

BRESSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minute of Bressay Community Council meeting:

Held on Monday 28th October 2024, in Bressay Hall.

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

Present:

Lindsay Tulloch (Chair)
Margaret MacDonald
Alistair Christie-Henry
Kath Duffus
Katrina Gifford
Ruth MacKenzie
Stephen Leask
Arwed Wenger

In Attendance:

Joanna Fraser
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:

Shirley Gifford
Matt Mason
Michael Duncan
Andrew Inkster
Gary Robinson

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 and sought their approval, proposed by Margaret and seconded by Ruth.

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

Continued AP1 Community Resilience plan & Generator

Action: Chair

This ties in with action **AP3**, Exploring options for an alternative to a diesel generator. The main idea is to get the Hall functioning as a resilience hub for the island in times of emergencies. He has been exploring what is needed in terms of resilience and noted the lack of capacity within the Hall committee for people to get involved in resilience. One idea might be to address this would be to create a dedicated Community Safety Group/Emergency Group for Bressay who can take this area forward and liaise with the Hall

Committee as the Community Council itself could struggle for capacity. This opened up for discussion at the table. One way could be to advertise for members using the £10,000 funding we have available as a catalyst to start the group off. The Chair has discussed with Nordri the possibility of alternative power sources to the generator as a power back-up. All is possible and viable at a cost of approximately £20,000, these funds would be available, e.g. via the SCBF and widen the project out to fulfil greater needs. Some discussion also ensued as to whether the Hall was the best place to site such resilience as the natural home for a community-based project would be BDL. The chair explained he had approached BDL but they had declined the suggestion and the Hall and its carpark could well be more suitable. Commissioning Nordri to survey/advise could be funded from the SCBF and perhaps could involve both centres especially if led by a totally independent group. Emergency Services each has its own resilience plans and this would sit beneath this and know this was there to feed into this and advise on requirements. This group could also feed into basic requirements that is no longer provided by the SIC. After the hall AGM this could be discussed further with the new committee and at the same time advertise to see if we could find some community minded individuals who were interested in being involved.

AP1: Feedback on Ferry timetable and other issues

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

We have had an update from Andrew Inkster with his apologies to say they were still in talks with Ferry Crews regarding changes to shift patterns however he was enthusiastic that the outcome would be favourable to the early runs we have requested.

AP2: Follow up with Infrastructure regarding Bus Shelters

Action: Clerk

This has been escalated due to the lack of response. This was passed to transport planning a number of years ago, as they held that particular budget, and approved, but nothing happened – the Clerk will follow up. Meanwhile Neil Hutchison's team has got back to us via Andrew Inkster to say if we let them know where we want them they will get them installed. Stephen will also raise at the transport group next week.

AP3: Explore alternatives to a diesel generator for resilience.

Action: Chair

Discussed under Community Resilience plan

AP4: Provide feedback to PC Smith on cruise cycle routes

Complete.

AP5: Advertise the NHS appointment/ferry ticket pilot scheme to the Bressay public via FB and posters.

Complete.

AP6: Arrange for the display of the "Tree of life Interrupted" plaque.

On display at Speldiburn due to the History Group now being closed for the winter.

5. Member and Visitor Reports: The SIC has pretty much been in recess other than an update about the busses and there was a further update coming at which Stephen will bring up the bus shelters. The press had contacted him regarding the Health Centre Ferry passes – he had told them it should really be the norm. Joanna was working on having the Pop Inns for the winter. She had some enquiries from teenagers regarding getting a bus to the ferry and not from the ferry to the school. Michael Craigie had said it didn't sit with transport so she was having difficulty in finding out where it lived. The Education Department were responsible for the school transport, historically they went from the ferry to the old Anderson High on foot as it was within the distance where they did not supply transport and when the new school came into being this didn't change. The times of the town bus does not match

up, previously we tried to get the times adjusted and to get foot passengers off the ferry first but got no further.

6. Infrastructure: Andrew Inkster, SIC Ferry Operations: We have had Andrew's apologies and have discussed most of the infrastructure already. There is some concern on traffic coming up/down the Uphouse Road where cars were not keeping to the left, perhaps a sign advising drivers to keep left. We can add this to the infrastructure report and highlight to roads and any further incidences should be reported to the police, so it can be monitored and assessed, as no changes to infrastructure can be made until then. We could perhaps ask for signage for traffic coming off the ferry reminding drivers it is single track roads and passing places ensure you keep left.

