

# Delting Community Council

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024 At Brae High School

## 2024/09/01 MEMBERS

Mr A Cooper (Chairman)  
Mr E Smith (Vice Chairman)  
Mr B Moreland  
Mr J Milne

Mr A Hall  
Ms J Dennison  
Ms R Griffiths  
Ms E Macdonald

## 2024/09/02 IN ATTENDANCE

Ms L Ratter - Clerk  
Ms T Riley - PG Marine Scientist UHI Shetland  
Ms R Giesler and Marine Planning Officer UHI Shetland

## 2024/09/03 CIRCULAR

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

## 2024/09/04 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Mr M Duncan, and Ms L Hall.

## 2024/09/05 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2024 were approved by Mr B Moreland and seconded by Mr E Smith.

## 2024/09/06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

6.1 Ms E Macdonald declared an interest in item 2024/09/11.1 UHI Shetland - Local Insight on Marine Restoration and Enhancement Projects

## 2024/09/07 CO-OPTING A MEMBER

7.1 There were no new members to Co-Opt. Clerk to email Ms L Manson regarding co-opting youth members onto Delting Community Council from November meeting. **Clerk to progress**

## 2024/09/08 MATTERS ARISING

8.1 **Community Development Fund (CDF)** – There was no update on this item.

8.2 **Road Verges Growing Over/Cattlegrid overfilled** – Clerk emailed Mr J Duncan SIC Roads regarding overfilled cattlegrid on Fraser Peterson Road. Mr J Duncan thanked us for the information.

8.3 **Testing at Scatsta** – There was no update on this item. The members would like to know if there are any further dates for testing planned. **Clerk to progress**

8.4 **Windfarm Development** – There is an upcoming special meeting of Delting Community Council on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October. Members would like the Shetland Island Council councillors for the north mainland to attend this meeting. Clerk to email the Councillors. **Clerk to progress**

8.5 **Traffic Lights/no stopping signs at Scatsta** – There was no update on this item.

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- 8.6 Graveyard bin** – There was no update on this item.
- 8.7 Traffic Passing Through Voe** – There was no update on this item. Ms E Macdonald will be speaking with Mr N Hutchison on Monday. **Ms E Macdonald to progress.**
- 8.8 Mossbank Pier Safety Wire removal** – There was no update on this item. **Mr A Cooper to progress.**
- 8.9 Glass on road** – Mr B Gray responded: He spoke to Mikey on Tuesday and he is going to get somebody up to that area, if they have not been already. It is the last place you want broken glass to be lying, with children and dogs going past so we will keep an eye on it. If we notice anything there that causes issues again then please let them know.
- 8.10 Woodland Fence** – All the fencing around the woodland replaced as required. Any remaining funds will need paid back to Shetland Island Council. **Clerk to progress**
- 8.11 Repair work in Moorfield Estate** – Clerk emailed Ms E MacDonald to ask if she could find out the latest progress. Ms E MacDonald received a response: The latest update from the contractor is that the glass has now arrived in Shetland and they are actively looking to programme the work to replace the glass. However, they have a list of higher priority jobs to complete first before they can schedule this in. It is currently expected that the work will start towards the end of this month with completion in early October.
- 8.12 Interpretive Boards** – The clerk emailed Ms K Garrick and explained the position of Delting Community Council and suggested the Voe Community Development Association try and secure funding. Ms K Garrick will discuss with members at their next meeting.
- 8.13 Bench at Main Road at Galley Shed** – The clerk emailed Mr J Duncan SIC Roads Department. He responded saying he spoke to his boss and he says that we will replace the bench with a plastic wood one.
- 8.14 Walking and Settlement Audit Recommendations** – Clerk emailed Mr M Craigie and Mr A Hunter for an update. There was no response to email. Mr A Cooper asked clerk to forward email to Mr N Grant and copy in Ms E Macdonald **Clerk to progress.**

## **2024/09/09 POLICE REPORT**

- 9.1** There have been 6 incidents recorded in Delting in June and July which can be summarised as follows:  
Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder  
- Proxy Purchasing Alcohol, Tobacco etc  
- Vandalism  
Protecting Vulnerable People  
- Concern for Person (2)  
- Mental Health (2)

## **2024/09/10 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There were no planning applications.

## **2024/09/11 Ms Tanya Riley PG Marine Student UHI - Local Insight on Marine Restoration and Enhancement Projects**

- 11.1** Ms T Riley and Ms R Giesler both Marine Scientists from UHI Shetland introduced themselves to the community council. Ms T Riley started by outlining the project of what can be done to improve the marine environment around Shetland and to gather views and ideas on what that could look like in the area of Delting. Nationally, new regulations mean developments on land must

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contribute to nature enhancement and not just mitigate their impact on the environment. In the future this will also be required of marine developments. They are aiming to identify ideas and solutions that fit Shetlands specific needs. Marine enhancement and restoration refer to actions that aim to improve the health of the environment. This can involve protecting habitats and species, removing pressures or disturbances, or repairing or restoring damaged habitat. Examples of on land restoration would be tree planting or removing barriers for salmon to migrate upstream. In UK marine enhancement have included replanting Seagrass meadows, saltmarshes, and cleaning up underwater litter. Within Shetland an example of enhancing marine action could be the rat prevention project to protect seabirds on islands.

