

MONDAY 2 APRIL 2012

At a meeting of LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in the Town Hall Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick, at 7.00pm

Members

Mrs K Fraser
Mr L Angus
Mr D Ristori
Ms A Westlake

Mr A Johnston
Mrs A Simpson
Mr W Spence
Mr L Angus

Ex-Officio Councillors

Cllr J Henry

Cllr C Smith **arrived 8.05pm**

In attendance

Ms Ann Robertson, Manager, Montfield Support Services
Ms Lynn Freeman, Rehabilitation Co-ordinator
Mr P Guppy, Manager, Taing House
Mrs K Semple, Clerk to the Council

Chairman

Mrs A Simpson, Vice Chairman to the Council presided.

12/04/01

Circular

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

12/04/02

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Anderson, Mr M Peterson, Mr A Carter, Mr S McMillan, Mr A Henry, Mr S Hay, Ms E Williamson, Cllr J Wills, Cllr A Wishart and Mr J Stewart.

12/04/03

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2012 were approved on the motion of Mr D Ristori and seconded by Ms K Fraser .

12/04/04

Business Arising from the minutes

12/03/08 – Road Safety-Bells Brae School Area - Mr L Angus noted that it was clear that Bell's Brae School was resistant to staggered opening/closing times and that there was no resolution in prospect. He was concerned that the situation could only get worse.

The Vice-Chairman read out a response from Sergeant 600 Filer, Area Command Sergeant, Road Policing, with regard to the concern. In his letter, Sergeant Filer stated that although it seemed counter intuitive, statistic and experience demonstrated that congestion tended to make an area safer for children and pedestrians as vehicles are forced to slow down.

He further advised that he would endeavour to carry out more speed enforcement around Bell's Brae School and deploy the Traffic Warden in the area.

Mr D Ristori added that he believed the creation of a lay-by was to be looked at and this may help alleviate the situation.

12/04/05 **Welcome to new members – Mr Andrew Carter, Ms Amanda Westlake and Ms Emma Williamson**

The Vice-Chairman introduced new member Ms A Westlake and welcomed her to the meeting.

She advised members that both Mr A Carter and Ms E Williamson were away but would hopefully attend the next meeting of Lerwick Community Council.

12/04/06 **Police Report**

There was no Police attendance at the meeting and no report was provided.

The Vice-Chairman read out an email from PS B Gray, Northern Constabulary, which arrived too late to be included in the agenda. PS B Gray advised that Chief Inspector MacInnes would be distributing an Area Commanders Monthly Report to all Community Councils, and as such, he, (PS B Gray) would no longer be submitting monthly figures.

Mr L Angus stated that he understood the pressure that the Police was under but the Sergeants lack of attendance at Community Council meetings was disappointing. He asked that a letter be written to request even a quarterly visit.

The Vice-Chairman agreed and asked the Clerk of the Council to write to PS B Gray with the request.

6.1 Crime Classification Breakdown

Noted

12/04/07 **Rehabilitation & Reablement – Lynn Freeman, Rehabilitation Co-ordinator**

Ms L Freeman, Rehabilitation Co-ordinator, gave a short power point presentation on Rehabilitation and Reablement in order to highlight the aim to assist individuals to live their lives to their fullest potential and to assist people with poor mental or physical health to accommodate their illness or condition.

She advised that, wherever possible, the aim was to support people to live their own lives, in their own homes, as independently as possible for as long as possible.

Ms L Freeman furthered that the drive was to shift the balance of care 'from the hospital setting' in order to give people the option to stay in their own homes. Support would be more 'person centred', an acceptable balance for each individual.

People would be supported and encouraged to be as physically and mentally active as possible, and to help themselves; something proven to be a personal benefit.

Each individual would be looked at independently and it was hoped that members of the voluntary sector, such as WRVS and Befriending Scheme would become more involved.

Good communication between all parties would be vital in considering if, over time, support for any individual needed to be increased or decreased.

Ms A Westlake enquired what was the remit with regard to people requiring palliative care.

