

BRESSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of Bressay Community Council meeting:

Held on Monday 30 October 2023 in Bressay Hall.

Present:

Lindsay Tulloch (Chair)
Alistair Christie-Henry
Margaret MacDonald
Richard Burell (via Video link)
Stephen Leask
Gary Robinson
Arwed Wenger

In Attendance:

Joanna Fraser (Community Development Officer)
Michael Duncan (Community Liaison Officer)
Kevin Main (SIC Infrastructure Liaison)
Brian Chittock (Chief Executive NHS Shetland)
Kim Anderson (Chief Nursing Officer NHS Shetland)
Anthony McDavitt (Director of Pharmacy NHS Shetland)
Janice Jones (Clerk)

Agenda Items

1. Introduction and Apologies:

The Chair opened the Meeting and welcomed guests and members to the hall. Members were asked for any objections to recording the meeting – there were none.

Apologies were noted from:

Shirley Gifford
Kath Duffus
Matt Mason

2. Declarations of interest:

The Chair asked for declarations of interest – none received.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings:

The Chairman reviewed the draft minutes of the meeting 25th September 2023 and sought their approval. Proposed by Richard and seconded by Margaret.

4. Matters Outstanding (actions not elsewhere on agenda or completed):

Continued AP1 Community Resilience plan

Action: Chair

Ongoing – in touch with the Unst Development Officer to see/share information.

AP1: Feedback on Ferry timetable and other issues**Action: Chair/Shirley**

The Chair and Shirley have had discussions with Michael Craigie; Michael Craigie was due to liaise with Andrew Inkster regarding the early morning timetable and to report back to Shirley ahead of this meeting however as she is stuck in Aberdeen we have no update. Kevin has had no update from the Department of Infrastructure; however, he will take this away and try to get an update. This has now been made more pertinent by Loganair having changed their check in time from 30 minutes to 40 minutes – so it is now completely impossible to get the first ferry from Bressay and check in for the morning flight. This impacts on people getting flights for hospital appointment – who then have to stay overnight on the Mainland. The inability to gain early starting employment at say the windfarm was also highlighted, where this has an early start Bressay residents are disadvantaged. It was pointed out Michael Craigie was going to discuss with Andrew Inkster but has not yet come back to us. It was noted the timetable gets changed for Unst and Yell which gets tweaked on a regular basis; Transport Operations has the ability to change the timetable to suit changes in circumstances and an earlier ferry even by just 15 minutes would negate the additional check in time imposed by Loganair, whilst we would still like a much earlier ferry this 15-minute change could easily be incorporated within the Transport Operations remit.

AP2: Follow up on funding for Ferry and NHS appointments

Brian Chittcock addressed this issue in that Shetland NHS is looking at this firstly through the Third Sector initiatives with transport from home to an appointment and back again and widening this scope if anyone needed intervention to nursing at home and at the Health Hub and such like. It would be hoped that anyone needing greater support would be catered for in a different way - but still working on this, nothing is happening quickly. The main concern was to get people to and from their appointments timely. Health care was not included in the Highlands and Islands transport scheme so not a lot they could do about that. They were looking at doing some work with the National Highlands & Islands scheme and how it could be updated, since its inception in 2004 much had changed. It was commented that since then there were now more non-doctor and non-nurse islands and in conclusion it seemed there was still a way to go and we would look forward to further updates. Meanwhile this had been put forward to Beatrice Wishart who is aware the National scheme is coming under review and she will be making representations.

AP3: Liaison with Community/Groups re garden project

On hold now winter has set in until the spring.

AP4: Explore Tunnels Sounding Board group

The next Stakeholders Group meeting is later in November this group includes SIC Councillors, Board and Staff representatives from Zet Trans and SIC, Association of Community Council, the new group in Whalsay etc. The Chair and/or Alistair will attend.

AP5: Confirm & publish Voar Redd Up cut off dates**Action: Clerk**

We have had confirmation the only group involved in the ReddUp this year was the History Group therefore the suggestion was that we allocate them the entire £200 set aside for this year's funding and advertise prior to the Redd Up for other groups to take part next year for a share of the allocation.

AP6: Facilitate a meeting with church owners re memorials

The Chair has discussed with Hazel Anderson and they are currently awaiting quotes for the refurbishment of the memorials.

AP7: Invite NHS representatives to the next meeting

Representatives are in attendance – so concluded!