Their aim is to identify local areas where the marine environment could be helped, enhanced, or restored. They want to be proactive so any actions are right for Shetland and are supported by local evidence and people. Projects taken elsewhere may not address local issues or be practical to implement in Shetland. They want the knowledge locals have about their area any ideas and thoughts on what is most appropriate.

Areas for discussion were

**Active Restoration or Enhancement** – Taking practical actions to restore or improve marine areas, habitats, or species.

**Access** – Making sure the community can enjoy and interact with the marine environment.

**Research** – Where do we need more information or research on trends or problems.

**Communication** – Sharing information and raising awareness.

The questions the scientists would like answered in the community council meetings are:

Are there any specific marine areas locally or around Shetland that might need restoration or enhancement?

What Solutions or actions do you think could be implemented locally to solve them?

Are there any reasons not to undertake marine enhancement actions?

What positive impact could these activities have in the local community?

Mr B Moreland asked if the areas of seabed where salmon farms used to could be researched to see what the seabed was like now or to see if it had recovered itself. Ms T Riley enquired if there were any specific areas? Mr B Moreland said Dales Voe where there were a few salmon farms with no throughflow.

Mr A Cooper said around Sullom Voe there is SOTEAG and they have a good data set from the 1970s of the marine environments around the Sullom Voe area. There is Saltmarshes at the Houb of Scatsta and Voxter which has been protected since the 1970s and he thinks it needs to be continually monitored. There is also the issue of Marine protected areas which the Scottish Government want to protect the whole of Sullom Voe right into Brae. The community is at a disadvantage because we do not know what the Scottish Government wants to protect in those marine protected areas. That is in an area in the east side and all the tidal flows in Yell Sound which is an area for further scientific research and how it interacts with environment. The west side of Delting, at Voe and Wethersta and Muckle Roe there is a lot of salmon farming and seabed degradation where the site of the farm was but we do not know to the extent the degradation continues. It may be a short period but the community does not know but there are people who do know. It would be good for the community to know. At the mussel farm sites there is a lot of talk about an abundance of starfish but no one seems to know anything about it. He said we need to protect the marine environment but also recognise that the marine environment has provided a living for Shetlanders for many years and it needs to be managed sustainably. The sea needs to make a living for the people of Shetland. The sea provides 40% of the local economy in Shetland.

Ms T Riley agreed that closing the three-mile limit, for example, would not be a restoration project it would be closing it so would not be a part of this project because it's not a restorative action. She takes on board what Mr A Cooper was saying and they are having meetings with the fishing industry and working with them to speak to the fishermen. The fishing industry could potentially benefit from marine developers coming to Shetland as they need to mitigate and contribute to marine enhancement.

Mr A Hall said we are affected by international situations, for example Danish boats fishing sandeels. UK have voluntarily put a stop to sandeel fishery but if Brexit dictates the Danish boats still can, then we have no choice.

Ms T Riley said there is no guidance on marine restoration this project is a first of its kind in Scotland. They want to be proactive and start benefiting from it. On land any development must

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restore in the immediate area but in marine environment it will be likely that they will be able to offset their projects and do restoration in other places if nothing appropriate close by. The timeline of the project would aim to be fluid and hope to be responsive to what is happening with changes to regulations and impacts from Brexit and changing issues. Part of the plan could be that every five years it is monitored and assessed. Also how does the community want to be involved with the plans going forward.

Mr A Cooper said there is nursery areas in Yell sound where fish spawn but we would need a wider map of what is happening in Shetland in that regard to have a sustainable environment for generations to come. The work needs to be done with protecting what we have, keeping what we have, and mapping the seabed within the 12-mile limit where we can say what we have and what it is doing in terms of sustaining a living for fishermen in Shetland. The Shetland economy needs aquaculture but it needs to be managed in a way that sites are productive and healthy and they are not having a detrimental effect on the surrounding area.

Mr A Cooper mentioned there is the Brae Boating Club which is very active and access is an issue and they need to sail between Brae and Aith mussel farms and salmon farms will impact on their path through and sailing activities and navigation is not restricted too much by projects taken on. The marine spatial plan maps out the fishing areas but does not identify the hot spots for fishing activity. In Shetland we have voluntarily closed areas where the marine habitat is being protected.

