

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

Present

Mr J Anderson	Cllr J Henry	Mrs A Simpson
Cllr L Angus	Mr A Johnston	Cllr W Stove
Cllr G Feather	Mr T Nicolson	
Ms K Fraser	Mr M Peterson (arrived 7.10pm)	

Additional Co-Opted Members

Mrs K Greaves	Mr D Ristori	Ms M Robertson
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In Attendance

PS G McCarthy, Lerwick Police Station
Mr S Couper, SIC Infrastructure Services
Mr M Finnie, SIC Capital Projects
Mr C Nicolson, SIC Capital Projects
Mrs S Crooks, Shetland Library
Mr M Latham, Shetland Times reporter
Mr T Stove, Hjaltland Housing Association (observer)
Mr R Sandison, Hjaltland Housing Association (observer)
Miss C Duncan, Clerk to the Council

Chairman

Mr T Nicolson, Chairman of the Council, presided

06/10/01

Circular

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

06/10/02

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Anderson, Cllr A Cluness, Cllr J Irvine and Mr P Scarsbrook.

06/10/03

Minutes

8.1 ASCC - Grants to Shetland-Wide Organisations

The Chairman noted that he could recollect Mr M Peterson using Dogs Against Drugs as an example of a Shetland-wide organisation which had received funding from Lerwick Community Council but this was not minuted and he would like it added to the minute.

He also noted he had received a letter from SIC Finance through ASCC which had not been received in time to be tabled at their recent meeting. In this SIC Finance noted that they had not received comments from any Community Council other than Lerwick regarding the scheme.

The Chairman proposed to accept the wording of the constitution as it stands, as this was the view of most of the members of LCC, other than one or two individuals. The phrase "exceptional circumstances" was highlighted and so each community council had the power to decide whether an application for funding was an exceptional circumstance or not. Cllr L Angus seconded the proposal.

11.1 25 Residential Flats at North Road, Grantfield

Cllr W Stove noted that he had indicated that he would abstain from this vote but this had not been minuted and should be added.

5 Police Report

Cllr J Henry noted that there had been motorbikes using the footpath to the rear of the Clickimin Loch since the last meeting and he felt this was good news.

12.9 Johnsmas Foy

Mrs A Simpson asked if it would be possible for SIC Roads to provide a temporary parking area for disabled drivers during the Johnsmas Foy. It was agreed to write to ask them if they could do this.

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11 September were approved by Cllr W Stove and seconded by Ms K Fraser.

06/10/04

Business Arising

There were no further items arising from the minutes.

06/10/05

Police Report

PS G McCarthy noted that they had recently undergone a performance review and the figures were good for the period April-September 06 when compared with the same time last year with overall crime down by 20%.

Crimes against the person	22 this year, 20 detected
Indecency	23 last year down to 9 this year
Vandalism	190 last year down to 119 this year
Dishonesty	184 last year down to 133 this year
Miscellaneous offences (inc drugs)	93 last year up to 113 this year
Detection rate 71% Shetland wide	

He noted there had been no further reports of persons using motorbikes on the footpath at Clickimin since the last meeting.

He had discussed the Quoys junction with official from SIC Roads, who had informed him that a mini roundabout was on the agenda for the junction but he wasn't sure of the timescale.

The alcohol bye-law appeared to be lost in the Scottish Executive but he was trying to find out the current situation.

The Chairman felt the general trend was quite good, although the increasing drugs situation continued to give concern.

Cllr G Feather noted that work on the Quoys mini roundabout was due to begin at the end of October.

The Chairman noted that there had been a lot of comments from the public regarding the present situation and it had to be made safer. It was reassuring to see it about to happen.

He also felt the recent announcement about the CCTV system was very good news and it was heartening to see progress being made.

Cllr W Stove said he had been surprised to meet two horses and riders at the South End of Commercial Street recently and again at the other end of it below the Fort and asked if they were legally allowed to do this.

PS McCarthy said he thought they were and believed there was no legislation to restrict them, but he would need to check. They were not classed as vehicles so couldn't come under the traffic regulations.

Cllr Stove asked if legislation applied if they made a mess on a public street and PS McCarthy confirmed that there were no legislation to cover the removal of manure, unlike dog fouling.