Ms A Robertson responded that there was no definitive cut off and that Montfield Support Service offered a good option between home and hospital for those who needed it.

Ms L Freeman added that each case was individual and the extent of support needed would be up to that person and their family to decide. No one would be forced beyond their physical or mental ability.

The Vice-Chairman expressed an interest in the Telecare Manager attending a future meeting of Lerwick Community Council.

Ms L Freeman advised that she would email Lerwick Community Council information about Telecare Services for inclusion in the next agenda and members could then decide if they wished to receive a presentation on the service.

Ms A Westlake enquired as to the percentage of individuals who never recover and go on to palliative care.

Ms L Freeman replied that she was unsure if she could get the local statistics but that she would try to find out.

Ms K Fraser noted that in theory the move seemed sensible and positive. She hoped that time would be taken to ensure that the service could be fine tuned when it needed to be.

Mr P Guppy, Manager, Taing House informed members that under the new system people could have short term residential care when it was needed, and then return home, as opposed to staying in residential care permanently. The aging population made it ever more important to encourage independence and reablement in the community.

The presentation concluded at 7.30pm.

The Vice Chairman thanked Ms L Freeman, Ms A Robertson and Mr P Guppy for attending the meeting.

Agenda Item – 12/04/06 – Police Report

Referring to agenda item 12/04/06 the Vice-Chairman clarified that PS B Gray did not say that he would no longer be attending Lerwick Community Council meetings, only that he would no longer be submitting monthly figures.

Cllr J Henry advised that as Councillor for the area he regularly attended meetings of Gulberwick, Quarff and Cunningsburgh Community Council and a Police representative only attended if there was a special issue to discuss.

Mr L Angus stressed that the Police should be encouraged to attend from as many meetings of Lerwick Community Council as possible; Lerwick had many more issues to contend with such as criminality and traffic management.

The Vice-Chairman agreed. She asked the Clerk of the Council to write to PS B Gray and ask if he would attend Lerwick Community Council meetings more regularly.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

12/04/08

LCC Representation – Community Benefit Fund

The Vice-Chairman advised members that Ms K Fraser, Lerwick Community Council's representative at Community Benefit Fund meetings wished to step down. She asked members if anyone would be interested in taking over from Ms Fraser.

Mr L Angus proposed that new member Ms A Westlake may be a good representative.

Ms A Westlake politely declined, citing that she had too many other commitments.

The Vice-Chairman stated that the item should be put on the May agenda for discussion when the members absent were back from holiday.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

12/04/09

Correspondence

9.1 Tower, Anderhill, Bressay – Theo Smith, Chairman, Bressay Community Council

Mr D Ristori informed members that SIBC were trying to boost interest in the monument.

The Vice-Chairman stated that it should now be left in the hands of Bressay Community Council.

9.2 Internet Provision – John MacLellan, Business Manager, Life Skills Ltd

Noted

9.3 Path to beach road at Sound – Eleanor McGuire, Lerwick

There was some discussion as to whether the path belonged to a private landowner or to Shetland Islands Council.

Mr A Johnston thought that it formed part of the core path.

Cllr J Henry agreed that the path was a safety concern and did not think that Shetland Islands Council would want to have a core path which was unsafe.

The Vice-Chairman informed members that safety concerns had been raised, in a late email, regarding another path in the area. The path in question went from the Braefield/Nederdale area, past a group of private houses, and then linked up to the Sands of Sound road to the beach. The person raising the concern complained that the grassy path became very muddy and slippery in winter due to the high volume of foot traffic. In addition, a heavy vehicle had left deep tracks in the soil, exacerbating the situation.

Ms K Fraser suggested that perhaps the email may have been an approach to Lerwick Community Council to improve the path, possibly by laying down chips.

The Vice-Chairman asked that, in the first instance, the Clerk of the Council write to Jonathan Duncan, Access Officer-Heritage, SIC and raise concern with regard to the poor condition of both of the paths.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

9.5 Bell's Brae Primary School Traffic Issues – Jennifer Wadley, Head Teacher

Item discussed during Business Arising, item 12/04/04.

