



TINGWALL, WHITENESS & WEISDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 15th May 2024

1.0 Present:	Andrew Archer (Chair)	Catherine Hughson
	Linda Tulloch (Vice Chair)	Ian Scott
	Charlie Hodge	Moraig Lyall
	John Clarkson	Roselyn Fraser
	Birgit Wagner	Lynsey Rendall
	Neil Leask	
	Paul Stevens (Clerk)	

2.0 Apologies:	Martin Randall, Margaret Cooper, Davie Sandison
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3.0 Declarations of Interest:	Andrew Archer declared an interest in grant decisions for the SCBF, Linda Tulloch in matters relating to Tulloch Developments, John Clarkson in matters relating to Viking, Catherine Hughson in matters relating to planning, and Moraig Lyall in matters relating to the Tingwall Hall planning application.
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4.0 Mossy Hill Wind Farm

John Thouless (Principal Project Manager, Statkraft) and Doug Wilson (Director, Smithy House Associates) joined the meeting via an MS Teams video link. Members expressed their surprise over the size of the proposed SSEN buildings on the site, emphasising that some local residents had indicated that, while the wind turbines were not problematic, the amount of associated infrastructure was a concern. The main issues raised were the loss of more greenfield land and the visual appearance of the structures from the roads leaving Lerwick. Members queried why the building could not be sited either in the town or in the adjacent quarry (areas of which are already undergoing landscaping and used for non-quarrying purposes).

The response was that the boundaries of the site were now considered to be fixed and no longer moveable, the rationale being that the proposed plan (i) avoided the need for second construction site with associated disturbance; (ii) avoided the thermal problems of having multiples cables converging on the same site; (iii) minimised visual impact to existing residential areas, which was deemed to have a higher priority than the view for road users. Mr Thouless said that, while it might be possible to move the buildings closer to the quarry, running cable through a site that included an operational quarry would not be considered.

Members suggested that the buildings could be placed behind the ridge point, which would reduce the visual impact from main road as well as producing useful quarried material, which was taken under consideration. Further visualisations will be presented at a later date.

[John Thouless and Doug Wilson left at 19:29]

Members continued the discussion, noting that there was no specific detail as to what the SSEN building would contain and whether the size was due solely to current or potential future requirements.

- ACTION: Andrew Archer will write to SSEN to ask for details as to what their building will contain given its size.
- ACTION: Andrew Archer to draft a Facebook post that highlights the plans, including a visualisation of the proposed building size, and asking for opinions. Once approved by CC members, the final version will then also be used as the basis for a letter to the local media.

5.0 Community Council Scheme review

The [phase 2 consultation](#) is now underway, with a response date of 28th June. Roselyn Fraser and Lynsey Rendall from SIC Community Learning and Development were present to answer questions and gather feedback. Members discussed their thoughts on each of the consultation questions, deciding that they:

- agree with the proposal to allow a majority vote to expel CC members who have not attended a number of consecutive meetings, but felt that this number should be four rather than the proposed six;
- agree that the maximum and minimum number of CC members should be determined by the population of the CC area covered;
- agree that there should be a set of common standing orders for CCs in Shetland, as is common throughout Scotland, but that the CCs should be consulted on the content of these;
- agree that there should be a standard Code of Conduct for all Shetland CCs;
- were unsure whether the proposed youth membership category (allowing the co-option of 12 to 16 year old members) would be popular in the absence of voting rights, but noted that this would allow such members to take part in discussion without feeling pressured to reach decisions;
- disagreed that there should be a new ban on existing elected individuals (councillors, MSP, MP, etc.) also being elected as CC members;
- disagreed with the proposed new restriction on CC Chairs that would force them to stand down after four years (except in exceptional circumstances), with a two year wait until they could stand again.

No consensus was reached regarding the questions on the allocation formula for, and possible amalgamation of, Core and Community Development funds. Discussions will continue at the June meeting,

6.0 Approval of Minutes

On a motion proposed by Charlie Hodge and seconded by Neil Leask, the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17th April 2024 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

7.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- Flooded junction at Strand Loch: no update as yet.
- Copper line switch-off. A reply had received from the Lerwick police and circulated to members. The issue had also been raised at today's SIC Community Safety and Resilience Board (CSRB) meeting where it was emphasised that 4G mobile phone signals are still not reliable in Shetland. The response was that the issue had been returned to national-level emergency services groups, and will continue to be raised in future CSRB meetings.
- Upgrades to Wornadale viewpoint: new bins are now in place. The Shetland Amenity Trust had

indicated they were unclear as to what had happened to the now-missing information board, and that they had no responsibility for a bench. A reply has been sent querying whether another party (e.g., a local history group) could be allowed to put up new boards, and whether the existing board artwork was available in digital format.