Mrs K Greaves asked what other offences came under the heading of "Miscellaneous inc drugs" and what proportion of the figures were drugs related. PS McCarthy said he would find out for the next meeting.

The Chairman thanked PS McCarthy for attending. He left the meeting at 7.15pm.

06/10/02

Mr John Gray

The Chairman apologised that he had intended to mention this earlier. He noted that Mr John Gray had recently passed away and he stated that he had been members of LCC for many years. He had a great knowledge of Lerwick and its affairs and had contributed greatly to Lerwick Community Council. He would be greatly missed.

Cllr L Angus added that he had been the LCC nominee to the extension of the war memorial and had indeed designed the extension panels to it.

06/10/06

Harbour House: Update - Mr S Couper, SIC

Mr Couper distributed plans for the development of the Harbour House courtyard area. The extension was to be knocked down and a new toilet block erected in that space. The courtyard had previously been owned by Lerwick Port Authority but Shetland Islands Council had now gained ownership of it. LPA wanted the toilet block moved to this side of the road, and the existing toilet block would be demolished and rebuild a pavilion to cater for yachts' people. The building of the new toilet block would be dependant on LPA getting suitable costs for the refurbishment of Harbour House but this looked quite likely. He hoped to progress this site.

The Chairman asked Mr Couper to confirm that Harbour House was to be refurbished, rather than demolish and rebuilt, which he did.

Ms K Fraser noted that the original plan had been for toilets inside Harbour House.

Mr Couper agreed that this had been the original plan but the costs prohibited it. They had received approval from SIC for this but it had proved to be too costly.

The Chairman asked if there was any chance of a pensioners' restroom being incorporated on the site.

Mr Couper replied that given the size of the site available, it would not be feasible and would compromise the toilets.

Cllr L Angus noted that this had originally been the site of public toilets and it was being returned to its purpose. There had to be public toilets available and they had to be in that area. He felt that there shouldn't be any objections from LCC as there was a need for toilets in the area.

Mrs K Greaves asked what was to go in the pavilion being built by LPA and would this include toilets and showers for yachts people.

Mr Couper replied that there would be no toilets, and it was a different kind of facility. The details were still to be worked out but it would be more of a reception area for visitors and tourists off cruise ships.

He couldn't give a definite time scale as it would be subject to LPA confirming they were to go ahead with their refurbishment of Harbour House. They are optimistic that they would find out in the next week or so. They would then have to go through the planning process and then go to tender, so it would be difficult to give a definite time scale.

Mr M Finnie of SIC Capital Projects confirmed that this was the case. He also noted that they would have to obtain Historic Building Consent and would have to go through Historic Scotland. Also they would have to time the work to have the least impact to the town centre.

Cllr L Angus noted that all SIC Capital Projects were under close scrutiny. If the proposed new Anderson High School went ahead at its current cost there will be no other projects being built.

The Chairman felt that it should go ahead at all haste as it was a very necessary development. He thanked Mr Couper for attending and welcomed him to come back with any further updates in the future.

Mr Couper left the meeting at 7.25pm.

06/10/07

Library Provision in Lerwick: Update - Mr C Nicolson, SIC

Mr C Nicolson introduced himself as Projects Manager at SIC Capital Projects Services, and Mrs S Crooks, the Library and Information Services Manager. He had been asked to look at the current library provision and also at a new library. The process was at a very early stage and he would return to future meetings to update members. There had been a

project board meeting which LCC had been invited to but, as no one had been able to attend, they were there to give the members an update on the situation.

Mrs Crooks gave a presentation, following visits to libraries, both new builds and conversions, on the mainland. They had started consultation with the public through a number of methods including public meetings, questionnaires and going into schools. They were trying to get people to think about if they were satisfied with the current provision or what they would like to see done to improve the situation.

She pointed out interesting features of other libraries, including the foyer, which had to be welcoming and not intimidating to anyone wishing to use the library. It had to be able to draw people in to it. Also the desk had to be accessible and user friendly - a round one such as in the Orkney library should work but it was in the wrong position there.

There was a problem between artistic layout of shelving and being able to find books. It had to have a balance between the two. The children's area had to be improved as it was not very helpful or practical at the moment. Orkney's was very impressive and they also had a separate teenage area. She felt this was crucial as it was an age when reading dropped off.

