

**WHALSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**Minutes subject to approval at next Community Council meeting**

Minute of the Whalsay Community Council (CC) meeting. Held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct at 7.00 pm

<b>PRESENT:</b>	
Cllr Jackie Leslie (JL) – Chair	Antony Visocchi – Dentist via TEAMS
Cllr William Polson (WP) - Vice Chair	Cllr Margaret Hughson ( MH)
Cllr Gilbert Irvine (Gil )	Dana Jamieson - Police Scotland via TEAMS
	Neil Hutchinson – SIC via TEAMS
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	
Duncan Anderson - North Isles Cllr (DA)	Roselyn Fraser – Community Involvement & Development Officer (RF)
Michael Duncan - Community Council Liaison Officer (MD)	Andrew Inkster - Executive Manager Marine & Air Operations SIC(AI)
Robert Thomson – North Isles Cllr (RTH)	
Ryan Thomson – North Isles Cllr (RT)	

**MINUTE TAKER:** Gina Irvine – WCC Clerk (GI)

**WELCOME:**

JL chaired meeting and welcomed all.

**APOLOGIES:**

Apologies noted

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

None declared

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

JL asked if all were happy with minutes. JL approved, WP seconded.

**FINANCE REPORT:**

Current account was shared with members by clerk. Payments approved

**ACTION:** None

---

**1. DENTIST**

JL introduced Antony Visocchi to discuss the dentist service being offered for Whalsay. Antony discussed recent letter about the services being offered on Whalsay which they hope to maintain, subject to availability of dentists. He highlighted the shortage of dentists on National level as well as in Shetland and the recruitment drive being undertaken to address the shortage. Recruitment strategy is also aimed at newly graduated students. Briefly discussed that the Health board were re-looking at the old model to help address

## WHALSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

some of the services which was lacking. This was going to be in three phases, one being increase dentists from 5 to 15, re establish pre Covid services and ultimately not being centralised. Children are being seen between now and spring throughout Shetland.

JL asked about the services for Whalsay

Antony confirmed that currently, Paul the appointed dentist for Whalsay is allocated 2 to 3 days per week but this may change due to cover needed in Brae. Hopes for changes within the next 12 months and will share any future plans.

### 2. ROADS , FENCE AT DUMP , STREETLIGHTS CYCLE & WALKING PATHS

JL introduced Neil Hutchinson from Roads. Neil discussed that the main roads on Whalsay had been surface dressed as temporary measure with New Park scheduled for May-Aug 2024 due to new houses being built in this area.

MH – confirmed that only one more house was scheduled as the others were on hold and asked if works could be brought forward. Also , that the new re-positioning of the bus shelters works was incorrect.

Neil proposed a meet up with John Duncan and asked for photos and information to be re-sent to him for review.

JL – discussed the dip on North Voe and an update on the Wild Garden renovation as this was scheduled for school holidays for completion. If the Clate Road to the dump once it has been resurfaced who would be maintaining it.

MH – Asked for reassurances on the completion dates for Wild Gardens renovation and re-positioning of bus shelters

Neil informed members that this was on hold due to staff shortages however was part of the Active travel schedule of approved works. Discussion was done about the proposed works for 2024. Also, the recent change in law in Wales about making some roads 20 miles zone rather than 30 miles. To make the necessary changes there would need to be a traffic order put in place. Neil informed all that he would try to find out indicative dates for above works and revert back.

**ACTION** – Clerk to follow up

### 3. POLICE MATTERS

JL introduced Dana to the meeting.

Dana informed all that there was no police reports produced for August and September that she was able to share. She discussed more island visits had been put forward for October.

JL asked if another overnight visit could be put forward for 4<sup>th</sup> night similar to Regatta, around 28<sup>th</sup>.

Dana asked for confirmation of the event and once she received this would put forward WCC request.

**ACTION:** Clerk asked to follow up

### 4. FUNDING

JL discussed requests from Bairns Xmas Party and Whalsay Primary School for funds. All approved funds to be spent retrospectively

**ACTION:** Clerk asked to follow up

## WHALSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### 5. The Old Dock and Grieves House

Ongoing. Clerk confirmed no update for funding and progress from Hazel Sutherland

WP Reiterated that the area was in a worse condition and needed to be addressed again with SIC

**ACTION:** Clerk to follow up

### 6. FERRIES

All discussed the Xmas timetable proposal put forward to SIC and asked clerk to follow up with North Isles councillors for support.

**ACTION:** Clerk to follow up with SIC.

### 7. WHALSAY TUNNEL ACTION GROUP

All discussed the forthcoming public meeting to establish a group within the community. Public Meeting scheduled for 4<sup>th</sup> Oct 2023.

### 8. NEWSLETTER

Clerk informed all that funding for this could be put forward for next year in April. Rhea Kay to be tasked. Topics to include Participatory Budget, WCDG, Sign, Tunnel Group - on hold

**ACTION** Ongoing

### 9. Burial Grounds

All asked clerk to follow up with North Isle councillors for any updates

**ACTIONS:** Ongoing

### 10. Bottle Banks

Clerk informed all that stickers were ordered

### 11. Skips

Clerk informed all skip hire date scheduled for 18<sup>th</sup> Oct 2023

### 12. BT Openreach

Clerk informed all no updates and ongoing. All asked to clerk to follow up with North Isle Councillors concerns about homelink and power cuts and requested more clarification

**ACTIONS:** Clerk asked to follow up

**Meeting closed at 8.50pm**

**Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting scheduled for Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 7pm, at Heritage Centre for locals and Teams for others considering joining.