

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 2nd September 2024 at 6pm.

Present

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

Apologies

Mr. R. Black
Mr. G. Laurenson
Mr. M. Fullerton
Mrs. N. Fullerton
Cllr. M. Lyall
Cllr. C. Hughson

In Attendance

Ms Elaine Park, SIC Transport Contracts & Operations Officer
Ms Cherelynn Wiseman, SIC Transport Assistant
Cllr. I. Scott
Cllr. D. Sandison
Mrs. J. Adamson (Clerk)

1. Zetrans – Shetland Public & School Buses

Elaine Park and Cherelynn Wiseman were welcomed to the meeting by the Chairman. They had requested attendance to go over the information looking at the bus services and current usage in our area. Elaine explained that the current service bus contract period comes to an end in August 2025 and therefore the stakeholder and community engagement exercise to inform the business case being developed for the next generation of public bus contracts is being carried out between the middle of August and the middle of September 2024. The consultation will help determine the needs of, and expectations of the public bus network and school transport in Shetland over the next 5 to 10 years.

Elaine distributed a set of slide printouts that supported her presentation entitled Stakeholder & Community Engagement. She indicated that Stantec had been commissioned to support Shetland Islands Council in the development of the business case for the next round of passenger transport services including school transport for Shetland. The purpose of this consultation phase was to identify any existing problems with the current services and to highlight opportunities for improvements. The survey is for those who currently use the bus services, as well as those who do not, in order to identify what is preventing people from using public transport. She urged everyone to complete the online survey which can be found at: - www.zetrans.org.uk (paper copies are also available on request). The closing date for the survey is 19th September.

They were also looking for help to publicise the survey and Elaine will email information to the Clerk which can be put on the community facebook page. There will also be a number of drop in sessions with the Area Transport Forum, with one being held at the Scalloway Hall on 10th September. The following information was included in the presentation regarding existing bus services in Shetland:

28 timetabled bus services	30 Dial-a-Ride services	15 different operators across Shetland
Foula, Fair Isle, Whalsay & Skerries do not have any on-island scheduled or Dial-a-Ride bus services	399,199 passengers in 2023/24 12.5% increase since 2019/20	Biggest users are young people & adults
Busiest route is Service 6: Sumburgh to Lerwick	In 2023/24 between 7-8am and 3-4pm were most popular times to begin a bus journey	61% of journeys in 2023/24 were made by those with concessionary bus passes

Elaine expressed the importance of reaching as many people in the communities as possible so they could hear what is working, what is not working and what people would like to see. The more information they have the more they can outline how the service will look in the future.

One point raised by a members was the possibility of the Lerwick college closing and were they thinking about more transport being made available to the Scalloway college? Elaine replied that they were aware of this and it was being looked into.

Concern was also raised regarding the Burra feeder bus connection which would need to be improved. Elaine said they were also aware of this problem and it was being dealt with.

Elaine and Chereylynn then left the meeting after being thanked for attending.

2. Declaration of Interest – None.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of 1st July 2024 were approved by Brian Adamson and Niall O'Rourke.

4. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Active Travel Audit

Robina Barton and Alistair Hunter, SIC Transport Planning, attended our February meeting and gave an update on the above and discussed priorities in our area. We were looking to hear back from them after the SIC meeting in May where all priority projects were to be discussed but had not heard nothing. The Clerk had contacted Robina for an update (and copied in Alistair Hunter) but Robina replied saying she had been seconded to another role in the SIC and that Alistair should be able to update on this. The Clerk had heard nothing back from Alistair Hunter but will contact him again.

ACTION: Clerk

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

Still waiting for the above sign to be installed. Neil Hutchison had advised that it is on their list of traffic signs to be installed but that was some time ago. The Clerk will contact him again.

ACTION: Clerk

(c) Shetland Community Benefit Fund - Director

This position is still to be filled. The Clerk had made contact with one person suggested at the last meeting but they had declined. Niall will make contact with the other name suggested.

ACTION: Niall

(d) Road at Meal

We requested white centre lines/arrows at the blind spot just north of Speed's corner. The Clerk had contacted Barrie Scobie again and he advised that they will put centre lines. The Clerk will contact him again to see when this is to be done. **ACTION: Clerk**

(e) Meal Beach - access

Liam Drosso, Outdoor Access Officer, is to put up signage at the Meal beach showing visitors the alternative routes at the west side of the beach where there are two stiles. It was suggested to him that the signage be put in place at the gate at the bottom of the path. The Clerk had not heard back from Mr. Drosso so will contact him for an update. **ACTION: Clerk**

(f) Coastal erosion – Minn Beach, Burra

Concern was raised at our March meeting regarding erosion at the causeway at Minn beach. Cllr. Hughson has been looking into possible funding on coastal erosion from the SIC and forwarded on what she found out from Finance. This is a capital fund, so can only be spent on capital items. Secondly it is not ring fenced, so whilst much effort goes into presenting this as a stand-alone fund, this is not the case and it is essentially just part of our capital grant. They say there are no funds earmarked for these types of initiatives.

(g) Hamnavoe Pier - survey

Claire Christie, Team Leader, SIC Port Engineering, had emailed a copy of the report which we had requested. She pointed out that this is still in draft format as Arch Henderson are yet to finalise the report and requested that this was not shared widely. They had received an initial repair detail for the fenders and were hoping to have this ready for tender in the next few weeks.

(h) Glass recycle bins – Hamnavoe Hall

The Clerk had emailed Michael Godden, SIC, regarding the mess of broken glass left behind when they removed the two bins but had not received a reply. Brian offered to clean up the area. **ACTION: Brian**

(i) Burra Woodland

Niall offered to speak with Margaret Reeves regarding her previous email looking for an area suitable for community planting etc. We had suggested the area in the Hulsidale playpark to see if this would be suitable but had not heard back from Mrs. Reeves. **ACTION: Niall**

(j) BT Phone Box, Hamnavoe

The Clerk had emailed photographs of the phone box to BT showing it's poor condition and also indicating it's location on the path to the ladies public toilet which is causing problems regarding access. There had been no reply. **ACTION: Clerk**

(k) Defibrillator Training

It was agreed that we should organise defibrillator training open to the community after the October holidays.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Letter of thanks – Burra Hall

A letter of thanks had been received from the Burra Hall for the £500 donation they had received back in March towards new floor covering for the room behind the hall stage. This work has now been completed. They also confirmed that the new bowls mat had been purchased with the previous grant received after further funding had been raised. They thanked the Community Council for continuing to support the Committee in their efforts to improve the Hall and it's facilities.

(b) Stoura Offshore Wind Farm – public exhibition

An email had been received from Barry Faulkener, Offshore Wind Community Liaison Officer, advising that ESB are hosting a public exhibition to introduce the above on 19th September at the Shetland Museum from 2-8pm. The wind farm site is located approximately 40km from Skerries where the water depth is between 100m and 130m. A map of the wind turbine array area was attached. This will be posted on the community facebook page. **ACTION: Clerk**

(c) Various correspondence

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

- Redundant Vehicles in Shetland (on Noticeboard at hall)
- VAS Volunteering Awards 2024 (on Noticeboard at hall)
- BBC Children in Need – Big Sky Grant Fund
- Funding information – Crown Estate Scotland Community Capacity Grants Programme

6. AOCB

Swings at The Glen

It had been reported to the Clerk that one of the cradle seats had broken. Brian had taken the seat off as it was unsafe and had tied up the chains until we get a replacement. The Clerk had contacted the company where the last seat had been bought from but the carriage was very high. She will look into other options for delivery. **ACTION: Clerk**

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is to be held on Monday 7th October 2024 at 6pm.