Mr A Cooper said seaweed farming raises questions about its impacts on fish nurseries and other marine habitats. While additional habitat may be created, the effects of harvesting the seaweed need to be considered if it is detrimental to the environment.

Mr A Hall asked why there is no haddock in the sea to be caught in the voe compared to 30 years ago. He wondered if this was something that could be investigated.

Ms T Riley said this was exactly the kind of information they were looking for.

Ms T Riley will send the notes for the discussion for the members to look at. They are having a public consultation at Delting Boating club on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 1-3pm and in the North Mainland Leisure centre 5-7pm. Clerk will put poster on facebook.

### **2024/09/12 COMMUNITY WORK**

Ms L Hall was unable to attend the meeting.

### **2024/09/13 FINANCE UPDATE**

- 13.1 Accounts for 23/24 have been approved by Mr M Duncan and our file has been updated.
- 13.2 Community Development Fund – Project fund from 23/24 woodland Fence has an underspend of £536.24. This will need repaid.
- 13.3 The clerk updated members on the current financial position for 24/25.

### **2024/09/14 CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **14.1 SCBF Advance Grant Scheme – There was no applications for the SCBF**

- 14.2 **Grant Application Form – Royal Voluntary Service - Christmas Lunch** - We would like to provide a Christmas Lunch, activity and transport out for our clients involved in the Delting social club, to meet up with our other social/lunch clubs. The venue will be The British Legion in Lerwick, the same as last year, which was a great success for our clients who will be provided with a Christmas Lunch consisting of 2 choice menu (full Christmas meal or braised steak) Christmas pudding or trifle, tea/coffee and juice. There will be live music. Also, a small gift. Bus transport will also be provided from all locations. This trip will allow the clients to get out of the Delting area and to meet up with other people in similar situations from clubs throughout Shetland. The total cost of this project is £400. They are applying for £400. The members agreed unanimously to award the full grant amount of £400 to be allocated from the Community development distribution fund.  
**Clerk to progress.**

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- 14.3 Invitation to meet with SSEN Transmission** – Special meeting Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 19.30 Mossbank School. The meeting has been advertised locally and on facebook.
- 14.4 Association of Shetland Community Councils - revised meeting date** - Wednesday 6 November. It will now take place at 6pm in Lerwick Town Hall (former chamber). Meeting papers are due to be issued w/c 23 September. If you have any agenda item requests please complete and return the attached ASCC Agenda Item Request Form to me by no later than 2pm, Friday 20 September. Mr A Cooper confirmed he would attend in person. **Clerk to progress. The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**
- 14.5 Life after Loss Bereavement group** – Ms E Hughson emailed to say that sadly, despite further advertising and promotion of the group attendance has not improved. Their committee has therefore taken the decision to end the pilot project at the end of September, and to try a pilot project in Lerwick to see if a more central location proves more popular. They would like to thank Delting Community Council for giving them the opportunity to try a pilot project in the north mainland.
- 14.6 Community Council files - Retention & Destruction Policy – Email from Mr M Duncan** : Any documents that require to be retained prior to the current Community Council term such as annual accounts or minutes are to be passed to the Archive Service for safekeeping and storage as soon as possible. Community Council Retention & Destruction Policy online [here](#). This Retention and Destruction policy applies to all paper and electronic files. Please ensure you attend to this matter within the current financial year i.e. complete this task by March 2025. Mr A Cooper is going to discuss with Mr M Duncan at his next meeting. **The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

## **2024/09/15 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

- 15.1 HIE Community Wealth Building research - THE VOICE OF COMMUNITIES SURVEY** - Community organisations across the Highlands and Islands are being invited to share their aspirations, plans, and challenges in our survey. Your voice is crucial in shaping the future of local development and community wealth building. If your group has a social purpose, benefits a geographic community, operates on a non-profit basis, and is controlled by local residents, we want to hear from you. For clarity, this includes community councils. Community groups and organisations within the Highlands and Islands Regional Economic Partnership area, including Highland, Moray, Argyll and Bute, Orkney, Shetland, Na h-Eileanan Siar, and parts of North Ayrshire (Arran and the Cumbraes). This survey is designed to capture the unique experiences and perspectives of community groups. The study, will inform how we and partners can better support communities in achieving their goals. The survey is open from mid-August until the end of September 2024, with results expected to be published early in 2025. [Our Place, Our Prosperity – The Voice of Communities Survey \(research.net\)](#) **The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**
- 15.2 SSEN Transmission - Community Benefit Fund** - SSEN Transmission has launched its first ever Community Benefit Fund, allowing organisations across the north of Scotland to apply for a share of £2 million for projects that will aid skills development, support the culture of local communities, and help alleviate fuel poverty. The fund marks the beginning of what could be over £100 million in support for communities in the north of Scotland, delivered as part of the largest electricity infrastructure programme the region has ever seen. From 1 September, groups throughout SSEN Transmission's network area can apply for a share of the funding being released from the company's opening £10m Regional Community Benefit Fund, from a minimum amount of £40,000 up to £500,000. The deadline for applications is Friday 22 November, and decisions will be made in January 2025. Details of how to apply and eligibility requirements are available at [ssen-transmission.co.uk/communitybenefit](https://ssen-transmission.co.uk/communitybenefit). The launch of the Regional Fund is expected to be followed early next year by the launch of local funds dedicated to communities situated close to new infrastructure developments.

