

BURRA AND TRONDRA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

A meeting of the above Community Council was held in the foyer of the Burra Public Hall on Monday 1st April 2024 at 6pm.

Present

Mr. N. O'Rourke (Chairman)
Mr. B. Adamson
Ms M. Garnier
Ms N. Fullerton
Mrs C. Smith

Apologies

Mr. R. Black
Mr. M. Fullerton
Mr. G. Laurenson
Cllr. D. Sandison
Mr. M. Duncan, SIC

In Attendance

Cllr. C. Hughson
Cllr. M. Lyall
Cllr. I. Scott
Mrs. J. Adamson (Clerk)

1. Declaration of Interest - None

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of 11th March 2024 were approved by Niall O'Rourke and Brian Adamson.

3. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Active Travel Audit

Robina Barton and Alistair Hunter, SIC Transport Planning, attended our March meeting and gave an update on the above and discussed priorities in our area. We were advised that all priority projects will be brought to a meeting of the SIC in May.

(b) Burra Early Years – pick up/drop off sign

Neil Hutcheson had replied to say that the sign will be put up shortly.

(c) Shetland Community Benefit Fund - Director

This position is still vacant and George Martin is to get back to us. He would not be free until April and was giving it some thought.

(d) Sheep worrying signs

Some of the signs have been put up and the others will go up shortly. **ACTION: Brian**

(e) Road at Meal

We requested white centre lines /arrows at the blind spot just north of Speed's corner. Barrie Scobie, SIC Roads, advised that the road is not wide enough. Waiting to hear back from him regarding our suggestion of white arrows instead.

(f) Proposed house sites - Ludi

Nothing further had been heard back from Tracey-Anne Anderson, SIC, with regard to our suggestion that the cost of the removal of the blind summit on Ludi be attributed to the developer of the suggested sites or shared between the Estate and the developer. A footpath in this area had also been suggested by the members if this development was to go ahead. Niall has emailed Tracey-Ann Anderson for an update.

(g) Noticeboard

Waiting for the weather to improve before the new noticeboard can be put up. It will replace the old one which is on the outside of the Burra Hall. **ACTION: Robin/Brian**

(h) Bench donation from SSE

A letter had been received from Julie Halcrow, Community Payback Officer, giving two options available for securing the bench: Legs only concrete plinth £40, or Full bench length concrete plinth £120. The members agreed that the first option would be adequate for the bench which will be situated down near the Meal Beach. The price covers the materials and the labour is provided free of charge by the Community Payback Unpaid Work Team. The Clerk will get in touch with Julie Halcrow. **ACTION: Clerk**

(i) Meal Beach - access

The rocky access down onto the east side of the Meal beach was mentioned at the March meeting. It was suggested that metal poles connected with chains could possibly be installed to improve access. (This is in place at the Ness of Burgie near Scatness.) The Clerk had contacted the new SIC Outdoor Access Officer, Liam Drosso, and he had been out to the beach with Brian recently to have a look. He will look into it and get back to us.

(j) Gritting – Christmas & New Year

At our April meeting the subject of gritting over the festive period was discussed and Cllr. Lyall advised that the policy is under review and would be done before winter. Carole Smith was not present at the last meeting and pointed out that it is the Police who call out the gritters when there is an accident and they are not automatically called out at the same time.

(k) Coastal erosion – Minn Beach, Burra

Concern was raised at the last meeting regarding erosion at the causeway at Minn beach. Quite a few years ago rock armouring was put in place to hinder erosion but this has degraded and if not maintained it could render a large piece of land out at Kettla Ness inaccessible. The Clerk had initially emailed Paul Fraser but he had forwarded it on to Suzanne Shearer. Nothing has been heard back from her yet.

(l) Hamnavoe Pier

Concern was raised at the last meeting regarding the condition of the Hamnavoe Pier. It was noted that a survey had been done last year and the members were interested to know the outcome. The Clerk had e-mailed Andrew Inkster, SIC Ports & Harbours, and was waiting for a reply.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) ASCC Update – meeting 12 March

Michael Duncan had sent on an update from the ASCC meeting on 12th March. This had been circulated to the members for information.

(b) SCBF – Viking Community Fund

An e-mail had been received from Chris Bunyan, SCBF Chair, explaining what changes there are going to be in the current Advanced Grant Scheme (AGS). Ten percent a year will be allocated to a Community Grant Scheme which will be very similar to the current AGS. Ten percent in 2023-24 will be £221,500 and this will be split between community councils on the same basis as the AGS – the four areas hosting a VEFW turbine will have a budget of £32,575 while the remaining 14 areas will have £6,515. These funds will be available for Tier 1 and Tier 2 applications – but applicants for Tier 2 funding will only be allowed to apply to a maximum of three community council areas.

While this funding is less than currently available under the AGS, there will be a new Tier 3 for so-called ‘Shetland-wide’ applications, or those applying to more than three areas. In 2023-24 a total of £135,000 will be allocated for Tier 3 and decisions on applications will be made by SCBF.

The biggest change is taking ‘Shetland-wide’ applications into a separate fund.

(c) Community Council Scheme Review – Briefing

Michael Duncan had emailed a Briefing Note in relation to the Review of the Community Council Scheme of Establishment. This had been circulated to the members for information. The Councillors advised that there would not be community consultations in halls this time around but there would be an online consultation available to the public and SIC Officials would be visiting Community Councils during the consultation.

(d) ASCC meeting update – 12 March

An update from the ASCC meeting on 12th March had been received from Michael Duncan and circulated to the members.

(e) Various correspondence

The following correspondence had also been received and circulated to the members prior to the meeting for information:

- Openreach information from Juliet Scott following her attendance at ASCC last year.
- Building Standards Changes 1st April 2024
- Information on the SIC Development Plan Scheme
- SSEN Priority Services Register Digital Toolkit

5. AOCB

Glass recycle bin

It was reported that the glass recycle bin next to the Burra Hall is needing attention. Cllr. Scott said he would be visiting the dump tomorrow so will take a photo after the meeting and report it.

ACTION: Cllr. Scott

Break-in reported

There was no police report this month but Carole Smith could report that an uninhabited house in Burra had been broken into twice recently and investigations were ongoing. There had also been reports of ‘knock door runs’ in the community.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 6th May 2024 at 6pm.