- People parking in Tingwall passing places. no update as yet.
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8.0 Decisions since last meeting

- The Clerk to recontact the police for a definitive answer on the Copper line cutoff
 - The Clerk to contact the Scottish Ambulance Service, the Fire Service and NHS Shetland to query a contact procedure in the case of a repeat of December 2022's conditions after the copper lines have been turned off.
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9.0 Police Report

There was no report this month.

10.0 Finance

The Financial Report, updated to 8th May 2024, was distributed to members. The SIC CDF grant has been confirmed but not yet received.

11.0 Correspondence

- 'Remembering Together' commemorative art project: a local artist has been commissioned by Shetland Arts to create Covid memorial artworks. Their project is called *Mindin' Tagidder — Tree of Life Interrupted* and will produce A5 sized glass and metal lace plaques, one per CC.
 - SITGA Wornadale interpretive board: covered in matters arising.
 - Shetland CAB outreach: A talk about fuel poverty had been offered to CC members.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to arrange a fifteen minute slot for this talk at a future meeting.
 - Community First Responders had sent some publicity material.
 - ACTION: Andrew Archer to post this material on the Facebook page.
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12.0 Planning

There were several planning applications to be considered this month:

- 2024/081/LBC Proposal to refurbish a listed building, Bonhoga Gallery, Brig
- 2024/117/PPF To install air source heat pump, Bonhoga Gallery Brig
- 2024/126/PPF To erect extension, Midaal Gott Tingwall
- 2024/108/PPF To erect a detached double garage, Nervaan Gott
- 2024/096/PPF To erect noise monitoring equipment including solar panels within a post and wire fenced compound, Setter Weisdale
- 2024/125/PPF Install 3 new air source heat pumps, Tingwall Public Hall Gott Tingwall

Members had no comments or objections for the above applications.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to respond 'No comment' to the six applications above.

- 2024/121/PN Prior Notification for extension and renovation to existing nissen hut, Gott Farm Gott
- 2024/119/PN Prior Notification for Farm-related Building Works (Nonresidential), West of Wasthamar South Whiteness

PN coded applications are for notification only so no action needed to be taken.

13.0 Viking / Statkraft

- Members noted two recent incidents: the heather fire near Girlsta Loch on 4th May and the peat landslide at Upper Kergord on 7th May. They are awaiting the next VCLG meeting for updates and the opportunity to ask questions.
 - SSE has confirmed that there will be a full year's water sampling of affected burns and lochs after the wind farm is completed.
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14.0 Win Furt

The most recent meeting was last Monday. Their advisor/engineer is currently composing two invitations to tender. Possible funding sources are being investigated, including ZetTrans under the active travel central fund allocation. SusTrans have changed their funding criteria and will no longer directly fund groups such as Win Furt.

15.0 SCBF

- A reply had been received from the SCBF Chair stating that Directors held their positions for a full three years and cannot be removed by the nominating CC.
- The MoU with SSE Renewables has now been agreed and signed.
- For the issues raised by TWWCC, SCBF responded that:
 - Only one application per year by any organisation would be allowed, so multiple projects would need to be included in the same application
 - Funds for maintenance would not be allowed as this was standard funder practice
 - While SCBF would prefer applications match SCBF's strategic priorities, this was not mandatory

→ ACTION: Andrew Archer to write to Angela Sutherland to ask what her intentions are regarding her SCBF directorship.

→ ACTION: Andrew Archer to write to the SCBF Chair to confirm that TWWCC has no intention to allocate available funds solely for Win Furt projects, having so far distributed almost £50k of AGS money to various groups with just £1,500 of that going to Win Furt.

- There was one application to be considered: 180512 £2,000 for video editing equipment from Maddrim Media. Andrew Archer and Charlie Hodge declared an interest for this application. Members voted to award the full amount.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to contact Eleanor Gear to say that the full £2,000 was awarded.

16.0 Roads

The CC had been notified that subsurface maintenance and full-width resurfacing of the Cott road was about to start.

17.0 Councillors' Reports

All the councillors reported a busy month, with issues including concerns about parking and roads.

18.0 AOCB

None.

19.0 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on the 19th June, in the Whiteness and Weisdale Public Hall.
