

MONDAY 7 DECEMBER 2015

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

Members

Mr J Anderson	Mr E Knight
Mrs A Simpson	Mr S Hay
Ms K Fraser	Mr W Spence
Mr D Ristori	Mr P Coleman
Mr A Wenger	Mr A Carter

Ex-Officio Councillors

Cllr J Wills	Cllr P Campbell (arrived at 7.40pm)
Cllr M Stout	

In Attendance

Mr Michael Duncan, External Funding Officer, SIC
Mrs Pat Christie, Community Planning & Development, SIC
Mrs M Sandison, Clerk to the Council

Chairman

Mr J Anderson, Chairman to the Council presided.

12/15/01

Circular

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

12/15/02

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr M Peterson, Mr A Henry, Mr A Johnston, Miss S Sandison, Mr I Russell, Cllr M Bell and Cllr C Smith.

12/15/03

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting were approved by Mr D Ristori and seconded by Mr A Wenger.

12/15/04

Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

12/15/05

Lerwick Community Council Participatory Budgeting (PB) Pilot

Mr Anderson introduced Mrs Christie to report on the PB Pilot.

Mrs Christie apologised that she was unable to make the workshop last month due to illness. She hoped that the meeting had gone well. So far she had not heard any update on the funding. Mrs Christie asked if any dates had been set for follow-up meetings.

Mr Anderson explained to members that a letter from the Scottish Government to the council had offered matched funding for PB. He said that an email had been circulated about the plan to apply for further community funding next year and ear mark unallocated funds to go forward and be match funded to have a total of ten thousand pounds for the PB pilot.

The timetable spoken was May 2016 with the venue being the Pavilion at Gilbertson Park. He suggested that the funding was subject to ratification at this meeting. Setting up a working group and meeting not this year, but perhaps early in the New Year. He hoped that a programme could be put in place and that they would avoid any pitfalls. He asked if anyone had any questions.

Some members volunteered to become part of the working group, Mrs A Simpson, Mr S Hay, Ms K Fraser, Mr A Carter, Mr A Wenger and Mr J Anderson. Mr Anderson asked if all members were happy with the proposal for match funding. **All were in agreement.** Mr Anderson proposed that we should wait until hearing about match funding approval and then issue a press release.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

Cllr Stout commented that there was enthusiasm for the scheme from the council perspective and that he could not anticipate any difficulty with the council funding.

Mrs Christie added that a couple of groups were interested, if it went ahead.

12/15/06 & 07 Police Scotland Report and Roads Department

Police Scotland did not have a representative present and Mr Anderson had asked Roads if they would attend the January meeting. He welcomed Mr Duncan to the meeting.

12/15/08 Funding – In Attendance – Michael Duncan – External Funding Officer

Mr Duncan said that he had no agenda as such. He informed members about the council restructure and core funding having been moved to development services. No changes were made to funding for 2014/2015 other than a simplification of the grant application. It would probably be 2016/2017 before they would be starting to look at the core grant scheme. There had been no change since 1999. The plan was to visit community council meetings and meet everyone.

He informed members that the council budget would be notified early next year. There was no fixed scope and no agenda to the review, although some things badly needed updating. They would go through and find out what was working well. Time was needed to speak and gather input. The Association of Community Councils would be involved. This would not be a quick process, as they needed to go through things, and also observe at the various community council meetings.

Mr Anderson asked if they hoped to have things in place for the 2016/2017 budget.

Mr Duncan replied probably not for that, due to the budget coming earlier, he was not sure they would have time before that and during the next financial year, so maybe for 2017/18. He said that currently all community councils did things differently, due

to localised decision making. The eighteen council accounts varied massively and some needed updated systems and support. Some things need to improve, and some were fine.

Mr Anderson asked if he would keep them informed.

Mr Duncan said there would be plenty of feedback, as they were keen to explore and find out more from community councils.

