also offered to meet to discuss further, which NCDC hope to do. Action: Clerk to progress through NCDC then remove item from next minute</p> <p>Active Travel Audit Nothing yet received Action: Remove from next minute</p> <p>Nort Natters Nothing further</p> <p>Parking at North Roe Cemetery Nothing Further Remove from next minute</p> <p>Presentation/Discussion of Anti-Social Behaviour See above Remove from next minute</p> <p>Consideration of AGS Application Action completed and acknowledged Action: Remove from next minute</p> <p>Recent Snow-Clearing in Northmavine See Item 7 Action: Remove from next minute</p> <p>Community Council Scheme Review See Item 8 Action: Remove from next minute</p> <p>ASCC Update Nothing further Action: Remove from next minute</p> <p>Potholes Response received stating that they were about to start making, at least, temporary repairs Action: Remove from next minute</p> <p>SCBF Consultation It was noted that consultation period had been extended to end of May.</p>
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<p>6. Shetland Gas Plant Update</p>	<p>SGP Terminal Manager, Iain Park, attended the meeting and presented an update on activities there. He reported that SGP was performing well with its Safety Record, having had no injuries since one minor injury in April 2022. On the production side, the average for the previous year had been 29 kBOEpd but would be lower this year due to work being done, including inspections of pipelines, both into and out of the Terminal. Regarding Maintenance, there was a YTD backlog of nearly 6000 hours but <800 hours Safety Critical work. This was deemed favourable in comparison to other Total sites. Among other operational news, IP reported that pigging work had been carried out on WOS and Export pipelines, while an LP upgrade project had been completed to allow reduced pressure on the wells as well as exploratory drilling getting underway on the Ben Riach. Planned work for 2023 included a 3 day shutdown on site next week and a site survey of the Victory site was underway (Apr-Jun). A vessel would be arriving to carry out seismic survey work on West of Shetland pipeline. They were also working with local company, Ocean Kinetics to trial a remote vehicle to carry out R & D survey work in Yell Sound, visually inspecting the pipelines there. On its Community involvement, IP reported that Total were one of the sponsors of the Tall Ships event this year which also provided an opportunity for its workers to volunteer in various capacities at the event. Following the presentation, IP invited questions from the members, which was enthusiastically taken up. Q & A's included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Q. Given the shortage of housing stock in both Northmavine and Shetland generally, would Total consider building social housing for its workforce? A. While the workforce was currently around a 50/50 mix of rotational, travelling workers and Shetland residents, with a few of the former choosing to move here, there was no great demand from the workforce so, no this was not being considered Q. What training opportunities for young people were there at the Gas Plant? A. SGP utilise a National Apprenticeship scheme which comprises 2 years f/t at college, then 2 years apprenticeship on site. There were currently 5 about to complete their apprenticeship (including some locals) and there were 3 about to begin this year. 1 internship had been promoted locally this year but they were disappointed that no applications were forthcoming. Q. How were the apprenticeships promoted? A. Mainly through school visits, accompanied by some who had been through the scheme, who could talk about their experience Q. Do Total offer direct community funding? A. They do, but mainly through applications brought by the workforce and with an emphasis on smallish grants to several groups
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	<p>(an example was to purchase a buggy for Michael's Wood to assist disabled youngsters to access the area). IP did say that they would be willing to consider applications from other sources too.</p> <p>With no other questions being brought, the Chair thanked IP for his attendance and IP then left the meeting.</p>
<p>7. Recent Snow-Clearing in Northmavine</p>	<p>Brought forward to Item 4.</p> <p>Chair welcomed Mr N Hutcheson from SIC's Roads Dept. to the meeting. NH had agreed to come and listen to concerns from the community regarding the strategy for snow clearing, following the recent spell of sustained snowfall in Northmavine (March 23).</p> <p>NH began by giving an overview of SIC policy and resources. Of the 13 Gritters based in Shetland, 2 are based in Northmavine with a further 1 in Delting.</p> <p>Northmavine is considered well-placed for Gritting "loops", e.g. Sullom, Ronas Voe, etc.</p> <p>NH stated that it was his opinion that Northmavine was well-covered by resources and that people should remember that the extreme conditions in March made the job very difficult, e.g. the section between Eela Water and North Roe took 2 hours to get in and another 2 to get out. They had hired in as much additional plant as possible but the biggest limiting factor was having enough competent drivers to operate them, while ensuring that the driver hours regulations were being met.</p> <p>As some areas of Shetland were affected far more than others on this occasion, the less impacted areas were provided with the basic requirement first then manpower was moved to assist in the worst affected.</p> <p>The discussion opened up and one member stated that, while the conditions in March were atypical, these conditions were occurring more frequently so it was important to learn lessons. Some of the more common frustrations among local residents included, snow-clearing efforts on the road actually causing blocking of driveways; fresh snow (which could be driven on carefully) being ploughed to leave a thick layer of ice; several key workers as well as vulnerable adults were left stranded for days, including emergency workers/volunteers; wrong information being fed back to Lerwick (i.e. that specific roads were clear when they were not).</p> <p>It was requested that a review of the priorities be carried out asap. NH acknowledged that the current assessment plan had been in place since 2012 but that this was its first real test. He also emphasised that resources were extremely limited.</p> <p>Members made some suggestions for improvement including, immediate review to learn lessons from this occurrence; swap load-alls for JCBs for handling salt and grit supplies then allocate the JCBs to road-clearing and hire in load-alls for the</p>