The archives needed to be welcoming and easy to find your way around. One of the most important areas was for the mobile vans. They needed a covered area to load books. It needed to be more than just a garage for them, and she noted that the mobile vans provided about 50% of Shetland's usage so it was crucial that this was maintained. Another area required was a staff area, as the staff worked long and varied hours.

Separate quiet and noisy areas was a requirement, as was a good lay out which was sympathetic to the needs of the users. They could use the spaces creatively to create individual spaces.

The library was a combination of the public and 8 school libraries so they needed a lot of space. Their requirements were quite complex and there were a lot of different areas to think about. It was important to support the mobile vans and also to look at the back up.

The Chairman felt the presentation had been very interesting. He noted that the current library was too small and there was a general keenness to replace it. Sites suggested included the Old Archives at King Harald Street and a new build at the North Ness. He would favour the more central King Harald Street area but either would be good.

He thought it would be difficult to find the money if the new AHS build went ahead and this had been on the agenda for many years, with the costs escalating. He noted that this was a Shetland library, not a Lerwick one.

Cllr L Angus said this was a pet project of his and it had to take its place alongside the AHS in the Capital Programme. He felt it had been a bad move to go to St Ringans. It was a lovely building but there was not enough space. He thought that LCC should have a major contribution into the consultation process.

The Chairman said that the money spent on the restoration of St Ringans was not a waste as it was for the benefit of future generations and will be used again after the library moves out for another purpose. He thanked Mr Nicolson and Mrs Crooks for attending and hoped they would attend again in the future with further updates.

06/10/08

Anderson High School: Proposed New Build: Update - Mr M Finnie, SIC

Mr M Finnie, SIC Capital Projects Manager, said the proposed AHS rebuild had been ongoing for some time, and since 2004 they had been progressing the design of the new school on the existing site. He gave a presentation to show the planned layout and location of the school.

The Bruce Hostel, old Institute building and the Janet Courtney Hostel were all listed buildings and so would not be demolished. The ASN building had recently be refurbished and would be integrated into the new design. All the other existing school buildings would be demolished.

There was no room to develop at the front of the site, so the area at the rear would be used instead. This would cause minimal disruption and enable the school to carry on as normal.

They were trying to move away from the traditional style of school with more open spaces and flexible social spaces. This would give students more places to study and more social areas. There would be an open space at the heart of the school which would hold the hall, dining hall and other social areas.

They had done wind and weather testing and found that the worst wind came from the south west, which caused problems for pupils accessing from Knab Road. Therefore the classroom block would be protected from the prevailing wind.

A major concern of residents in the area is the increase in traffic. This design would mean all school traffic using Knab Road, with bus parking at the top of it. The hard standing was 3-4 metres below the road level and it was proposed to create an underground car park for up to 120 cars, which is about the amount requiring parking each day at the school. This would keep the cars out of residential spaces.

The building would have 4 floors above Knab Road. The internal space would be more open and flexible to allow all pupils to be inside at one time, e.g. dinner break. Currently most pupils use corridors at break times.

Indications are that education is leaning more towards open learning and more computer based learning. This design will allow partitions to be moved to adapt the space as it is required.

It is now estimated the school will cost £48 million as there is no interest at present from contractors. There is a huge risk that no contractor will express interest so they will go through the EC dialogue procedure, where they shortlist down to 2-3 contractors and interact with them all so they can provide further input. This will result in the design changing and the price reflecting these changes.

The Scottish Executive does not have to provide standards for building schools and don't have much input in the process. The danger in involving the Scottish Executive is that they advise on PFI schools, which would mean smaller spaces and this is not the way to go.

Mrs A Simpson asked if there was to be a replacement for the Janet Courtney Hostel and Mr Finnie confirmed that this was in Phase 2 of the development and was a separate project.

Mr M Peterson noted that the building will be quite outstanding in the area and will possibly dwarf the area.

Mr Finnie noted that this was not yet the final plan and may change when the contractors have design input. It may not look anything like this design. They have discussed this current design with SIC Planning Department and they are quite relaxed about it as long as it is well designed.

Ms M Robertson noted that there would be an increase in traffic using Knab Road and asked if there were any plans to widen it, as it will be quite congested.