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Based on initial indications from the UK Government, SSEN Transmission anticipates that over £100m in community benefit funding will be delivered in communities through its £20bn investment to upgrade the transmission network across the north of Scotland in support of UK and Scottish Government net zero and energy security ambitions.

Following extensive consultation with the public in 2023, the company has confirmed that priority for funding from its Regional Fund will be given to projects that deliver on one or more of three identified themes:

- People: focusing on skills, training and employability;
- Place: emphasising the community and culture of the north of Scotland; and
- Reducing fuel poverty levels.

**The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

- 15.3 Webinar for Community Councils with Ready Scotland - Wednesday 25th September at 6pm - National survey of Community Councils on emergency risks and their impacts in their local areas** - Emergencies are a regular occurrence in all of our lives and none of us are immune to the impacts, whether it is a local flooding issue, severe weather or something much bigger like a public health issue or even wide spread utilities failures. What we can do, individually and together in our communities, is take some steps to be more prepared to handle the disruption these kind of situations might bring. The Scottish Government's Resilient Communities Team will host a discussion at our Webinar on the 25th September to explore how Community Councils around Scotland are supporting people through the impacts of emergencies in their local communities – they'll be inviting you to share your insight and experiences - and will talk about the resources that are available to support community action through the Ready Scotland website and social media channels. At the webinar on the 25th September, they will also share a survey that we are partnering with them on which will help us to learn from your experience about emergency risks and their impacts in your local areas. We want to understand what role you see your Community Councils having when emergency situations impact on your neighbourhoods and what actions are already taking place within your communities. The results of the survey will help us to focus support where it is needed most and to paint a clearer picture of the contribution Community Councils make to our national resilience. Click on this link to register to attend the free webinar: [Ready Scotland registration form](#) **The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

- 15.4 Stoura Offshore Wind Farm Public Exhibition** - Reminder, Stoura Offshore Wind Farm is hosting a public exhibition taking place next Thursday September 19th in the Shetland Museum & Archives, Lerwick from 2-8pm. **The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

- 15.5 Arven Offshore Wind Farm - Marine Directorate - Licensing and Operations Team Scoping Opinion Issued** – An update was received as PDF Document. **The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members.**

- 15.6 Information for people on Shetland with hearing loss** - Hearing aid support sessions are currently running in Shetland for people who are worried about their hearing and would like a 3-minute hearing check, also those with NHS hearing aids who would like them maintained more locally. They are really keen to expand the service to support different areas in Shetland and if you or someone would be interested in committing a few hours a month or every other month it would be lovely to hear from you - They be contacted on [lisa.stewart@nid.org.uk](mailto:lisa.stewart@nid.org.uk) You can watch a wee video here: <https://youtu.be/2prqXAKtVLQ> Lastly free online talks via zoom or MS teams can be provided to your group/ organisation to give bit more information on hearing loss/ services. **The Clerk shared email with Delting Community Council members and advertised on the DCC Facebook Page.**

## **2024/09/16 ANY OTHER CURRENT BUSINESS**

- 16.1 New Brae School Plans** – Mr J Milne and Ms J Dennison attended the school to meet with the architects for the new Brae High School. The issues regarding heavy traffic and coming through

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the Moorfield estate were raised Mr J Milne. The architects could not say this would not happen as he thinks they might cut through at Gallowburn which is where the traffic would be coming in and out. They are waiting for the contract to be awarded then they can provide a detailed plan. They will not touch the trees as far as possible.

The school is two story and the whole area will be used and a plastic football pitch installed where the existing carpark is just now. It all depends on funding and are hopeful it will all be approved. Its in early stages and is changing all the time. They are hoping to include a library provision for the community with better access for the public than is currently offered.

- 16.2** Mr A Cooper received an email from Mr M Duncan requesting all Chairpersons from the Community Councils to attend a meeting in Lerwick on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the final draft of the community council review scheme and a requirement to include criteria on a new funding formula.

### **2024/09/17 DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 17.1** The Chairman called for the next Delting Community Council meeting to be held at the Voe Hall with the option for Members to join remotely through Microsoft Teams on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October commencing at 7.30pm.

Chairman