

# BRESSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

---

## **Draft** Minute of Bressay Community Council meeting:

Held on Monday 29 August 2023 in Bressay Hall.

*This minute is unapproved until adopted at the next meeting of BCC*

### **Present:**

Lindsay Tulloch (Chair)  
Shirley Gifford  
Richard Burrell  
Kath Duffus  
Matt Mason  
Gary Robinson  
Arwed Wenger

### **In Attendance:**

Joanna Fraser  
Janice Jones (Clerk)

### **Agenda Items**

#### **1. Introduction and Apologies:**

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

#### **Apologies were noted from:**

Amanda Sinclair  
Alistair Christie-Henry  
Margaret MacDonald  
Stephen Leask

#### **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 26 June 2023 and sought their approval. Proposed by Kath and seconded by Shirley.

**4. Matters Outstanding (actions not elsewhere on agenda or completed):** We did have a quick catch up at the end of July to test the progress on a number of items and everything was OK and had some updates.

#### **Continued AP1: Investigate Funding for Footpaths**

Shirley could inform the meeting Niel Hutchison has advised to leave it with him for now as there was funding coming in at varying times and it wasn't for this year. The Project in Tingwall championed by Andrew Archer was on too big a scale to be suitable for Bressay as what they had planned fitted into active travel and was about 2.5 metres wide to

accommodate pedestrians and cycles etc. We need to keep an eye on this to ensure it doesn't fade away.

**Action: Shirley**

### **Continued AP2: Community Resilience plan**

We will need to pull in a number of volunteers across the community as it is a much bigger scheme. The Chair has discussed with BDL and will get together with them in the near future. The application has been sent to SEN for a grant for a generator (in conjunction with the Hall). This was in the region of £16,000 as it needed to be of significant size for the Three Phase system in the Hall. One outstanding issue will be the housing of it to keep it weatherproof.

**Action: Chair**

### **AP1: Feedback on Ferry timetable for Tall Ships**

Chair emailed Andrew Inkster on this and a number of other issues including the resilience plan. He has not yet responded so we will wait and escalate if necessary.

**Action: Chair**

### **AP2: Follow up funding for Ferry and NHS appointments**

**Action: Chair**

Delt with later in this meeting

### **AP3: Liaison with Groups re garden project**

Ongoing – Community Council Members seem to be stepping up with weeding and gate painting. The Chair put in a request for tall ships benches and Richard has passed on the pledges and offers of help he had obtained.

**Action: Amanda**

### **AP4: Explore Tunnels Sounding Board group**

The Chair and Alistair will continue to attend these meeting and will review this further down the agenda.

**Action: Chair/Alistair**

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

Not yet done waiting on confirmation from Amenity trust, we have the funding for this year in place and will put aside in this year accounts as well.

**Action: Clerk**

### **AP6: Feedback to SCBF Grant application**

Done

### **AP7: Feedback to Hall on sourcing of Projector**

Ongoing with the Clerk via the Hall committee, the brief from the Hall is to get a good solution that is suitable for the entire community use.

**Action: Clerk**

### **AP7: Consult with Boating Club regarding skip manning**

The boating club is not available until November so we will ask some other group to step up in September, the Hall Committee and the Up Helly Aa committee were both suggested, as the former gets grant funding and the later gets support for ferries and it was decided to ask the Hall committee in the first instance and left with Richard as Hall Representative and the chair/clerk will canvas the UHA committee. The Clerk explained the funding for the skips that we had no specific funding, the skips we had last year were cancelled skips from 2021 brought forward to 22/23

**Action: Richard**

### **AP8: Write to Fish Factory Haulier regarding Lorry safety**

The draft letter has been prepared and will be sent as soon as we have clarification on who it should be sent to with a copy to the Factory. Passed to Clerk to complete.

**Action: Clerk**

### **AP9: Update Infrastructure Report re Toxic weeds and dumped Cars**

One of the cars has now gone and the infrastructure report is nearing completion.

**Action: Richard**

### **AP10: Facilitate a meeting with church owners re war memorials**

Continuing.

**Action: Chair/Alistair**

### **AP11: Invite Michael Craigie or his representative to next meeting**

The Chair, Vice-Chair and Alistair managed to get a quick catch up with Michael after the Tunnel Vision meeting. This was quite productive and we went back over some of the things previously discussed, extend early timetable to get off the island for jobs and early flights, free health travel, he was unaware of our discussions with Brian Chittock and will now liaise with Brian to facilitate. Nursery travel was further discussed. The Clerk could outline previously minuted discussions where a token system had been outlined, where the patient

picked up a token at the health provider's reception which was passed to the ferry crew and then billed to the Health Board. The SIC are looking at all non-doctor Islands and Joanne could look at this in conjunction with her colleagues.

**5. Member and Visitor Reports:** Not much in the way of meetings and seminars over the summer. Very quiet but busy with other things like the tall ships. The announcement of the Project leader looking at fixed links is imminent as the offer has been made.

Joanne will discuss with her other Islander colleagues how they as a group can support their communities with this going forward. Meanwhile any ideas on how her department can help will be well received. The Chair would like to know what the residents of Bressay actually want as we are supposed to be democratically representative. Perhaps a balanced discussion on Tunnels and the alternatives (if any) in the light of aging ferries, public transport links etc.

