

# Sandsting & Aithsting Community Council

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Minutes of a meeting of Sandsting & Aithsting Community Council held in Skeld Public Hall on Monday 20 February 2023 at 7.30pm.

Present: J Priest Mrs L Johnson  
J D Garrick Mrs O Jamwal-Fraser  
Mrs J Fraser J Abernethy  
Ex officio: Cllr Liz Peterson  
Cllr M Robinson  
In attendance: Mrs L Fraser, Clerk

Mr J Priest presiding

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**APOLOGIES:** Apologies for absence were received from Mrs S Deyell, Ms D Nicolson, Mrs R Fraser, Community Involvement & Development Worker and Mr M Duncan, Community Liaison Officer.

**MINUTES & REPORT:** The minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2023, having been circulated, were taken as read and were approved. Moved by Mrs O Jamwal-Fraser, seconded by Mrs L Johnson.

**BUSINESS ARISING:** **Broadband:** Nothing to report.

**Mobile:** No report yet from the survey carried out.

**Road Matters:** **Road past Garderhouse:** Cllr L Peterson had spoken to Mr Neil Hutcheson who had informed her that it is hoped that the work on Phase 2 will start in spring.

**Brig at Lunklet:** Mr Hutcheson had also informed Cllr L Peterson that he still has to meet with the contractor who is interested in providing the repairs at the Brig.

**Sign at Turning head at Sandsound:** A message was received from Mr M Bennett saying that the SIC turning head 'Keep Clear' sign was reinstated in a more suitable position at the end of the road in early February.

**Roads Reports:** Reports received and circulated to the members.

**Smiley Face signs:** Smiley Face signs are not yet on site in Aith.

**Speed of traffic passing Cake Fridge:** Markings not yet in place.

**Tresta Speed Limit:** The review of the speed limit in Tresta has been brought forward to March. The temporary traffic regulation Order expires in June 2023. There is a statutory consultation process to be followed when implementing a permanent speed limit. This generally takes two months to complete. The report in March will allow sufficient time for this consultation process should the decision be that a permanent 50mph speed limit is to be promoted and implemented. Mr J D Garrick and Mr M Bennett have organised a petition requesting that the 50mph limit be implemented on a permanent basis. They will forward it to the Roads & Transport Committee.

**Shetland Community Benefit Fund:** SCBF held a Zoom meeting to give information to any new Community Councillors and Clerks regarding the Advance Grant Scheme. It had been held on 15 February and Mrs O Jamwal-Fraser attended, along with Mrs J Fraser.

Mrs O Jamwal-Fraser agreed to attend the Viking Community Fund consultation meeting to be held on 22 February.

**AGS Application:** 180379 An application was received from Sail Training Shetland for financial assistance towards trainees for the Tall Ships Race. Unfortunately most of our AGS funding for this year has already been committed and, as this is a Shetland-wide group, it was agreed to turn down their request.

**Update on grants:** Investing in Communities Fund: The final meeting has not yet been held.

**Finance:** Information about finance available from various funds was received from Mr M Duncan, including the Corrra Foundation Hardship Fund.

**Association:** The papers for the next meeting of the Association of Shetland Community Councils will be held on 14 March 2023 were received. The Chairman and Mrs O Jamwal-Fraser agreed to represent this Community Council. Among the items to be discussed is the review of Community Councils.

**Orion Project:** On going.

**Anti-social Behaviour Consultation:** Mr Mycock had been unable to attend the Sandness & Walls Community Council meeting as planned due to ill health. The Sandness & Walls Clerk will inform this Community Council when another date has been set.

**Problems with the Bad Weather:** A message was received from Ms R Doull at SSE thanking the Community Council for taking the time to thank the workforce. She will pass on our letter to their teams both in Shetland and in the south.

**Active Travel in Aith:** A message was received from Ms R Barton saying that unfortunately, due to ill health, the deadline for the bid to the Sustrans Places for Everyone scheme had been missed. She had been in touch with Sustrans and is waiting to hear when the next round of applications opens so they can submit to that. Her guess is that will be late Spring. All the work is done so they will be able to submit as soon as the opportunity arises.