9.6 Surface Dressing and Re-surfacing Programme 2012 – David Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC

Noted

9.7 Signage – Copeland's Pier, Bain's Beach & Stout's Pier – Neil Hutcheson, Team Leader, Asset & Networks, Infrastructure Services, SIC

Noted

12/04/10

Financial Report

Noted

The Vice-Chairman asked for member's agreement with regard to the purchase of a Laptop. It was proposed that members would receive their agenda and papers by email, and the laptop, along with a projector, would be used at meetings to run through the papers.

A savings of £200 per annum was forecast by the initiative.

Attending members were in full agreement with the proposal.

The Vice-Chairman advised members that Shetland Islands Council had approved a budget of £29,890 for Lerwick Community Council. The first payment being 50% of the 2011/12 approved budget and the second tranche the balance of the 2012/13 approved budget, payable after a review has been undertaken.

12/04/11

Parking Order

11.1 SIC (Union Street, Lerwick)(Parking Place for Disabled Person's Vehicle) Order 2012

No objections.

12/04/12

Planning Applications

12.1 2012/071/PPF Erect detached dwellinghouse & garden shed, Fogrelea

No objections.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

12.2 2012/080/PPF Erect two one bedroom flats, King Harald Street, Lerwick

No objections.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Ms A Westlake stated that she was encouraged to see new properties being developed in Lerwick by private investors.

12/04/13

Lerwick Applications April 2012

Noted

12/04/14

Any Other Business

Road Safety Issue

Mr D Ristori informed members that the current route for service buses going to Shetland College had been deemed unsafe and hazardous by both bus drivers and other HGV drivers.

He explained that the current route, via the lower Gremista Road passing by the Shetland Times Office and Tyre & Exhaust, was extremely over used, and narrow from Shetland Catch to Tyre & Exhaust, with only one passing place for vehicles travelling southwards.

Most vehicles using the road travel from Shetland Catch, LFT, Shetland Transport and Tyre & Exhaust and exit onto the main Gremista Road.

He advised that drivers raising the concern would appreciate if the bus route could be altered, so that all services can continue along the upper main road and turn down the SBS/Norscot Angling Club side road, and continue up the brae onto the main road.

He advised that there were six services each day on the college route, and that the drivers concerned about safety issues by using the lower road, would welcome the change of the route.

The Vice-Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Mr M Craigie, Executive Manager, Transport Planning, SIC with regard to the issue.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Cllr C Smith arrived at the meeting 8.05pm

SIC Savings Suggestion – Property

Mr D Ristori advised members that he had received a response from Sandra Laurenson, SIC with regard to his letter, of 5 November 2011, suggesting that particular properties owned by Shetland Islands Council are sold in the hope that they would be refurbished back to residential use.

Ms Laurenson replied that where sustainable alternative uses for vacant properties cannot be identified, they would be disposed of on the open market.

She added that it was anticipated that many of the properties mentioned in Mr Ristori's letter would be disposed of in the near future due to a rationalisation of office accommodation.

Building in Disrepair

Mr D Ristori drew member's attention to the Royal Mail Lerwick, Road Transport Workshop at Garthspool as he thought it appeared to be in a poor state of repair, and an 'eyesore and shabby'.

The Vice Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Royal Mail and voice Lerwick Community Council's issue with regard to the condition of the building.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Dog Fouling

Ms A Westlake raised concern with regard to dog waste on Commercial Street.

The Vice-Chairman stated that the issue of dog waste was a terrible ongoing problem. She asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Maggie Dunne, Executive Manager, Environmental Health, SIC with regard to the issue.

She also asked the Clerk of the Council to request the installation of a dog litter bin on the Sands of Sound Road as the need for one was highlighted in an email from a resident in the area.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Hustings

The Vice-Chairman informed members that, at the request of the Chairman, a Hustings had been arranged, to be held in the Bowlers Bar, Clickimin Leisure Centre from 10.00am-12.00pm on Saturday 28 April.

There being no other competent business the meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Minute ends.

MRS A SIMPSON
Vice-CHAIRMAN
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chairman..... Date.....