

BRESSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minute of Bressay Community Council meeting:

Held on Monday 18th March 2024, in Bressay Hall.

Minute subject to approval at the next Bressay Community Council Meeting.

Present:

Lindsay Tulloch (Chair)
Shirley Gifford
Richard Burell
Matt Mason
Katrina Gifford
Margaret MacDonald
Arwed Wenger
Gary Robinson

In Attendance:

Janice Jones (Clerk)
Fiona Farquhar (SIC Ferries)
Sheena Summers (SIC Ferries)

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 – as there was one the recording was discontinued.

Apologies were noted from:

Alistair Christie-Henry
Kath Duffus
Michael Duncan
Joanne Fraser
Andrew Inkster
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 26th February 2024 and sought their approval. Proposed by Shirley, seconded by Margaret.

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

Will be addressed by Sheena and Fiona later in the meeting.

AP2: Follow up on funding for Ferry and NHS appointments

The Chair is still waiting for an update from Beatrice Wishart on her discussions with the Health Secretary.

Action: Chair

AP3: Raise the issue of Ferry (Lerwick side) parking – Gary had been tasked on feeding this back to the council and had discussed with Andrew Inkster and Neil Hutchinson who in turn had spoken to Lerwick Port Authority. There was nothing other than the marshalling area available. In order to obtain a report, there had to be an option available and currently there was none. There had been a conversation about the marshalling area, however the Master of the ferry could point out the possibility of chaos in the morning if vehicles had not been reclaimed, in addition the further lane is heavily used by HGVs from early morning. There was really no where further to go on this.

AP4: Advise the public to check their ferry charges - on-going. This was discussed with the SIC representatives who could explain this was a glitch in the down-load and should not happen in the future, the instructions are that passengers should always be given their receipt which should be checked at time of origin when it can be quickly rectified. Meanwhile we will advise passengers to check.

Action: Clerk

AP5: Obtain flag stones, equipment & signage for Ella's Park – flag stones have not yet been sourced however this will be done in the next day or two - in advance of the end of the financial year. Katrina will order a no dogs sign to be mounted on the gate.

Action: Katrina

AP6: Advise BDL of availability of part funding for their till Project – done and grant application is for discussion later in the meeting.

AP7: Organise skip for w/e of 30th March. - complete

5. Member and Visitor Reports: Little to add as it has been quiet which will change this week when budget setting begins. The Council had the report on the Tall Ships back which was very positive, policing had been excellent, the consultant's report was that all had gone very well and put a lot of money into the local economy with very few lessons to take away from it. Park and ride had worked well, all had been tidy and waste fully disposed of. There had been a struggle to get stewards for the event, as at previous events where stewards had been trained but their numbers dwindled. The SIC has agreed to put money into getting training and having a local trainer to ensure future needs could be met. The Community Council review is progressing and going forward to the council next week for the first of three passes. Not many changes proposed other than Councillors sitting on both Council and Community Council should be stopped.

6. Infrastructure – Sheena Summers and Fiona Farquhar

Andrew Inkster had intended to attend this meeting however he was South at the moment so Sheena and Fiona had come in his stead. The major area was the linkspan maintenance planned for the weekend of 24th May. This is the last part of the programme of replacing all the linkspans across the ferries. The last run with vehicles will be 7.00 pm on the Friday until the Monday morning. The service will resume for foot passengers only, with bookings for both Bressay and Lerwick sides, necessary so the staff know how many passengers are coming on board. There will be restrictions, for instance passengers need to be fully mobile to use the gangway etc. There will be no parking at Heogan, however there is a shuttle bus running from parking at the hall, with the hall facilities open for waiting. There will also be no parking available at the Ferry on either side as cranes and equipment will be working in

