

# BRESSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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## Minute of Bressay Community Council meeting:

Held on Monday 25th September 2023 in Bressay Hall.

### Present:

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

### In Attendance:

Joanna Fraser (Community Development Officer)  
Emma Perring (Community Planning)  
Leanne Gear (Partnership Officer)  
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:

Alistair Christie-Henry  
Kevin Main  
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 29th August 2023 and sought their approval. Proposed by Kath and seconded by Richard.

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

##### Continued AP1: Community Resilience plan

Ongoing.

**Action: Chair**

##### **AP1: Feedback on Ferry timetable and other issues**

The Chair is in contact with Andrew Inkster but has not yet found a mutual time to meet. Alistair, Shirley and the Chair met with Michael Craigie and discussed the possibility of revisiting the ferry timetables to get an earlier ferry to enable some people to get to work,

flights etc. This met a positive response and he will be liaising with Andrew Inskter to progress. **Action: Chair**

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

The Chair has had a response confirming that conversations are happening between the NHS and partners so that is still live and he will be having a conversation with Brian Chittock in the near future. **Action: Chair**

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

Ongoing –

**Action: Amanda**

**AP4: Explore Tunnels Sounding Board group**

We understand Louise Shearer has been appointed the Inter Island Connectivity Programme Manager. The Chair and Alistair will continue to attend these meeting and are waiting to hear from Neil Grant when the next meeting is. **Action: Chair/Alistair**

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

Ongoing- 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: Consult with Hall regarding skip manning**

The skip was filled by 2.30 on Sunday manned by the hall committee. **Completed**

**AP7: Write to Fish Factory Haulier regarding Lorry safety**

An email was sent to the haulier however we have had no reply. The lorries have now reduced in numbers as the season comes to an end. It is time pressure for trucks to get back to the ferry – however it does cause disruption to islanders not just by speeding but getting on the ferry. Shirley requested a copy of the letter sent – this will be circulated after the meeting. We will keep an eye on it, a solution could be the lorries having extra runs built in and as in previous years hiring the ferry and running through the night. **Completed**

**AP8: Update Infrastructure Report re Toxic weeds and dumped Cars**

This has been completed and updated with the additional items added by Neil Hutchison. A number of items has come out of his visit – for instance the sides of the roads have been trimmed across the whole island. Grids and signage still had to be done. Some blind spots have not yet been done, specifically at the top of the Voehead road where there was a recent near miss and at Creuton. These are safety issues that need to be prioritised on the infrastructure report.

**AP9: Facilitate a meeting with church owners re war memorials**

Continuing, the Chair has a meeting with the owner regarding something else and will tag that on. **Action: Chair/Alistair**

**AP10 Monitor use of Speldiburn Medical Facility**

Kim Anderson had responded to Kath that receptionists have been instructed to book a number of procedures in Bressay. The recent cancelation of appointments scheduled for the clinic had been down to sickness however these were reinstated once cover had been found. However, it is noted that people are being directed to Lerwick for their Covid jobs which we were led to believe would happen in Bressay. We could invite Kim to the next meeting and perhaps have some positive information. The Chair is meeting with Brian Chittock and could add this to that meeting and perhaps have both to the October meeting. The concern is that future decisions will be made based on skewed figures. **Action: Chair**

**AP11: Raise the issue of Ferry (Lerwick side) parking**

Not yet addressed. **Action: Arwed**

**5. Locality Profile**

Emma Perring outlined the history of the Shetland locality profile and the data for “Outcomes for Communities”. We have data at a Shetland level then five or so years ago we broke this down into the seven localities that Shetland is broken down into. The data offers the opportunity to sit down and look at local issues, services and funding. Bressay is currently included in the draft profile for Lerwick and Bressay however we would also like to create a

profile just for Bressay as the profile for Bressay is very different and we have no way of extracting just the Bressay Data. We can facilitate this by including Bressay in with the five small islands. Mutual assistance in creating the profile for Bressay would be ideal. Nationally Island Impact Assessments are created and this would be a way of finding that information. Emma shared a Skerries profile which was created by a survey which they know works this could be re-run for Bressay. Difficult areas are the demographics of population, jobs etc. this is where the Community Council could be of most help plus pertinent information that is specific to Bressay. It was agreed this would be really useful for Bressay but the possibility of getting people to respond to a survey was challenging, the best option could be knocking on doors. This also ties in with the Community Council focus on Island engagement – this could be a useful tool. The danger is people get surveyed out – which is less likely face to face. Unanimously it was agreed that the Community Council was keen on moving forward with this.

**6. Member and Visitor Reports:** Policy and resources has been the main meetings – not much relating to Bressay. One thing that could be pertinent could be the Active Travel Transformation Fund which is aimed at funding missing pavements etc. This could be the fund Niel Hutchinson referred to. It has less specifications as to width etc.

A car club scheme is coming up, initially between the Council and the NHS but will be extended to the general public. This is happening in Orkney and the organisation the SIC is looking at is Enterprise, this could be useful for cars between Lerwick and Bressay. They are looking at using some of the rural care homes as hubs but this would expand from this. In Orkney it is £6 per hour.