Mr Anderson asked if anyone had any questions for Mr Duncan.

12/15/09

Correspondence

9.1 Future Island Bill Consultation

Mr Anderson said that comment was sought on the Future Island Bill Consultation. He asked if members wanted to make a response as a community council or personally.

Cllr Stout commented that as Mr Gary Robinson had pointed out the proposal had grown out of the 'Our Islands Our Future' work. He was concerned that people didn't understand how important this was. He suggested that Lerwick Community Council considered making a response. He pointed out that the more that was put in, the more would come out and make up a decent bill. He noted that some of the questions were badly composed. He said to look at the questions, and see what they might mean in terms of future legislation. He advised that it would be good to put something together.

Mr Duncan mentioned that the council would be putting something forward at the committee meeting on 16 December in order to submit a response before 23 December. He suggested that the community council wait to see what the council put forward and then follow on after that.

Mr Coleman agreed that the community council should respond as to whether they are in favour or perhaps put something in as a response.

Mr Anderson said that they were looking for input into future bill rather than consulting on an actual bill, which doesn't actually exist.

Cllr Wills replied that the questions were used to draft a response to the bill. The council had spent a long time on this and recently approved a draft, which was to be put to the full council. If any future policies and legislation was coming from the Scottish Government, this was the start. He stated that living costs in Shetland were ten to forty percent higher, some remote areas being forty percent more than typical mainland.

Cllr Wills explained that they were not asking for special treatment or demanding a disadvantage due to geography. They were hoping to list the type and extent of disadvantages Shetland suffers from in order to make better use of resources. He mentioned the requirement for the primary school heads qualification, which fails to take account of the varied situation and makes it difficult to attract applicants. He also highlighted transport, waste recycling and fuel poverty issues.

Cllr Wills suggested that we look at the council papers and write a response. He said that the Our Islands Our Future campaign had begun a new relationship between the council and the government. The outcome had been a more direct engagement with ministers and was helping to build the relationship and understanding of the problems encountered.

Mr Anderson suggested that we wait until the report on 16 December is published and circulate for members. Any comments could then be amalgamated, prior to being submitted.

(Action: Members/Clerk to the council)

Mr Peter Cambell arrived 7.40pm

9.2 External Transport Forum

Cllr Stout wanted to mention that following a recent communication, the Forum was not an open meeting. It was set up as the public front for Zetrans. It included a selection of people including stakeholders, but in practice it was not exclusive. As chairman of Zetrans he would like to encourage further engagement. He had nothing against the idea of making it a public meeting and asked that people came along they could be added to papers. Quarterly meetings were held in Islesburgh on an afternoon.

Mr Anderson asked if anyone had any questions.

Mr Wenger asked if the date for the meetings could be passed around.

Cllr Stout replied that this could be circulated to community councils.

Cllr Wills said that he attended when he could usually no public were present. Heads of Loganair and others were there. It was useful for them also due to having direct feedback. It usually lasted for about one hour and was interesting.

Mr Anderson said that it sounded interesting and asked about further news on the new ferry contract negotiations.

Cllr Stout offered his reassurances for on-going talks on the future of Northern Isles ferry contract. Lerwick Community Council was on the list of consultees. The meetings were a good opportunity to ask Flybe/Loganair questions on behalf of the community and all those affected by these important lifeline transport links.

Mr Anderson enquired as to whether it was Loganair who were responsible for the service rather than Flybe.

Cllr Stout replied that Loganair were the franchise operator. He said that meeting the new operations manager had been helpful. Loganair were in the process of changes to fares and were having a big issue due to loss of engineering staff. Trained engineers had to be highly qualified, so recruitment had taken place, but time was necessary to train. There had been legitimate concerns from the public due to difficulties in flying. He said that the company were doing what they could to keep on top of the situation.

9.3 Rotary Christmas Grant

Mr Anderson asked if everyone was happy to accept the grant and make the same offer as last year to Mr Neil Watt for the pensioners Christmas luncheon.