those areas. Ferry Operations will start to publicise the restrictions, timetable, parking and the need to book, next week, with extensive signage. Of great concern was the lack of emergency cover on the Island, with no vehicle access there was no possibility of getting an ambulance in/out, plus the crews are not doing overnight cover. If an emergency occurred during the day paramedics could access the ferry on the Lerwick side but a patient would have to be able to come up a gangway to the upper ferry deck on the Bressay side. It was pointed out patients can be put on to a plane but this would have to be looked at as crew could not carry anyone. Emergency Services have been informed, but there was no further information and the onus was on the services to come back to ferries. There is no memo of understanding between the NHS and Coastguard so the NHS would have to put emergency cover on the Island. Previously the Fire Service had put an additional vehicle on the island. The Fire Service has some training but the mechanism to engage this does not exist. Matt will be meeting with the other services and will raise this to put a plan in action. Gary is also meeting with Brian Chittock and will highlight; the lifeboat would be one contingency. An overnight medical person on the Island would be essential. Provision would also be need to be made for Social Care staff. Matt queried the staff not being retained for overnight emergency cover and queried how this sat with business and emergency contingency plans. Members were told other islands had not needed this as emergency services had put emergency vehicles in place. Considerable discussion ensued on the timetables due to the long gaps between runs. The representatives said this had been suitable for all the other islands however it was explained to them the nature of commuting in Bressay was quite different. There were big stretches between runs and it was recommended that at a minimum there was a run inserted between each of the proposed runs, particularly in the morning when it was 7.15 then 10.30 – there was nothing between 10.30 and 2.00pm then 5.00pm and the evening when again there was nothing between 7.30 and 10.30. The SIC staff were asked to take the timetable away and revisit.

Changes to the (normal) timetable had been discussed with Michael Craigie who had reported he would take back to Ferries Operations to progress the changes to crew terms and conditions. Sheena could confirm this had not been briefed although it may be in progress. Transport set the timetables and Ferry operations negotiate with the crews etc. Gary had heard back from Michael Craigie regarding the cost of transporting pre-school children to nursery, that this was being discussed alongside the school bus provisions to be completed by 31st October this year, along with the cost of accessing health care in Bressay's unique position all will be discussed along with the school transport provision policy. A ferry fares review will be happening later in the year (to be completed in October). Community Ferry runs will be approved by the Council next week after which we will be notified of what we will get.

7. Ella's Park Garden Project

Waiting to complete sourcing flagstones. Meanwhile we will approach the SIC to see if we can get a bin installed.

8. Planning Applications: None

9. Finance: Grant & SCBF applications & Financial position.

There were two Distribution Fund grant applications, circulated. Firstly, the application for the restoration of the Kiosk at Ham, which was unanimously approved. The second by BDL for part funding of their new tills evoked some discussion and was approved after a vote. This leaves the £200 in the distribution fund for the funding of the Voar Redd up to fund the Volunteers for up to four groups £50 each up to a total of £200; the clerk will advertise this to encourage participation. The clerk shared what is expected to be the final financial position for the year end, with the Distribution fund and Project fund fully allocated and the Core fund Sitting around £950 which can be carried forward.

10. Bressay Groups Update (Hall, Sports Club, Boating Club, BDL etc.)

None, TV for the Hall has not yet arrived so looking for an alternative supplier.

11. Any other business:

After the public meeting a comment had been made that attendees had found it difficult to hear what was being said. So could a T loop system be something to put forward to the Hall Committee for consideration. The clerk will write to the hall committee and advise this is something the Community Council would be happy to assist with. On a positive note, it was noted the scrap cars had been moved from the car park.

A disabled resident has asked if the Community Council can support her in having an unadopted B road upgraded as this is causing considerable distress to her disabilities. We have had correspondence from the Gymnastic club saying they would like to look for funding, we will reply and direct them to the SCBF. Gary has been contacted by a constituent regarding the ditching at the bottom of Sissy's Brae. The depth was excessive and in risk of the road dropping. He has passed this on to Neil Hutchinson but not yet had a reply.

After the transport meeting a number of volunteers had come forward, we will write to these and invite them to a meeting on the 15th April.

12. Meeting Review: no comments

13. Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be on the 29th April. There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.45 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 actions

<u>Continued AP1</u> Community Resilience plan	Action: Chair
AP1: Feedback on Ferry timetable and other issues	Action: Chair/Shirley/ SIC ferry Operations/Transport
AP2: Follow up in funding for Ferry and NHS appointments	Action: Chair
AP3: Advise the public to check their ferry charges	Action: Clerk
AP4: Obtain flag stones, equipment & signage for Ella'sPark	Action: Katrina
AP5: Advertise Voar Redd Up funding availability	Action: Clerk
AP6: Invite Transport Group volunteers to meeting 15/04	Action: Clerk
AP7: Enquire with Hall as to a T loop System	Action: Clerk