7. 2024-2025 Project: The Amenity trust is no longer responsible for the leaflets that are produced - it is now Promote Shetland. Ruth had a reply from David Nichol, offering assistance with updating and incorporating into other publications/sites. She also has spoken to Laurie Goodlad who has agreed to come and do a blog. The leaflet has quite a few photos which would need to be redone. We should also make sure it links in to other websites etc. The next step is for the team to review and assess the existing leaflet.

8. Correspondence: We have had an email regarding the condition of the road into Bruntland to see if we can help with the SIC roads department. Members speculated on how they could help. Many years ago, BCC attempted to raise this but it does not fall within the remit of the SIC transport department as unadopted by-roads have to be maintained by the Community Council – hence the provision of quarry cleanings. The funds for the Community Council are severely depleted although many years ago we did assist in putting in the grid. We tried to get it adopted when Swarthoul became occupied as it was more than one house and a road into a business and to Aith and the Aith Gun. It may be best to take a multi-agency approach as quarry cleanings will do little to help. In the first instance the chair will approach SIC Roads, Neil Hutchinson. It will be up to the resident to approach although we can investigate, advocate and help her move in the right direction. The Clerk will reply to Karen and the Chair will progress with Neil Hutchinson and other agencies.

9. Planning Applications: None

10. Finance: Grant & applications & Financial position. The Clerk shared the current balances. The Distribution and Project funds are still unspent. Some discussion ensued as to our obligations for providing quarry cleanings and if we had a need for a skip as the last one was in March. Discussion ensued on whether we would be able to support the Christmas Vouchers for the over 70s, as this year we may have to choose between doing Christmas vouchers or Quarry Cleanings. It was pointed out the BCC Christmas gift was given during the Covid lockdown when the Senior Citizens Christmas Party could not take place. Now that is happening again our focus needs to be on our statutory obligations – i.e. the upkeep of unadopted roads. One Distribution Grant application had been received - from the Hall for support for the Senior Citizens Christmas Party – this was unanimously approved.

At the last meeting of the Association of Community Councils the recommendation was the distribution fund should be incorporated into the Core fund to make fund administration easier. There was much discussion on how funds should be divided across Shetland, the easy option – which would not be very good for Bressay – would be per head of population. The Chair has asked that lack of amenities available on Islands should be taken into account, this was acknowledged from most quarters.

11. Bressay Groups Update (Hall, Sports Club, Boating Club, BDL etc.) The Hall AGM will be at the end of October and we would encourage support from any quarters for one of the few amenities we have left. The Hall is doing well financially but are struggling for members who have time to spare. The boating club are having to have their fish and chip night on the 8th November. There is a talk at Speldiburn tomorrow detailing how the Yell windfarm set up and supported their community. Ella's Park is having its opening and

Halloween on Wednesday brought forward from Thursday due to the weather forecast. There is an update from the History Group that the Scottish Museum has agreed the loan of the Bressay Stone to the Lerwick museum for three months during the summer. It is proposed a scale size replica is commissioned, this would be made out of sandstone and be part of a permanent display for the heritage centre. The challenge will be to look at funding for this as this cost of the full project will be in the region of £15,000, so they will now look at fundraising, sponsorship etc.

12. Any other business: We have two applications for Concession Ferry runs, one from the Up Helly Aa Committee for BUHA night and the other from the Hall Committee for the following night's hop. Both were unanimously accepted.

The meeting dates for 2025 were confirmed for the last Monday of the month with recesses in July and December.

Next year is the 80th anniversary of VE day so we should be thinking about some kind of memorial event, service or at the very least wreath laying. This could be done in conjunction with the History Group/the Hall/school project etc.

13. Meeting Review: no comments

14. Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be on the 25th November 2024. There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.00 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 with Infrastructure regarding Bus Shelters

Action: Clerk

AP3: Explore alternatives to a diesel generator for resilience.

Action: Chair

AP4: Explore multi-services support to upgrade the Bruntland Road

Action: Chair

AP4(b): Reply to Karen Deyell acknowledging her letter etc.

Action: Clerk

AP5: Obtain up-to-date quotes for Quarry cleanings

Action: Clerk

AP6: Provide year end projections of costs

Action: Clerk