AP8: Raise the issue of Ferry (Lerwick side) parking**Action: Arwed**

Parking of Bressay cars at the back of the Alexandria Buildings has stopped, at the garage doors there is normally Nature Scotland parking area. The Harbour says we don't have space for them, or want them; the parking for Ferry queuing is nothing to do with the Harbour Board as this area is leased to Ferry Operations. Essentially there needs to be a completely new solution, there has been no decision what is to happen to the area around the old Fish market. They had complained about noisy cars who drive across to Victoria pier – however Arwed had pointed out this is for evening and overnight parking of commuters who have returned to Bressay therefore they were not creating noise at night! Any representation on space at the Old Fishmarket would need to come from SIC Ferries. Kevin will take this away and feed back to SIC Ferries and see what they can do. It was confirmed the parking areas at the other ferries was owned by the SIC – the nearest parallel was Whalsay where the Harbour owns the pier and parking area and this is leased to the council in it's entirety. The marshalling area is currently purely for the marshalling of vehicles to board the Ferry, historically we used to be able to park overnight in the peripheral lanes, ensuring there were at least two lanes left for marshalling, which worked quite well, however a number of years ago Transport Operations decided the area was required for mustering and marshalling, this was done without liaison with the Community Council or indeed the Community. We have suggested a number of times to go back to allowing Bressay residents to park overnight in the three extreme lanes, this would require signage and a method to achieve this. Kevin will take this back to Ferry operations to explore the options.

Action: Kevin**AP9: Letter/email to the Tall Ships organisers for the garden bench**

Completed

AP10: Liaise with “We Shine Brighter” to share our actions on HHF**Action; Richard**

Ongoing

AP11: Feedback to Employability Pathway Scheme our advice re their Roadshow

Completed

AP12: Review shelf life of Speldiburn defibrillator batteries and obtain quotes for replacements

Ongoing

Action: Matt**8. Health Hub Update**

Kim Anderson confirmed that at the public meeting in May we discussed we would have regular reviews to see how the inception of the Hub was proceeding. Firstly, she had to affirm that not everything had been completely plain sailing, feed-back from Islanders had been invaluable in identifying and addressing the issues. The first clinic was held on the 21st June with a plan to hold fortnightly clinics, ten were scheduled but only eight held, due to sickness, and patients were accommodated either at the next Bressay clinic or in Lerwick and subsequent sickness covered by staff from other clinics. There was less up take in the first few clinics while patients and Health Centre staff got to know how to use the facility hence the uptake of appointment in the last few weeks has been greater. Currently it appears that fortnightly seems to be the correct timing however we will continue to review the data and increase the service if necessary. During the period we have offered 54 appointments and 34 has been filled. The biggest problem in the early days had been communication impacted by sickness and staffing changes at the Health Centre, hopefully this has got better, the other use has been the vaccination clinics, there had been 93 vaccinations delivered in Bressay since May, the majority delivered at the hub. The next clinic is scheduled for the 8th November. At every clinic two appointments are kept free for

short notice appointments and this will be continued. Feedback from the public was that the service had got better and we have to educate and encourage residents to ask for Hub appointments as the reception would not necessarily know to offer a Bressay appointment. As it gets better used there is room for future service expansion. Users feedback was how nice it was to come locally and be in such a pleasant and relaxed environment. The Living Well Hub is going well. It co-ordinates well with the Red Cross Group who are also in on a Wednesday afternoon. Living Well Hubs are always very slow to start until people get to know what we can do, although we did have some contacts before we opened, the Sensory Impairment group was well attended, numbers have varied from two to four but it has been summer and will grow. Queries have varied from benefits to disability equipment, mental health and neighbour support. A number of people have popped in to find out about times for the Health Hub. We will be having more visiting groups that have been popular in other hubs. Now that the café has gone to winter hours of Friday and Saturday they are hoping to go to coffee & cake for the winter without impinging on the café. The uptake is very similar to the starting point in the other hubs in Brae and Scalloway where they were slow to get going as well, word of mouth is key to getting going and they are quite happy to be a social point for people to just drop in for a chat. Brae has been open for two years and it is only in the last year that it has really got people coming and going.

5. Member and Visitor Reports: This last month or so has been taken up with settling pay disputes – now two unions have accepted and the others has gone back to see what more can be done. There is no more on offer from the Scottish Government. No committees have been sitting this last month – October, those which did meet had no impact on Bressay, such as the evaluation board. The diary gets busy again in November. Budget setting seminars starts in November and will be another challenge as we have to wait until Westminster comes out with their budget. Protracted pay negotiations have an effect on the budgets as 80% of council spend is on staff.