All members were in agreement.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

9.4 New AHS Roundabout – Large Vehicle Concerns

Mr Anderson pointed out the letter from Roads in answer to concerns raised.

9.5 Funding Opportunity – Architectural Heritage Fund/Zero Waste Scotland

The chairman asked if anyone had any ideas. He mentioned that the Sea Scouts might be interested in connection with the work on the Lodberries.

The clerk advised that it had been forwarded on.

9.6 Bikeability Training – Elaine Skinley

Mr Anderson reported that this training replaced the cycling proficiency test and they were looking for trainers.

Mr Duncan explained that the plan was to go around all the schools every few years. Training consisted of different groups and different levels. He asked to be copied in, if making a replying.

9.7 Sound Service Station Canopy

Mr Anderson informed members that a reply back had been received and work was on-going with the garage been made safe and hopefully finished before the winter.

9.8 Skate park Gate – Kaye Williamson

The chairman said that a reply had been received following the issue raised by Mr Knight at the last meeting.

Discussion took place regarding the concern due to the safety of cyclists exiting the park. Suggestion was made for extending the fence to prevent coming out at speed.

Mrs Christie offered to contact Mr James Irvine, and the Skate park committee to look into the situation and report back.

(Action: Mrs Pat Christie)

9.9 Clickimin Broch – Chris Grant – Youth Development Worker

Mr Anderson explained that communication had been received from Chris Grant regarding Historic Scotland's Stewardship Scheme.

Cllr Stout suggested that he be invited along to a meeting.

Mr Anderson replied that Chris had agreed to attend the February meeting once the scheme was in progress.

12/15/10 **Financial and CDF Report**

Mr Anderson asked Mr Duncan if he was happy with way the accounts were presented.

Mr Duncan said that most community councils were acceptable, just a couple needed help.

Ms Fraser enquired about carrying forward money from the community development funds into next year.

Mr Anderson explained the plan to carry forward monies for the PB pilot.

Mr Duncan stated that although acceptable in principle they would actually require formal agreement to carry monies forward.

Mr Anderson agreed that we would write and confirm if monies can be carried forward to make up five thousand pounds for the PB.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

12/15/11 **Grant Application – Filsket Riding Club – Container/Portacabin**

Mr Anderson reported that the club had followed up on their suggestion regarding the portacabins at Hoofields. They had now submitted a grant application for storage at Seafield.

Mrs Simpson declared an interest.

Mr Coleman proposed offering them £500 from unallocated funds.

Discussed ensued on the number of members who resided in Lerwick and perhaps seeking clarification about the figures given on the application. It was mentioned that it was not necessarily just members that benefited and the figures for Lerwick were thirty out of the fifty members.

Mr Carter proposed that £600 was offered and this was seconded by Mr Coleman.

Mr Anderson asked if anyone else had any comments. It was agreed to support the proposal.

(Action: Clerk to the Council)

12/15/12 **Planning Applications**

12.1 2015/380/PPP – Demolition of an existing unused office building and the construction of a new 100 bed hotel (3805 Sq m) and new 945 sq m office building, with associated parking.

Mrs Simpson commented that one hundred and twenty parking spaces would create a lot of additional traffic entering and exiting onto the main road.

Cllr Wills expressed his desire to see the re-use of the building. He commented that an already busy road out of Lerwick would create traffic problems and recently a lot of money had been spent to increase pedestrian safety in the area.

Mr Coleman enquired if it were not a Historic building and whether it could in fact be knocked down.

Cllr Wills remarked that modern architects didn't seem to have any resources to re-develop and re-use.

Ms Fraser replied that she didn't think Brevik House was a particularly good looking building. She suggested that it would probably be a difficult building to convert. Ms Fraser thought that re-use of stone from the existing building might be possible, and commented that we shouldn't always worry about keeping old buildings.