	<p>former for greater efficiency; as the December power-cuts and snow were declared a major incident and further resources were sent up from Mainland, could a major incident not be declared for specific parts of Shetland in future to obtain better resources?</p> <p>Closing the discussion, the Chair noted everyone's appreciation of the work that was done at the time.</p>
<p>8. Community Council Scheme Review</p>	<p>MD was unable to attend the meeting but EM reported that there was no real update. Members agreed to postpone discussion until next meeting and to again invite MD</p> <p>Action: Clerk to invite MD to June meeting</p>
<p>9. Correspondence</p>	<p>Burial Grounds Seminar Members discussed the plans within the document and agreed that they should submit a comment that they were in favour of retaining the current situation whereby burial grounds were within boundaries of parishes (e.g. Northmavine) rather than Council wards (e.g. North Mainland). It was also agreed that it should be shared to the Facebook page to get the views of local community Action: Clerk to post details on Facebook then submit NCC response</p> <p>Deposit Return Scheme See Matter Arising above Action: Remove from next minute</p> <p>Emergency Plan Templates There was brief discussion around this but no conclusions reached</p> <p>Viking Community Fund Consultation Notification of extension to 31/05 Action: Remove from next minute</p> <p>Core Funding Request Has been approved and will be processed shortly Action: Remove from next minute</p> <p>SSEN Newsletter Forwarded to all Action: Remove from next minute</p>

<p>10. AOCB</p>	<p>Ollaberry Primary School A member raised the issue that this school was about to become a one-teacher school as the pupil numbers had dropped to 18. The current policy of 1 reserved place had previously kept it above the required threshold for a two-teacher school (20). The member felt that the reserved places should be increased to 2 to better represent a new family moving to the area. He had already put forward the idea to Education Department but acknowledged that it would require a shift in Education Department Policy. TM agreed to support this idea by writing to Education Department also.</p> <p>Ollaberry Housing There was a brief discussion around local concerns in Ollaberry that one of the council houses appeared to still be let but had not been occupied since last year. It was agreed that the SIC Housing Dept. be notified of these concerns Action: Clerk to write to Housing Dept</p> <p>The Blade at Heylor A new member noted that this had been removed from minute but had experienced that it was still in a very poor state. It was explained that, as it was now classed as a private road, the Community Council could do no more about it but a local crofter had expressed that he was willing to fill in the potholes. Action: Remove from next minute</p> <p>July Meeting Clerk requested that July meeting be postponed from 3rd to 10th. due to holiday commitments. This was approved. Action: Notify MD of change then remove from next minute</p> <p>Road Grants It was agreed that ad should be placed in Shetland Times for next 2 weeks Action: Clerk to place ads in Shetland Times and on Facebook page</p>
<p>11. Date of Next Meeting</p>	<p>Monday, 5th June at 19:30 in Urafirth Primary School (TBC)</p>

The meeting ended at: 21:05