

# BRESSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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## Draft Minute of Bressay Community Council meeting:

Held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August 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  
Margaret MacDonald  
Gary Robinson  
Arwed Wenger  
Ruth MacKenzie

### In Attendance:

Joanna Fraser  
Michael Craigie  
Cheralyn Wiseman  
Janice Jones (Clerk)

### Agenda Items

#### 1. Introduction and Apologies:

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

#### Apologies were noted from:

Stephen Leask  
Alistair Christie-Henry  
Katrina Gifford

#### 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 24<sup>th</sup> June 2024 and sought their approval, proposed by Shirley and seconded by Margaret,

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

##### AP1: Feedback on Ferry timetable and other issues

Michael Craigie could provide an update – currently there is a Ferry Resilience Review being undertaken, this is looking at the specifics of the totality of shift patterns across the whole fleet and the implications and constraints on crew recruitment and retention. This will take its course fairly quickly and once resolved will be the time to pick up route specifics like the Bressay early ferry. Whilst he could give no timescales, he could confirm there was an urgency behind it due to current problems with crew cover etc.

**Action: Chair/Shirley/SIC ferry Operations/Transport**

**AP2: Follow up in funding for Ferry and NHS appointments** – Brian Chittick has been emailed for an update and an invitation extended for him to attend a public meeting to see where we were in this and to give us a review on the Health Hub, but as yet there has been no response. Michael Craigie has had a meeting with Brian Chittick, Andrew Inkster and their staff, exploring what we can do for Access to Health care (and nursery provision). This has not progressed as quickly as they would have liked and has raised queries as to justification of provision and entitlement in one area but not another.

**Action: Chair**

**AP3: Enquire with Infrastructure regarding Bus Shelters and the winter roads provision** – to be explored this month. Matt could confirm the emergency services and roads winter provision is being updated so this could be timely.

**Action: Clerk**

**AP4: Raise Bressay Power emergency maintenance call out provision with Ian Taylor and Alison Duncan.** The Chair raised this with Councillor Alison Duncan, Chair of the Community Safety Resilience Board and Ian Taylor, SIC Resilience Advisor and the former actually went to the power station to establish what had happened, and spoke to the manager. It appears this was more a staff issue and lack of resource rather than an issue with calling the ferry out. They considered themselves to be a category two responder that can't call the ferry out, however this can be coordinated via the Police who are category one responders. Councillor Duncan will Table this at the Community Resilience Board and ask Ian Taylor for an update, Ian Taylor, is progressing this through the appropriate SIC Resilience Forum to ensure there is an appropriate response in place so this does not happen again.

**The Chair paused the agenda** to introduce an additional item, the co-option of a new member. He proposed Ruth MacKenzie which was seconded by Kath and Ruth was duly co-opted to the Council.

**5. Member and Visitor Reports:** Arwed had little to report. Gary has had a busy summer catching up with case work and such like and now getting back into the swing of meetings etc. Arwed had been pleased with the attendance at the Bressay Tunnel vision meeting for which we will have an update from Matt later in the meeting. The councillors have had no specific enquiries regarding the tunnels, some small queries regarding the transport requirements post tunnel – they have encouraged people to feed that into the consultation. Arwed was aware of the changes in the BDL development officers.

**6. Bus Service engagement: Michael Craigie, SIC Transport Planning:** Michael talked the Community Council through the details of the presentation he had just presented to the public, detailing the existing services, the collection of evidence for the business case being built for the future. All future service provision is evidence based therefore the engagement/consultation process is very important. Technology has allowed us to gather much more information, from online to paper based and group discussion. Details and analysis of existing services has already been fed into the process, via ticket machines. One of the things they need information of is why people are not using services, so there is a big focus on reasons for not using. Drivers are good for giving direct information. He outlined existing services and observed information of services was key, e.g. how to book dial-a-ride services, and so on. Issues were discussed on the connectivity of the bus service with the ferry, especially for high school children and the town service. Use of the information board to advertise the bus service and the Noss ferry operation was discussed. Members are encouraged to inform the constituents about the survey to get as wide a response as possible.