Mr Carter remarked that as it used to be the poor house, it had a connection to poverty, as well as not been aesthetically pleasing. He suggested that it was best to look to the future. He thought that it was a super site for tourists and as to the traffic hazards, didn't think that a few more would matter. He welcomed the development.

Ms Fraser agreed that it would be a pity to turn down the development due to the large parking area associated with the building.

Discussion took place on spaces necessary for hotel and office building. Comment was made that not all vehicles would be coming and going at the same time. Concern was raised for the access and egress and lack of space for emergency vehicles.

Mr Anderson asked if there were any proposals or further comments.

Mr Carter said that he approved the application and Mr Knight seconded his proposal.

No objections.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

12.2 2015/406/PPF – To erect dwellinghouse and alter existing communal car park – Adjacent to 43 Fogralea, Lerwick – Mr James Watt

No objections.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

Items for Noting

Andrew Archer – Peerie Oversund
Parking signs on walls outside Quendale House
Young People Engagement Event
Access Road to the Sletts Pier
Groundwork UK Application Submission (Tesco Local Community Scheme)

Clickimin Broch Lights – Sound Primary School – Mrs K Greave
Cycling Leaflet Reprint – Elaine Skinley
North Ness Coastal Path and Walkway – Dave Coupe – Executive Manager Roads
LCC Sign for Beach Road, Lower Sound, Lerwick – Alison K Anderson

Mr Anderson asked if members had any questions about the items listed for noting.

Mr Wenger commented that he was happy to read that the cycle leaflet was to be reprinted.

Items noted.

12/15/13

Any Other Business

Litter Bin at Bus Stop

Mrs Simpson informed members that there was no litter bin in the bus stop near Tesco.

Mr Spence replied that he would look into it and see about putting in a bin.

Mr Anderson agreed that we write and ask for the bin to be installed.
(Action: Clerk to the council)

LCC Meeting January 2016

Mr Coleman commented that the next meeting date on the fourth of January was very close after New Year and for the clerk to prepare the papers the week before. He suggested that the meeting be moved to the eleventh of January.

The proposal was agreed and seconded by Mr Hay.
(Action: Clerk to the council)

Grass cutting at Twageos

Cllr Wills reported on the long running saga of the grass cutting at Twageos Road. The council had to make budget cuts for grass cutting, but some complaints had been received. He is suggesting that a path be mowed from Gressy Loan along to the Noost and the blocked up exit re-opened, if a secure fence can be arranged. He offered to report back on the situation.

(Action: Cllr Wills)

Wall at the Knab

Mr Knight enquired about the wall above the torpedo tubes.

Mr Anderson confirmed that he had met with Magnus Malcolmson who was looking to remove the collapsed section; rebuilding the end and also repairing a section inside the fence which was also close to collapse.

War Memorial

Mr Knight pointed out that the war memorial was in a poor state of cleanliness and suggested that this needed looking at.

Mrs Christie mentioned that if repairs were needed then funding was available, as she has worked with this for other community councils. She suggested that there might also be another avenue of funding for cleaning.

Mr Anderson suggested that we see what was required with an assessment of the monument.

(Action: Clerk to the council/Mrs Christie)

Lamp post stumps at Gilbertson Road and Hillhead

Mr Wenger reported that he was aware of lamp post stumps on the corner of Gilbertson Road and Bells Road and that in the dark they couldn't be seen.

The clerk reported that this concern had been reported to Roads.

Mr Anderson mentioned that another lamp post stump was near the Hillhead car park.

A concern was passed on by the clerk from a resident regarding the light out at Scalloway Road steps leading to Briewick Road.

Mr Anderson was happy for these concerns to be passed on to the Roads Department.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

Mr Anderson wished everyone all the best for the season.

There being no further competent business the meeting concluded at 8.40pm.

Minute ends.

MR J ANDERSON
CHAIRMAN
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chairman.....

Date.....