

Sandsting & Aithsting Community Council

Chairman:

Mr John Priest
Farmhouse
Reawick
Shetland
ZE2 9NJ
Tel: 01595 860274
e-mail: priestjt@btconnect.com

Clerk:

Mrs L Fraser
West Burrafirth
Walls
Shetland
ZE2 9NT
Tel: Walls 01595 809203
e-mail: clerk.sandacc@gmail.com

Minutes of a meeting of Sandsting & Aithsting Community Council held in Bixter Community Hall on Monday 12 February 2024 at 7.30pm.

Present:	J Priest	Mrs O Jamwal-Fraser
	Mrs S Deyell	Mrs J Fraser
	J D Garrick	Mrs L Johnson
Ex-Officio:	Cllr L Peterson	
	Cllr M Robinson	
In attendance:	Mrs L Fraser, Clerk	

Mr J Priest presiding

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from Ms D Nicolson, Mrs R Fraser, Community Involvement & Development Worker and Mr M Duncan, Community Council Liaison Officer.

MINUTES & REPORT: The minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2024, having been circulated, were taken as read and were approved. Moved by Mrs S Deyell, seconded by Mrs O Jamwal-Fraser.

BUSINESS ARISING: Road Matters: Road past Garderhouse: Now completed.

Brig at Burn of Lunklet: Contractor not yet on site.

Creating passing places: No further information about extra passing places.

Hole developing on the Sandsound road: No reply yet.

Smiley Face signs: The Smiley Face signs are presently at Gardie in Aith.

'SLOW' markings on road near Cake Fridge: A reply was received from Mr N Hutcheson saying that the 'SLOW' markings at the Cake Fridge are still on their list for the hand applied road markings when the weather permits.

Signs in Aith indicating passing places: No further information on this.

Gritting of the road network: A reply was received from Mr N Hutcheson saying that the gritting of the road network on Christmas and New Year's days is being reviewed and a report will be presented to the Environment & Transport Committee for a decision in March.

Mobile: Nothing further.

Shetland Community Benefit Fund (SCBF): A message was received from Mr Chris Bunyan, Chair of SCBF, asking this Community Council to nominate someone as a director of Shetland Community Benefit Fund Ltd following their AGM scheduled for May. This fund will be moving into a new phase in September.

Mr J D Garrick was nominated by the Chairman and seconded by Mrs S Deyell. Mr Garrick accepted and his name will be forwarded to Mr Bunyan.

Update on grants: Investing in Communities Fund: The meeting of the 'Invest in the West' group to complete the project will be held soon.

Funding: Funding details have been received from Mr M Duncan and circulated to the members.

Association: The next meeting of the Association of Shetland Community Councils will be held on 12 March. Mrs O Jamwal-Fraser volunteered to represent this Council and this information will be sent to Mr M Duncan.

Community Council Scheme Review: Still ongoing.

Reawick Beach Breakwater: No further information regarding this. Mrs J Fraser will monitor the situation.

Active Travel: No results yet available regarding this funding.

Bench: A reply had been received from Ms J Graham at SSE Renewables with details of the benches available along with a photo. The Clerk replied saying that this Community Council will accept a bench made in treated wood. Once we receive the bench, a notice will be placed on the Community Council Facebook page asking for suggestions as to where the bench could be sited and what group will take care of it.

PSTN: No further information regarding the Public Switched Telephone Network switch off.

Unadopted road: Final claims for grants now received.

Data Protection: Certificate received.

Finance: A number of financial applications were received and grants agreed for - CDF – Skeld & District Public Hall; Aith & Bixter Toddler Group; Aith Community Association; Aith Public Hall & Rankin Lounge and Westside Sharks Swimming Club Maintenance grants to Bixter, Aith & Skeld Halls and Skeld, Aith & Tresta Boating & Fishing Piers.

Da Voar Redd Up: Details of the groups who took part in Da Voar Redd Up in 2023 were received from Shetland Amenity Trust.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS: The following planning applications were considered and approved:-

2024/004/PPF Proposed extension with ASHP to derelict dwellinghouse and standalone garage at Mosshouse, Effirth, Bixter by Mr Duncan Ross-Smith.

2024/022/PPF To convert the existing building, previously used as a church, into a one storey, split level dwelling home with an ASHP and to carry out internal modifications, repairs and replace six windows. An additional door and window will be added into the SW elevation, Congregational Church, Skeld by Mr James Quinn.

CPPP COMMITTEE – PE1862: A message was received from the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions (CPPP) Committee in respect of the Petition PE1862: Introduce community representation on boards of public organisations delivering lifeline services to island communities. Any of the members who want to respond can sign in as an individual.

SHETLAND FUNERALS RESEARCH: A message was received from Ms Judith Eele, Development Officer with Community Enterprise, saying that the Community Development Company, Nesting, (CDCN) and Community Enterprise are researching alternatives for funerals in Shetland. The increasing maintenance costs of Shetland's many historic burial grounds led to a Council consultation on their future last year. Some sites are nearing capacity. There is no facility for cremation on the islands and interest in alternatives is increasing given the environmental impacts of cremation and traditional burials. Meanwhile, CDCN has begun exploring the potential for funeral ceremonies drawing on Norse heritage. More information about the project can be found in recent Shetland News coverage and in their online survey which has already been filled in by 400 people.

ONLINE SHETLAND COMMUNITY DIRECTORY: Ms Evie Tait sent a message giving details of the new Shetland Community Directory which is being set up and how it will be updated. It will be an important resource for the Shetland community, providing the public with reliable contact information for services, groups and organisations across Shetland.

REVISED BUILDING WARRANT 'value of works' FEE STRUCTURE: An email was received from the SIC Building Standards Team saying that the fee structure will be revised from 1st April.

SHETLAND ISLAND PASSPORT: A message was received from Katy & Leah at hitrans regarding the Scottish Islands Passport app which has had a refresh for 2024.

USE OF BIXTER HALL: An account for £125.00 was received for the use of the Bixter hall for our meetings in October, November, December, January and February. This will be settled.

CHANGE OF MEETING DATES: An email was received from Mr M Duncan giving details of what to do should a meeting date change during the year. In order to allow him to change the date in the SIC diary, he should be informed as soon as possible. He also requests that their "Members Support" team be notified.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held in Bixter Community Hall on Wednesday 13 March at 7.30pm.