**7. Infrastructure** – Some survey work has been observed at the Maryfield road so hopefully that will be progressing. Michael could confirm the funding has not yet come through but the SIC is hoping to have their programme prepared for the next round of funding. Cycle Scotland has been looking at possibilities for a route in Bressay for young people getting active.

**8. 2024 - 2025 Project**

We have received the funding but this now needs to move ahead. A sub group of Lindsay, Margaret, Ruth and Kath was established, these will liaise with the History Group and perhaps involve things like the Shipwreck trail and so on. Access to leaflet would be ideal for island visitors, especially detailing things accessible in a short walk or times to walk to. Linking into existing technologies like the Island Passport as well as information boards.

**9. Ella's Park update** – Although Katrina was away, she has briefed Joanna on starting a group "Friends of Ella's" park set up and some kind of opening. They will come along to the Pop-ups scheduled for the next few Tuesdays to chat to people about what they are doing.

**10. BTAG Update** – The Bressay Tunnel Action Group has been formed based around those who were at the public meeting. Matt is the chair, and they are working on setting up social media etc. and establishing what their purpose, goals and engagement with the public will be. Whilst it is a Connectivity action group, calling it a Tunnel action group shows the clear outcome we will be working towards. The "Tunnel Vision" meeting was very positive, laying out what is happening and how Bressay fits into a Shetland wide vision for the SIC business case and advancement point of view. This could also be considered a connection project for services, bigger than just the transport issues. Matt encouraged members to have conversations with people to get their views and getting people engaged with things. The conversation across Shetland is gathering momentum and it is important Bressay is part of that. A conversation starter is "If not a tunnel, then what?" is as good a question as any.

**11. Correspondence** – UHI Shetland has funding for a Marine Restoration Plan and would like to attend the next meeting. The Bressay profile has been released and the link has been circulated.

**12. Planning Applications:** None

**13. Finance: Grant & SCBF applications & Financial position.**

Currently there are no grant applications, there may be one from BTAG in the future once they have clarified their requirements.

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

Having requested a member of the Hall Committee attend a meeting to discuss concerns about the generator, an update has been received from the Hall Committee informing us they have no objection to the siting of a permanent hook up for a generator at the hall but are reluctant to take on responsibility for looking after it. The concerns surround the availability of volunteers for looking after it, future maintenance, fuel storage, shipping of fuel and associated costs. Lindsay is still waiting on an update from DH Marine and in the light of this is now considering alternative solutions, such as solar etc. which might also resolve some of the issues around fuel storage etc. Matt will also discuss Island resilience with Ian Taylor.

The Boating club fish and chip night has been postponed; however, Matt has been in touch with the boating club about reinstating the Bressay regatta/rowing club etc. with various side events, raft race, duck race, kayaking, etc. displays in the hall and such like, which would

also allow some bad weather contingency as well as providing something for the unable. He has a few volunteers on board. A number of Bressay young folk row for other teams, so getting their engagement would be useful.

**15. Any other business;** Ruth noted the Bill Deacon memorial has had some deterioration, she will pass this on to the History Group.

Cath has had an update from the Scottish Community Council Forum which she detailed. A number of constituents has provided feedback on the weekend selected for the linkspan update, the first weekend of the school holidays, the fiddle and accordion club annual event, a speciality sheep sale at the marts. Originally it was intimated this might happen in August however this was moved to suit Pelagia after the end of the herring season. This was not shared/discussed with the community council before publishing, nor has any information regarding any bus links or emergency cover been issued to us, the clerk will send an email to Andrew Inkster highlighting the issues identified by the community and requesting review of the dates published for the linkspan operations.

**16. Meeting Review:** no comments

**17. Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will be on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024. There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.30 and thanked those attending.

Chairman:

Date

To contact the Community Council please email us at [bressaycc@gmail.com](mailto: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 Infrastructure regarding Bus Shelters and the winter roads

provision

Action: Clerk

AP4: Feedback to Andrew Inkster the Community Council concerns regarding the

date of the Linkspan upgrade.

Action: Clerk

AP5: Explore alternatives to a diesel generator for resilience.

Action: Chair

AP6: Pass on details of the deterioration of the Bill Deacon Memorial to the History

Group.

Action: Ruth