Jumping through the agenda, as this is an agenda item in its own right. What do we as a Community Council do next. How do we canvas the Community to form a group? The North Isles have a very specific Tunnel Action Group but perhaps what Bressay actually needs is something broader – a Connectivity Action Group? To look at the broader solution. The resilience plan would feed into this discussion. Perhaps these could be combined as in what is resilience to draw two sides together and make people look at the options. It might be an idea to pull all the island groups together for a discussion on resilience and connectivity.

**6. Planning Applications:** None

**7. Infrastructure – People** have been asking when the verges are due to be cut as they are getting very long and dangerous. This is not scheduled at all this year, we were advised last year was the last year. This is the same in most places where verges are only being cut where safety is a concerned person. The Infrastructure Report is almost complete and if the community is concerned, we need to look at priorities and for example the trees at Crewton and the top of the Voehead Road.

**8. NHS Project:** Kath has been in touch with Kim as people have been trying to make a Bressay appointment of routine items but told the health care worker can't do this she was going to discuss with the Health Centre Admin to ensure the receptionist knew this should be done in Bressay. The concern is that the unit was designed around capacity and if there are barriers to use this will skew the figures going forward. Kath will follow up with Kim.

**Action: Kath**

**9. Community Garden Project** – Already discussed under AP3. This does need to be a community thing with other volunteers. Will need some co-ordination. We will ask Amanda to organise.

**Action Amanda**

**10. Correspondence:** It has been a quiet month. We have now received the festive timetable for this year – this is the same as previous years.

The SGBF sent through details of what funding we had available and feedback from those who have had grants, currently there are no pending applications.

**11. Financial Report and Grant Applications:**

There are no grant or SCBF applications this month. The 2022/2023 Accounts were available for anyone to inspect – they will be submitted to VAS for verification later this week and submitted to the SIC at the end of the month. The Clerk shared a slide of the current financial position with the Household Hardship Fund fully spent and most of the other spends has been on admin, no distribution fund has yet been spent. The Chair had plans to create personal resilience planning as well as Island resilience and looked at ways of funding this. If it was for distribution to an arm's length group this could be a distribution grant, or wait until

spring for a Project Grant next year. An alternative could be a SCBF grant. Some discussion ensued on what could be offered in resilience. This can be achieved via information and communication rather than a physical offering. Getting people to be aware of the risks and how to deal with them.

**12. Tunnel Vision Update.** Already discussed

**13. Bressay Groups Update:** Nothing

**14. Any Other Business:**

The Gunnista grid is in a poor state of repair and needs to be included in the infrastructure report – currently it is shored up by crofter’s gates, a number of grids are getting overgrown. Christmas vouchers for the over 70’s was discussed and it was decided that this year these should be from the Bressay Shop. Having seen the impact of the vouchers from the HHF Matt intimated the shop would like to further support this by offering a further discount to people with vouchers to help those funds go further, perhaps to a discount for local suppliers. Ali would be happy to have this discussion. The Chair raised the question if this was the correct group in the population to be supported. However, any other group was difficult to identify. It was pointed out our core grant has not gone up therefore we need to keep to £25 as last year and the vouchers can be used on anything the recipient wished, i.e., can buy tobacco and alcohol if wished.

The question of ferry parking in Lerwick was raised pointing out we are the only ferry that has no parking on the mainland side and the one with the highest volume of commuters. The previous parking is now roped off. Arwed was asked to take this to the transport committee as this would be the route for resolution. It is a transport issue.

**Action: Arwed**

A number of people in the community have raised they are unsure of who the Community Council is or how to get in touch with us. Down to us to publicise more how to communicate with the public, not everyone is on Facebook, so perhaps a newsletter, web-site, etc. highlighting what we are doing, things like the Maryfield Road, the garden, the Household Hardship fund. This needs to be pitched at the right level as not everyone reads the minutes. This also could detail of items “in progress” so people can see queries are being taken seriously and it is not for lack of trying. This is echoed across other community councils. There is a section on the Scottish Community Councils website that deals with community engagement. Bressay has an advantage of geographical boundaries so you know where to target. Yell was having coffee mornings where constituents could come to the hall and discuss any issues. This could be tied in with afternoon teas for the community garden project. This could be discussed at the next meeting and perhaps base a newsletter around our plan.

**15. Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will be on Monday 25th September. There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.45 and thanked those attending.

Chairman:

Date

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

Summary of new and outstanding action

<b><u>Continued AP1</u> Community Resilience plan</b>	<b>Action: Chair</b>
<b>AP1: Feedback on Ferry timetable and other issues</b>	<b>Action: Chair</b>
<b>AP2: Follow up in funding for Ferry and NHS appointments</b>	<b>Action: Chair</b>
<b>AP3: Liaison with Community/Groups re garden project</b>	<b>Action: Amanda</b>
<b>AP4: Explore Tunnels Sounding Board group</b>	<b>Action: Chair/Alistair</b>
<b>AP5: Confirm &amp; publish Voar Redd Up cut off dates</b>	<b>Action: Clerk</b>
<b>AP6: Consult with the hall regarding skip manning</b>	<b>Action: Richard</b>
<b>AP7: Write to Fish Factory Haulier regarding Lorry safety</b>	<b>Action: Clerk</b>
<b>AP8: Update Infrastructure Report r</b>	<b>Action: Richard</b>
<b>AP9: Facilitate a meeting with church owners re memorials</b>	<b>Action: Chair/Alistair</b>
<b>AP10: Monitor use of Speldiburn Medical Facility</b>	<b>Action: Kath</b>
<b>AP11: Raise the issue of Ferry (Lerwick side) parking</b>	<b>Action: Arwed</b>