



**TINGWALL, WHITENESS & WEISDALE
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 18th September 2024

1.0 Present:	Andrew Archer (Chair)	Moraig Lyall
	Linda Tulloch (Vice Chair)	Ian Scott
	Charlie Hodge	PC Dana Jamieson
	John Clarkson	PC Graeme Glendinning
	Birgit Wagner	Neil Robertson
	Margaret Cooper	Harry Irvine
	Neil Leask	
	Paul Stevens (Clerk)	

2.0 Apologies: Martin Randall, Catherine Hughson, Michael Duncan, Roselyn Fraser

3.0 Declarations of interest: Andrew Archer declared an interest in grant decisions for the SCBF, Linda Tulloch in matters relating to Tulloch Developments, and John Clarkson in matters relating to Viking.

4.0 Police Report

Officers Dana Jamieson and Graeme Glendinning were present. They clarified that the term “culpable and reckless conduct”, which appeared several times in the recent police report, referred to a rarely-used, common law offence of wilful actions that are carried out with disregard for dangerous consequences e.g. throwing a full can of drink out of a window and it injuring a passerby.

They emphasised that fraud was the most common crime at present, especially scam phone calls relating to asking for money for winter preparation (car maintenance, energy bills, etc.). As Shetland is a relatively small area, it is easier for scammers to sound convincing by referencing local business names. CC members requested that they be informed of current scams so that they could give warnings to local residents.

A question was asked about drivers who were perceived to be driving recklessly. The officers pointed out that any reports given to police needed to at least include a car registration for them to be able to follow up. However, they pointed out that such reports are often difficult to pursue without corroborating evidence.

Members felt that the 50 mph limit near Whiteness Primary School had been relatively ineffective in deterring speeding but expressed their appreciation for the visible police presence near the school, and welcomed any further action that the police could offer. The officers indicated that persistent speeding drivers did tend to get caught eventually as it was a consistent behaviour.

Members thanked the officers for their time.

[PCs Jamieson and Glendinning left at this point]

5.0 Tingwall Agricultural Museum and Heritage Centre (TAMHC)

Harry Irvine (TAMHC) and Neil Robertson (landowner) attended the meeting to discuss some new ideas for the proposed [Tingwall Agricultural Museum and Heritage Centre](#). The project has been seeking funds for some time but had not yet been successful., Neil had some new ideas to expand on the facilities that could be available on-site, potentially using the community benefit money that would come from the Mossy Hill windfarm. These might include a more community-centred approach — such as having a children’s play area, a cafe, toilets, and vending machines — which would be available to the local community and (for a fee) to tourist groups.

Members were in favour of the project in principle, and felt that the organising team should aim to demonstrate that there was substantial community support. This, along with the development of a concrete business plan that outlined long-term financial sustainability, would be key to obtaining the significant level of funding needed. Members looked forward to seeing how the project progresses.

6.0 Approval of Minutes

On a motion proposed by Charlie Hodge and seconded by Margaret Cooper, the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21st August 2024 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

7.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- Upgrades to Wornadale viewpoint: funding discussions were again moved to the next meeting.
 - Wornadale gullies: there had still been no reply from Roads
 - ACTION: The Clerk to contact Roads again about clearing the gullies.
 - Crash barrier extension: there had also been no reply from Roads
 - ACTION: The Clerk to contact Roads again about the timescale for the crash barrier extension.
 - Biannual meetings with police: a reply had been received emphasising the difficulty with attending meetings due to a lack of staff.
 - Wind farm per MW amount: the Clerk had researched the basis for the £5,000 per MW amount, discovering that the amount had been adopted as the norm in 2013 but had originally included the proviso that this "will annually appreciate in line with the UK Retail Price Index", specifying a baseline year of 2011. With annual appreciation, the value as of 2024 would thus have been £8,253 per MW.
 - ACTION: The Clerk to write to the relevant MSPs and MPs to ask them to raise the issue of the fixed versus RPI appreciated per MW pricing.
 - Christmas fund: a poster and Facebook post will go up asking for any updates for the age 80+ list of residents.
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8.0 Decisions since last meeting

None.