Michael gave an update on the Community Council review; the first round of the review has completed. Firstly, it was to seek an extension of the community council terms to three years to take care of any time lags that might exist and secondly to set out the options for consultation, five options went up to the Council for consideration along with a sixth if the community didn't agree with or had a better option than any of the five. The objective is to get as much community engagement as we can. This process goes on until the 12th January. The next stage is all the documentation and analysis. The first stage is key and one of the questions that keeps coming up from Bressay residents is are they getting rid of the Bressay Community Council? Michael intimated that Bressay is one of the one four out of five that doesn't need changes. Stephen reiterated that he would be opposed to any changes that diluted the hard work done in Bressay by amalgamating the BCC into another area. A lot of Community Councils are struggling to fill their positions. There will be a number of drop-in sessions where the public will be able to give their views.

6. Planning Applications: None

7. Infrastructure – Already covered all the outstanding ferry items. Still working on the contingency plan, highlighted when we had no overnight ferry coming to/from the Island while the linkspan hut work was in progress, whilst we were informed emergency services had been notified we had no understanding of what was in place and the Community Council had to scabble around the individual services to find out details – for instance Fire Service put an additional unit into the Island. It was disappointing Ferry Services didn't communicate what the plan would do when there is a plan set aside at Selliness, we need to have an understanding of that plan so we can answer public queries and alleviate concerns etc. Kevin will feed this back to smooth communication in the future. As part of the Island contingency plan we have been granted £10,000 of the £16,000 we asked for, for our

generator grant for the hall. We will meet with the Hall committee soon to discuss. During the recent power outage, it had been commented by a number of people it would have been fine to go to the Hall in that situation. Kevin asked for details on the Infrastructure Inspection report. Niel has been across and has instigated some works and advised on funding for others. Richard to pass the latest version to the clerk who will forward to Kevin.

9. Community Garden Project – this will be picked up again at the start of the year.

10. Draft Annual Report: The Chair circulated a report prepared to circulate to the public of what the Community Council has been working on and achieved in the year. This is based on the Community Council plan – so covers our three main areas: Health & Wellbeing, Transport & Communications and Infrastructure & Resilience and highlighting the funding we have assisted with.

11. Correspondence: All items have been circulated other than the police report which shows no incidences in Bressay, they have been invited to future meeting and will attend if possible. It was noted there had been no further reports of incidents in the Lerwick waiting room. An invitation has been cascaded to the members for a meeting with SIC Development for Thursday 9th to follow up on the locality plan. This Wednesday 1st we have representatives for the National Islands Forum, it was noted most of the members were either out of Shetland or engaged at other meetings however Margaret said she would attend to represent the Community Council.

12. Financial Report and Grant Applications:

The Clerk shared the current financial position with projected spend for the rest of the year and suggested caution on the remainder of the year's spend. There were no grant or SCBF applications this month and at the moment we have had no spend on the Distribution or Project budget, however there is one in the pipeline for the Senior Citizens Christmas Party which will be in the region of £300 this has been supported by the Community Council in the past and members saw no reason not to support going forward, as this may need to be decided before the next meeting it was agreed this would be circulated and decided by email. The Boating Club had been going to apply for funds for the Meter Maids however they have decided not to proceed.

13. Bressay Groups Update: The Hall is planning another Chinese Night on the 10th November.

14. Any Other Business: The Shetland Digital Forum are holding an open meeting at Islesburgh on the 17th November which will discuss Broadband connectivity in the islands. The Clerks contract has been renewed for the next two Years. The Chair confirmed Amanda Sinclair has resigned from the community council and the Community Council expressed their thanks and appreciation for her time of service both as Clerk and as a member. We have one person who is expressing interest in joining us as a co-opted member if anyone knows of anyone else; we can discuss at the next meeting.

15. Meeting Review: this was a quick round the table to ensure all aims had been met and receive any feedback on the proceedings. It was commented it was good to have updates directly from the Departments concerned (i.e., the Health Board). Kevin enquired if we would be using "Teams" in the future as this would facilitate attendance. This would be dependent on better technology.

16. Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be on Monday 27th November. There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.00 and thanked those attending.

Chairman:

Date

To contact the Community Council please email us at bressaycc@gmail.com or telephone 07532054521 or contact any Community Council Member.

The remainder of this document does not form part of the public minute

Summary of new and outstanding action

<u>Continued AP1</u> Community Resilience plan	Action: Chair
AP1: Feedback on Ferry timetable and other issues	Action: Chair
AP2: Follow up in funding for Ferry and NHS appointments	Action: Chair
AP3: Explore Tunnels Sounding Board group	Action: Chair/Alistair
AP4: Raise the issue of Ferry (Lerwick side) parking	Action: Kevin
AP5: Liaise with “We Shine Brighter” to share our actions on HHF	Action; Richard
AP6: Review shelf life of Speldiburn defibrillator batteries and obtain quotes for replacements	Action: Matt
AP7: Pass the current infrastructure report to Kevin Main	Action:Richard/Clerk