

# Fetlar Community Council

## MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT FETLAR HALL ON TUESDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023 AT 7.45PM (WITH A WEBEX OPTION TO JOIN REMOTELY)

### PRESENT

James Rendall, Chair  
Mike Fogarty, Vice Chair  
Lucy Cummings  
Dave Sumner  
James Smythe

### IN ATTENDANCE

Juliet Bellis, IWSP Strategic Delivery Group  
Roy Buckland, Clerk

### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Frances Browne and Carl Symons.

### 2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022 had been circulated and were taken as read and adopted. Proposed – James Rendall, seconded – Lucy Cummings.

### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

### 4. ONGOING BUSINESS

#### 4.1 Islands with Small Populations (WSP)

Juliet advised that she had received two responses to an email that had been circulated. The queries were as follows:

- Nursing  
This has been covered, no further action needed.
- Prescriptions  
It was queried if these are to be delivered or collected from the surgery? The Nurse said that she wishes to carry on delivering prescriptions so that she gets to meet all patients.
- Doctor Visits  
The Nurse stated that if appointments are booked, the doctor will attend. The Nurse then went on to describe a method that is used on other remote islands - the patient attends the clinic and has a consultation with the doctor remotely via Zoom. The Council commented that there is a DAR service on Yell that will take patients to their Yell surgery appointments, if required.

Juliet also raised concerns over the recent cold spell and power cut and suggested the possible purchase of a generator which will then be provided to the Hall so that power can be provided to the heating system and allow hot drinks, etc to be made for the more vulnerable residents. This will be discussed later along with a proposal from the Community Nurse.

#### **4.1/1 Visitor – Carl Symons, Executive Manager, Environment and Estate Operations – Community Maintenance Post (unable to attend)**

Unfortunately, Mr Symons was unable to attend as he was awaiting further updates on the Community Maintenance post. He did inform the Council via email that out of three applications that SIC had received for the role, two are to be interviewed at the end of the month – date to be confirmed. Mr Symons was also having a meeting with the Amenity Trust to discuss the car scrappage scheme and the bulky waste issue. All of this will be dependent upon who is employed as the Community Maintenance Handyperson. Mr Symons advised that he is planning to attend the next FCC meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> February.

#### **4.1/2 Emergency Timetable for Blue Mull Sound**

Frances Browne had received an email from Andrew Inkster – Shetland Island Ferries – stating that due to having to deal with other urgent matters, he is yet to discuss the issue with his team. He will contact Frances when he has further information.

Residents had asked if there could be priority booking for Fetlar residents. Unfortunately, the current booking system does not allow for priority booking.

It was also mentioned that the queuing system at Gatcher at busy periods of the day, it is impossible for Fetlar traffic to get into the correct lane, and they are having to park at the rear of the Unst queue. James Rendall and Dave Sumner both stated that the Fetlar traffic does get priority and ferry staff are there to check that Fetlar cars are not left behind. Also, if not possible, to load all Fetlar traffic, the Skipper will make an extra run. Frances Browne will be asked to write to SIC ferries.

#### **4.1/3 Bus Service**

No further action is required – this has now been removed from the agenda and will no longer appear on the minutes.

#### **4.1/4 Fetlar Welcome Pack**

Frances Browne has asked the Clerk of the FCC if he would become the contact point for the island, which he accepted. The Welcome Pack is now up and running and can be found on the Fetlar.org site. No further action required.

#### **4.1/5 Bulky Waste Uplifts and Skips**

Awaiting the appointment of the Community Maintenance Handyperson.

#### **4.1/6 Abandoned cars including fly tipping at Hamars Ness**

It has been reported that there are now two vehicles awaiting to be picked up by the Amenity Trust. It was agreed by all that this was the best location for vehicles to be stored whilst awaiting disposal by the Trust. There has also been a fridge freezer illegally dumped at Hamars Ness. In future, this will all be monitored by the Community Maintenance Handyperson once the post has been filled.

#### **4.1/7 Dog fouling on public roads (Dog bins)**

A complaint has been made about the increasing amount of dog fouling that is being left in public highways and areas. What is the possibility of dog bins and signage being placed around the island.

**Action** - Clerk to contact Environmental Health regarding supply of dog waste bins and who is responsible for emptying these bins.

### **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **5.1 Letter from the Community Nurse regarding the implementation of a contingency plan**

The Nurse enquired if there was a contingency plan in place for supporting the more vulnerable residents on the island in the event of bad weather and power outages and what would be the possibility of the FCC developing a plan given recent events where some elderly residents were potentially left with no access to heating, hot food and drinks for 24 hours. If this was not appropriate for the FCC, she would like to know what direction to be pointed in.

Lucy Cummings volunteered to work on a contingency plan for Fetlar. It was suggested that a group be set up to discuss this which would be member of the FCC, Emergency Services and the Nurse. Lucy proposed that they would come up with a format and this would then be circulated for discussion before implementation.

It was asked if the Hall was the best and safest location for residents to travel to in severe weather conditions. This would be discussed at the group stage by the planning team.

It was also asked what was happening about the gritting lorry as it had been removed from Fetlar.

**Action** - The Clerk to send an email to try to establish its whereabouts. Since the meeting the gritting lorry is now back on the island.

### **5.1/1 Email from Eleanor Gear – Administration Officer, Shetland Community Benefit Fund**

Eleanor informed the FCC that the Fetlar Hall Committee will be submitting an application to the AGS towards the cost of replacing the Hall roof. Fetlar Hall will be applying for all remaining AGS funds. She also stated that there is an outstanding application awaiting a decision from Mind Your Head. The FCC agreed that when the application from the Fetlar Hall Association arrives, they will vote in favour of the hall receiving the remainder of this year's funds and all of next year's allocation.

**Action** - James Rendall to write to Eleanor asking for the FCC to have access to next year's grants.

The members also voted in favour of the request from Mind Your Head and a donation of £100 has been agreed.

**Action** - Clerk to send paperwork to Eleanor.

### **5.1/2 Michael Duncan – Co-opted and Associate Members**

All Clerks have been informed that it is now possible to recruit co-opted and associate members, if required. The FCC noted this information.

At this point, Mike Fogarty had to leave the meeting.

## **6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Clerk asked if it would be possible to purchase a speaker/microphone to assist sound quality when guests virtually attend meetings.

**Action** - FCC agreed to purchase.

- 999 call

Lucy reported that the 999 call out just before Christmas was discussed. Roy Buckland, who made the call, reported that he was told via Ambulance Control that the helicopter was on its way. This was after no contact or response from the First Responders. Roy put a message out on social media asking if there were any on duty Responders and was immediately contacted by Barbara Herman who instigated the First Responders being mobilised to the incident. It was at this time, approximately 30 minutes after the initial 999 call, that Roy was informed that no call had been made or received by the First Responders. He asked if satellite radios could be provided for better communication with the First Responders on the island due to the lack of contact. Lucy Cummings having discussed the matter with her supervisor in the Ambulance Service was able to confirm that this island would shortly be provided with an ambulance with a radio which would mean that in the event of a power cut, contact remained with First Responders. It would also cover areas on the island with no mobile coverage. She was also able to confirm that no First Responder on the island had been contacted by Ambulance Control. After a general discussion, it was agreed that this item needed to be addressed by the Ambulance Service, if necessary, by making a formal complaint about the lack of contact of the on-the-ground Responders by Ambulance Control.

- Finances

A printout of the FCC core running budget and community development funds were circulated prior to the meeting.

## **7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023.

The Chair thanked everyone for joining the Meeting and since there was no further business, the Meeting was brought to a close.