**7. Planning Applications:** None

**8. Infrastructure** – Roads and transport covered in actions. Communications, problems in mobile coverage in Lerwick particularly when Liners/Tall Ships are in. Island Resilience plan – the Chair had met with the Hall Committee who he found to be very receptive to helping. The decision on the funding will be in October and this could be an opportunity for an Island get together/fund raising.

**9. NHS Project:** Already discussed.

**10. Community Garden Project** – The difference is now visible as Amanda and Katrina has been up tidying up. The Chair had picked up the bench from the Tall Ships. We hoped there would be more volunteers when they saw something happening. Various suggestions at getting added help were put forward. Hopefully we will get an update from Amanda next month. Meanwhile the Community Council recorded their thanks to the Tall Ships for awarding us a bench. The Chair will also write recording our thanks. **Action Amanda**

**11. Community Council Review Scheme:** The Chair attended the meeting of Community Council Chairs where this was discussed. The main action is the extension of this Community Council term, which was to be only two years, for an additional year, the reason being that there has to be three rounds of consultation to establish the format going forward. Councillors signed up for two years so anyone who wants to step back at the end of the two years may do so and councils would have the power to co-opt new members as a replacement without a ballot.

**12. Correspondence:** Quite a few items have been circulated.

The National Walking Network didn't really apply to us here.

The joint Forum of Community Councils is being looked at by Kath.

We shine lighter together – this the cost-of-living campaign, as well as sharing video etc they are looking for suggestions on how to get people to come forward. We could share what we did which might help some other group – passed to Richard to follow up on.

The Hall took a booking this week for the National Islands Plan, the Community Council has had no consultation on it. The consultation is live on line and getting close to the national deadline – this has been postponed and the Clerk has emailed them suggesting they get the

Community Council involved, the only other Shetland consultation listed was to be in Brae. We have had a contact from the Employability Pathway scheme who are organising a roadshow and planning to come to Bressay on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 12.30 to 15.30 and are looking to us for any suggestions on how to get engagement. The Hub would be a good venue for this and we would suggest they liaise with Speldiburn and we would be very happy to promote it.

### **13. Financial Report and Grant Applications:**

There were no grant or SCBF applications this month.

The 2022/2023 Accounts have been Independently Verified and submitted to Michael Duncan.

The Clerk shared the current financial situation with a draft of future projections to ensure we didn't overspend this year. Part of this was for batteries and pads for the defibrillator at Speldiburn. Matt will check out for better quotes as if maintenance is running to half the cost of the machine perhaps it would be time to look at new equipment. Meanwhile Matt will also check out the current battery lifespan.

Part of this was clerk's wages and some discussion ensued on variations between Community Councils – the clerk explained all clerks were on a pay scale based on an SIC rate however there was considerable variations in hours across Community Councils, as there was also a variation in the funding they had available.

At the moment there has been no spend on the distribution budget or the Project Budget.

**14. Bressay Groups Update:** The Hall is planning another Chinese Night on the 10<sup>th</sup> November. They are also looking at a health and well-being update getting things like new mats for the bowls, youth club and fitness programme.

### **15. Any Other Business:**

Kath gave us an update on the Scottish forum of Community Councils. This is trying to get all the Community Councils together to give us a bit more clout to be able to lobby Government etc. There is one other Shetland Community Council involved. Currently they are disappointed with the response and are trying up with the Democracy Matters Group. There are a couple of meetings in the pipeline which Kath will be attending, meanwhile she has circulated the newsletter.

Richard has done a bit of work with BDL regarding the Newsletter. They pointed out it is a lot of hard work and we cannot rely on the goodwill of the Post Office for distribution. Some discussion on setting up a website ensued. This will need further exploration particularly as to cost and keeping it up to date and pertinent. A competition for a logo would be an idea, this could be added to a newsletter. A news letter would need input from everyone. One pertinent quick win would be to have contact details available – perhaps on the bottom of the minutes.

**16. Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will be on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October. There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.10 and thanked those attending.

Chairman:

Date

To contact the Community Council please email us at [bressaycc@gmail.com](mailto: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

<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: Facilitate a meeting with church owners re memorials</b>	<b>Action: Chair/Alistair</b>
<b>AP7: Invite NHS representatives to the next meeting</b>	<b>Action: Chair</b>
<b>AP8: Raise the issue of Ferry (Lerwick side) parking</b>	<b>Action: Arwed</b>
<b>AP9: Letter/email to the Tall Ships organisers for the garden bench</b>	<b>Action: Chair</b>
<b>AP10: Liaise with “We Shine Brighter” to share our actions on HHF</b>	<b>Action; Richard</b>
<b>AP11: Feedback to Employability Pathway Scheme our advice re their Roadshow</b>	<b>Action: Clerk</b>
<b>AP12: Review shelf life of Speldiburn defibrillator batteries and obtain quotes for replacements</b>	<b>Action: Matt</b>