As agreed previously Ms R Barton is to seek Transport Scotland funding for some smaller scale improvements in this area. That bid has been submitted so she is hopeful that they will be able to take some work forward beginning with the new financial year. She will keep us updated as to when things start progressing again.

**Data Protection:** The Data Protection Certificate was received.

**Finance:** A number of financial applications was received. The amount of finance requested far outweighed the amount available and the following grants were agreed:-

Community Development Fund:- Skeld Hall £467.97; Westside Sharks £200.00; Ath JH School Music Trip £450.00; Aith Community Assoc £500.00; Tresta Pier £250.00; Eid & Bixter Toddlers £425.98; Aith Hall £450.05.

Maintenance grants:- Skeld Pier £250.00; Aith Pier £250.00; Bixter Hall £500.00.

**Path at Aith:** It is still hoped that this path can be done with 'Active Travel' funds although it will be a bit later than we had hoped.

**Police Report:** The December 2022/January 2023 Report had been received and circulated to the members.

**Remembering Together - Covid Community Memorial:** A reply was received from Ms Christina Inkster saying that Phase 1 of the project has now ended and they are about to begin Phase 2.

It was agreed to suggest to Ms Inkster that she should get in contact with Wastview Care Centre and that some kind of memorial could possibly be incorporated in the Wastview Sensory Garden. Mrs O Jamwal-Fraser agreed to contact her.

**NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK 4 (NPF4):** A letter was received from the Planning Dept saying that NPF4 was approved on 11 January 2023 and provides advice on NPF4 becoming part of the statutory 'development plan' alongside local development plans (LDPs). They intend for this advice to support consistency in decision making ahead of new style LDPs being in place.

**EXTENSION TO GARDEN (BIXTER) GRAVEYARD:** A letter was received from Mrs M Williamson saying she has been asked to approach this Community Council regarding the Garden Graveyard which is now almost full. All other areas on the westside have had extensions added but nothing has happened here. She believes that an area of land was sold to the SIC for the purpose of an extension to the graveyard to double the size. She asks that we enquire as to why this has never happened as it is causing concern to families who want to be laid to rest there.

A reply will be sent to Mrs M Williamson saying that members know that an extension was planned some years ago but that it had not progressed. Enquiries will be made and we will inform her when we find out.

**WE SHINE BRIGHTER TOGETHER – PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGN:** A message was received from Mr M Duncan enclosing an email from Ms Emma Perring. In it she asks us to assist with sharing information to encourage more people to seek help/ know where to go for help over the coming months. A campaign was developed locally around the cost of living. They have developed a number of materials – posters, social media posts and films. These can be found online at **Shine on Shetland Campaign Assets – Shetland Islands Council**. This can be added to our Facebook page.

**RESILIENT COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE 2023 ONLINE WORKSHOPS:** A message from Ms I Gall, Emergency Planning, was received from Mrs R Fraser. It is an invitation to the Resilient Communities Conference which is taking place in March and April. The workshops are being hosted on MS Teams and are free and open to anyone with an interest in community resilience in emergencies. Places can be booked now. This will also be added to the Facebook page.

**ST RINGANS HUB:** The Hub was discussed. Mrs J Fraser is involved and explained what is available. Branches are available in Brae and Scalloway and some tubs have been placed in bus shelters with goods for those in need.

**SHETLAND MARINE PLANNING PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER:** A copy of this Newsletter was received.

**WATER SAFETY WORKSHOPS:** A message was received from Embers Aquatics telling us that over the summer of 2022 they ran vital water safety workshops for local children in schools across Lochaber. They are hoping to expand the project to work across Scotland and hope to bring the workshops to our area from Spring 2023. The members agreed that this would be very worthwhile and details of their Water Safety Champion Schools Programme can be found at <https://www.embersaquatics.com/water-safety-schools>.

**HOME ENERGY PLAN:** An email was received from Mr M Duncan with details of online Events being held by SSE to help people to create a Home Emergency Plan. This had been circulated to the members.

**COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP FUND ROUND 2:** Mr M Duncan forwarded information regarding the Community Ownership Fund.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held in the Rankin Lounge, Aith on Monday 13 March 2023 at 7.30pm. .