10.0 Correspondence

The CC had been contacted by Tanya Riley of the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) regarding the development of a Marine Restoration and Enhancement Action Plan for Shetland. Members felt that they did not have the relevant expertise to meaningfully discuss the topic at a CC meeting so wished to encourage Ms. Riley to organise a public meeting around the matter, which they would be happy to help publicise.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to reply to Ms. Riley to suggest that the best way forward would be for UHI to organise a public meeting.

11.0 Planning

- 2024/216/PPF To construct hard standing area, Baillister Gott

→ ACTION: The Clerk to respond 'No comment'.

- 2024/111/PPF 17 new self-storage containers with parking (part retrospective), Hatals Self-storage Ltd Gott. This was a revised application in light of previous comments so no action is needed.
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12.0 Viking / Statkraft

- A local resident had been in contact regarding landscaping of the new converter station, noting that plans had included the planting of 8,000 trees. Enquiries had confirmed that around 8,000 “trees and shrubs” had been planted to date, with an intention to plant more next year.
- A [scoping opinion report on the Arven Offshore Wind Farm](#) had been published by the Scottish Government on the recent marine consultation (SCOP-0048). Members were pleased to see that their submitted comments — that consultees should be asked to comment on the project as a whole and not just the offshore part, allowing the cumulative impact to be taken into account — were reflected in the report.
- Verge reinstatement: in response to enquiries, it appears that SSEN are currently obtaining quotes for the reworking of the verges that the Roads Department had flagged as needing more work.
- Andrew Archer had been invited by Jared Deeney (SSE) to visit the Dale golf course site where cables were being buried, using directional drilling to pass underneath the watercourses. The work is due to be finished in a few weeks.
- Members continue to have concerns about the proposed closure of the Kergord Road for cable burying, noting that the most likely alternative route for traffic would be down the road from Girlsta to Stromfirth. However, in response to the community council's concerns, SSE were now proposing that the work could be delayed by a week or two (but no later than 15th October) so that the new Sandwater Road would be available for traffic, although this would still potentially involve a single-lane traffic light system.

→ ACTION: The Clerk to write to the Roads Department stating that members would have no concerns if the new road could be used as an alternate route, but felt that any situation that resulted in increased traffic along the Girlsta-Stromfirth road would have safety issues and should be avoided.

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- SSE will give a presentation to members on transmission future plans on 2nd October at 7:30pm, venue to be confirmed.
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13.0 Win Furt

- The tender for the design of the path opposite Strand Loch had now gone out, with responses due by Friday 20th September.
 - Their advisor will help with the processing of tenders and has also started work on the Hellister Loch path tender.
 - The [WinFurt AGM](#) will be at the end of October. A report will go out to all the Win Furt members ahead of the meeting and will include a call for additional trustees.
 - A new treasurer is now in place.
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14.0 SCBF

- There were no applications this month.
 - The new TWWCC-nominated Director, Mairi Thomson, has now taken up the post and will be invited to attend next month's CC meeting.
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15.0 Roads

Members felt that the surface water on the Ladies Drive junction was still an issue as it did not appear to be weather related, and they await the outcome of Scottish Water's investigation.

16.0 Councillors' Reports

- Moraig Lyall had been involved in getting approval for the change in policy to have tier 1 roads gritted on Christmas and New Year's Day. She had also been working on the inter-island ferry resilience report and an energy strategy for the council that will involve a variety of stakeholders.
 - Ian Scott did not wish to report anything.
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17.0 AOCB

There was a report of water coming down the east side of the South Whiteness Road (between the end of the road and the first junction on the left).

→ ACTION: The Clerk to inform the Roads department.

18.0 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on the 16th October, in the Whiteness and Weisdale Public Hall.
