

BRESSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minute of Bressay Community Council meeting:

Held on Monday 27th May 2024, in Bressay Hall.

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

Present:

Lindsay Tulloch (Chair)
Shirley Gifford
Kath Duffus
Matt Mason
Katrina Gifford
Margaret MacDonald
Gary Robinson
Stephen Leask
Arwed Wenger

In Attendance:

Andrew Inkster (SIC infrastructure)
Michael Duncan
Joanna Fraser

Agenda Items

1. Introduction and Apologies:

The Chair opened the Meeting and welcomed guests and members to the hall.

Apologies were noted from:

Alistair Christie-Henry
Matt Mason

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 29th April 2024 and sought their approval; agreement was proposed by Margaret, seconded by Kath.

4. Matters Outstanding (actions not elsewhere on agenda or completed):

Continued AP1 Community Resilience plan

Stills waiting for DH Marine to do a second survey to determine final costs before we look at additional funding for the project.

Action: Chair

AP1: Feedback on Ferry timetable and other issues

Will continue later in meeting

AP2: Follow up on funding for Ferry and NHS appointments

Brian Chittock's team is giving this a lot of work following the Health Ministers last letter, to see if anything can be done under the Island Transport scheme, and will get back to us shortly. Stephen had also had an enquiry from a constituent regarding the charging of a fare on the collection of a Blue Badge patient, which he had forwarded to Brian Chittock who will

be looking at this at the same time, which may add some weight to their considerations.

Action: Chair

AP3: Enquire with Hall as to a T loop System.

Ongoing

AP4: Advertise CC member vacancy

Done

5. Member and Visitor Reports: Amongst the enquiries Stephen has had this month (as well as the blue badge ferry issue) has been concerns about the arrangements for the linkspan maintenance which he thought was good timing to take to the Community Safety & Resilience board meeting; this was an opportunity for Matt to bring it before that committee, therefore, to facilitate this he spoke to the board to ensure this was included. There were a few other meetings through the month, although nothing was particularly pertinent to Bressay. Gary too has had a number of contacts from constituents regarding the same issues. An enquiry was made to Gary regarding any feedback on Lerwick side Ferry parking. He re-iterated there was nothing suitable to take to the full council with nothing available other than the regular public parking which was not ideal. The query that was asked at the public meeting regarding fixed links and ferries on half price ferry costs to alleviate the need for parking in Lerwick had been passed along to Michael Craigie who is adding that suggestion into his review before their October meeting.

6. Infrastructure – Andrew Inkster

The Linkspan renewal went very well, all on time, and the inconvenience and disruption to the public acknowledged. A few lessons were learned particularly around communication and the need to work closely with emergency services. The Lerwick side is scheduled for later this year along with Hammersness, which is one of the bigger linkspans and will involve a crane barge coming in. The Lerwick side being done will have to fit in around the availability of that crane barge for Hammersness. As soon as he knows more, he will inform us of those dates. Again, it will be the same timescales, over the weekend, a mirror of this one and the public will be better informed following this experience. There was no negative feedback to either the SIC or Community Council although it was accepted a gangway option was not ideal it was the only alternative. It was pointed out the good weather that weekend had helped things and the community appreciated the hard work that had obviously gone on. It was good lessons had been learned, especially recognising the differences Bressay posed. It was suggested the Lerwick side being done in the depths of winter was perhaps not such a good idea and queried if it could be delayed until Spring? Andrew agreed a weather window was essential for using cranes and if it could not be scheduled before say October then plans would possibly have to be shelved until Spring. Getting the crane barge for Hammersness was the critical factor and if Lerwick had to be delayed then so be it. The Lerwick one will be easier as there will be no need for busses, passengers can just get on the ferry at the Bressay side.

The 6.30 am sailing - operationally there are no difficulties, however, we still need to get agreement from the crews for the adjustment to their hours. Michael Craigie took his report to ZetTrans and it was approved so Ferry Operations can now start the formal process with the crews. This will take some time.

The Community Council is still waiting for an update on the footpath on the Maryfield brae, Andrew will take this back to Neil Hutchison for an update.

7. Locality Profile - Joanne Fraser

All the surveys have been completed, 104 have been returned and this is now being collated and will be brought to the Community Council as soon as possible. The Shetland Partnership Plan review comes to conclusion in 2025 which will be of interest and to see if

some of the Island inequalities can be incorporated. So far nothing has come to the Development Committee from where it originated.

8. Community Council Scheme Review Update

Deferred to next meeting.

9. Ella's Park Garden Project

The park is now starting to look like a garden, the bench has been delivered, and now planning to have some kind of opening, something like bring your own picnic, we have a couple of musicians who have volunteered. We need a push to get some more volunteers to come forward, as well as fundraising. Some more strimming needs to be done although not all would be able to use a big strimmer.

10. Planning Applications: None

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

No grant applications, however all our funding has now been granted

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

The Boating Club is planning a fish and chip night.

13. Any other business:

Gary gave an update on the Community Planning indicator: Foodbank, carbon emission, fuel poverty, children in low-income families, population aged 16 to 29 are all red areas at the moment where there is either no improvement or further deterioration. Satisfaction with public services is down to 52% from 59%. Some amber indicators are: people drinking to harmful levels, people who feel they want to be more involved in the community has gone backwards, number of employees in Shetland dropped slightly, whilst the target was some growth. Children not of a healthy weight may have dropped but this is being reviewed again in the light of the number of children in poverty. Physical ability and underemployment have both improved, as has feeling part of the community. Community Council seats contested – there were no elections contested and some (across Scotland) have not been able to convene. Households who do not earn enough for a basic standard of living has gone down. Kath attended the Cross-Party Group on Islands which had a presentation from the young islanders' network (which included children from Shetland). She specifically asked about the young person's free bus transport being applied to ferries, they offered a link, however the link was on going South on Northlink, so missed the point. Gary could let us know there has been some discussion from Maggie Sandison and Holyrood regarding young persons travel on the inter-island ferries which is very hopeful. Andrew could confirm meetings were taking place and again this was quite positive.

There is a planning appeals forum on teams on the 12th June, a follow on from the planning training previously held.

Joanna Redman – the new Bressay Development officer - contacted the chair with details of contact from Tom Wills regarding a new development for the North West of Bressay as being a suitable area for a site for batteries storing hydrogen power, which would be useful for marine power. They are currently looking for private investment and it is an opportunity to look for investment into the island being channelled to the community. She has contacted various groups, the Boating Club, Sports Club to get their sign off that they favour a consultation, which is necessary to encourage participation from investors. An update was passed around, it was queried what impact this would have on an already busy area. In broad terms it was considered this was an opportunity for the Island.

14. Meeting Review: no comments

15. Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be on the 24th June. There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.25 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

Continued AP1 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: Enquire with Hall as to a T loop System

Action: Clerk