

BRESSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minute of Bressay Community Council meeting:

Held on Monday 25th November 2024, in Bressay Hall.

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

Present:

Shirley Gifford
Margaret MacDonald
Alistair Christie-Henry
Kath Duffus
Ruth MacKenzie
Stephen Leask
Arwed Wenger
Gary Robinson

In Attendance:

Andrew Inkster
Janice Jones (Clerk)

Agenda Items

1. Introduction and Apologies:

The Clerk opened the Meeting and welcomed guests and members to the hall, explaining that as previously noted the Chair was not available and the Vice-Chair was unable to conduct the meeting. She informed the members an interim Chair would be required and asked for nominations. Margaret was nominated, accepted the nomination, seconded and unanimously voted to the role – thereafter chairing the meeting.

Apologies were noted from:

Lindsay Tulloch
Matt Mason
Katrina Gifford
Joanna Fraser

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 Kath and seconded by Alistair.

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

Continued AP1 Community Resilience plan & Generator

Action: Chair

Deferred until there is an update from the Chair.

AP1: Feedback on Ferry timetable and other issues

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

Andrew Inkster had no information to pass on yet as this is wrapped up in the wider Ferry Resilience Review process.

AP2: Follow up with Infrastructure regarding Bus Shelters

Action: Clerk

On the agenda as a separate item.

AP3: Explore alternatives to a diesel generator for resilience.

Action: Chair

Comes under Community Resilience plan.

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

Action: Chair

Stephen had been in touch with Neil Hutchison which had prompted a response, he had emailed to inform the best action would be to fill in all the potholes and double coat surface dressing; this would be at a cost of £9.65 per square metre (plus VAT) however the SIC would not take responsibility for this as it was not a public road and its maintenance was not in the SIC remit, it would be down to the householder. It was noted this was an unadopted road, not just to two houses but to other amenities therefore was a public road. The topic will be revisited in future meetings.

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

Action: Clerk

Completed

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

Action: Clerk

Completed – see Agenda item 13.

AP6: Provide year end projections of costs

Action: Clerk

Completed – see agenda item 12.

5. Member and Visitor Reports: The main items Stephen has been working on are on the agenda – Bus shelters and Bruntland Road. It was pointed out this road is not a Private Road it is an Un-adopted Road, and as well as serving two houses it services public amenities and farmland. For the minute it is un-concluded and will be revisited. As for council meetings the main one has been the meeting regarding the Community Council's review going to phase 3. There are a number of changes and it has been good to see Bressay retained in its own right. There had been much discussion at the wider meeting regarding funding and Stephen has made his feelings clear that he didn't feel funding should be assessed on a per capita basis and that Community Council funding has essentially gone backwards in real terms over the last 20 years. Gary has attended the Audit Committee where it was noted Shetland has been behind many Community Councils in their use of Digital Services. Increasingly important in the access of services and staff shortages, e.g.in social care, where time can be saved in electronic notes on handovers.

6. Infrastructure: Andrew Inkster, SIC Ferry Operations: Andrew didn't have much to update from the ferry point of view. Members have been approached if it was true the ferry was going to a 24-hour service - this is being looked at as part of the wider ferry review and in some areas of operation this might be feasible. Discussions are still ongoing and still have to be had with the Bressay crew. It is hoped these discussions will unlock the possibility of the early morning runs, this might not result in a 24-hour service and even if it were a 24-hour service it would not be a 24-hour timetable as there would need to be stop time in the middle of the night to allow maintenance, cleaning and other functions. It was pointed out the electronic sign was still showing Covid timetable and spelling mistakes. He will look into this – the board is controlled by the crew and is probably just operator error.

7. Positioning of bus shelters: the Clerk shared maps received from Infrastructure requesting the preferred position of the Bus Shelters. There was much discussion as to

where these would be sited – the map annotated and the clerk will return this to Neil Hutchison.

Action: Clerk

8. Community Councils review – Funding: This was already discussed under the visitors report and the SIC Councillors are very aware of the Bressay Community Council opinion to represent.

9. 2024-2025 Project: Ruth has contacted Louise who did the original Shipwrecks leaflet to see how much it would cost to update in a paper version and a digital version. NCB communications are willing to upgrade things to a digital version. She may have some of the original work although the photographs would need to be updated. A digital version would be more practical. Most of the existing signs are in good condition which helps. She will also have a word with ArtMachine as an alternative.

10. Correspondence: Many items have been circulated. The Ferry docking schedule was discussed: the new schedule details both the Geira and Fivla out of action until the third week in January which gives a single vessel up north. The Leirna schedule is as normal in June and booked with the shipyards. There is an invitation for an online networking event for Community Councillors on Wednesday 4th. A number of members were interested in joining as a group in the Hall. To facilitate the clerk will register the session and book the hall.

Action: Clerk

11. Planning Applications: None

12. & 13. Finance: Grant & applications & Financial position. There were no grant applications. We included Agenda item 13, Quarry Cleanings as this affected the financial projection. Invitations for requests for quarry cleanings had been advertised throughout the month and four applications had been received, these had been run through the Matrix and all met the required criteria. Alistair explained the criteria behind the matrix, that it was not an arbitrary process, previous years had seen a greater number of applications. Two quotes had been received. In comparison to previous allocations there had been a huge increase in cost – from £235 in 2021 to £420 this year, so in effect we were only able to finance the four applications whereas in previous years we, for the same cost, had financed more. The greatest part of the cost was delivery which could only be an approximation as quotes are based on a two hour turn around time once it reaches the ferry – if they can cross, unload and return quicker then the cost would be less, if longer then it would be more.

The Quarry cleaning costs will add £1680 to our projected finance. The clerk shared a simplified version of the finances showing committed spend to date and projects for the remainder of the year going forward. This included the quarry cleanings and some provision for skips, which addresses the obligations for our budgetary allocation and maintenance of by-roads. We may find the quarry cleanings come in at a lesser cost as VAT on delivery is questionable and the clerk will challenge this when the time comes. On balance the Scord quarry was cheaper than Garricks quarry therefore all four applications for quarry cleanings were approved for one load each. The Clerk will action with the recipients and the quarry.

Action: Clerk

14. Bressay Groups Update (Hall, Sports Club, Boating Club, BDL etc.) The Hall AGM was postponed another date has not yet been set.

12. Any other business: None

13. Meeting Review: no comments

14. Date of next meeting: December is in recess, the next meeting is scheduled to the 27th January, however after some discussion it was decided to bring this forward a week therefore the next meeting will be on the 20th January 2024. The Clerk will send out an email reminding members/advising those not present. There being no further business the Interim-Chair closed the meeting at 20.30 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: Explore alternatives to a diesel generator for resilience.

Action: Chair

AP3: Explore multi-services support to upgrade the Bruntland Road

Action: Chair

AP4: Issue Map displaying position of Bus Shelters

Action: Clerk

AP5: Advise recipients of Quarry cleanings and action the order

Action: Clerk

AP6: Advise absent members of change of date of January Meeting

Action: Clerk