Mr Finnie confirmed that they had had discussions with SIC Roads who are planning to improve the road as much as possible.

Ms Robertson felt that SIC Capital Projects had been good at keeping residents informed so far and asked if the presentation would be available to them.

Mr Finnie confirmed that there would be a series of consultations with school staff and pupils during the day and the residents in the evening, and the letters were going out this week. They wanted feedback from everyone.

Mr J Anderson noted that the heating and ventilation would cost £1.7 million and asked if this was all in the main building or if it included the car parking.

Mr Finnie noted that British standards regarding ventilation were currently changing. The problem they faced was that opening a window got air change but it can't be controlled. They were moving towards mechanical ventilation rather than air

conditioning, as there will be times when the windows can't be opened because of the direction of wind.

Mr J Anderson asked if the £1.5 million proposed for the cost of the car parking was included in the budget or if this was an extra cost.

Mr Finnie confirmed it was an extra cost, as they had not budgeted for underground parking, but this was still good value.

Cllr L Angus felt that Lerwick needs a new high school, and the Anderson High School is the worst in Shetland, with buckets having to be placed in corridors to catch drops when it rains. Also they were told 4 years ago that the windows were unsafe so there was a degree of urgency.

He noted that the public consultation had seen 5 concepts, of which 2 were favoured by the project team. At the residents meeting in June, they had favoured one of the other options, and the school staff favoured a more compact design which was easier to staff. He thought there was a problem with the quality of the public consultation and hoped it will improve. People were getting information but were not being consulted.

He had a problem with the height of the building, which would be 60ft above the height of Knab Road. He was surprised at SIC Planning, as they had refused other buildings which had broken the sky line.

He felt it was confusing for SIC Councillors, as they had originally been told this site couldn't be developed. Clickimin had been identified at a cost of £38 million but had then been advised that the existing site could be developed at a cost of £25 million so it was agreed to go ahead. Now the costs had reached £48 million and this did not include the cost of the hostel. He thought that PFI schools would not resonate with the Shetland public with regard to the quality, but he noted that 3 schools were being built in the Western Isles for a total of £39 million.

He thought that every other part of the Capital Programme would be kicked into touch if this project got the go-ahead at this price. He feared that if it went ahead there wouldn't be any other construction work in Shetland for many years to come. There was a lot of uncertainty but he firmly believed they desperately needed a new school.

The Chairman agreed that this would be a major piece of work and would need extensive consultation. The residents deserved to be kept informed at every stage. Other members of LCC were not here this evening to say they felt it was the wrong site but SIC councillors had agreed to this site. He thought that SIC needed to look at the two sites to compare costs. The fabric of the old school is in a poor state and needs to be repaired.

Mr M Peterson said he was stunned at the scale of the project. He asked how many of the 120 cars were student cars and Mr Finnie said that they were all staff cars.

Mr Peterson thought that the underground car park would have to be staffed to avoid it being used for bullying.

Mr Finnie noted that it would be manned and that it was not on the play area side.

The Chairman thanked Mr Finnie for attending and he welcomed him to return with further updates in the future. Mr Finnie, Mr Nicolson and Mrs Crook left at 8.15pm.

06/10/09

Richard Gibson Architects - Grantfield: Proposed Housing Scheme

The Chairman invited Mr T Stove and Mr R Sandison to join the meeting and to contribute to the discussion.

The Chairman noted that LCC had decided at their last meeting to object to the housing scheme due to the over development of the site and the cars issue.

Discussions were ongoing with SIC to implement a Section 75 agreement which would restrict tenants from having a vehicle. He questioned whether this was legal and noted that there would have to be discussion with SIC Legal department. He felt LCC's position should remain as it is until SIC Legal reach a decision.

He planned to find out if there was sufficient legislation in place to restrict tenants for having cars. He noted that the letter from SIC to HHA would suggest that the original objections still stand.

Mrs A Simpson said she had a difficulty in objecting to the proposal as so many people were on the housing list. She was sure that they could easily find 25 people who would be willing to have a house rather than a car.

Mrs K Greaves said she had never seen an application for change of use. She asked if the site was zoned for industrial use.

Mr R Sandison confirmed that it was a mixed use area so it does permit the building of housing.

Ms K Fraser felt that LCC should be more open minded to this type of scheme. There were too many cars around and most HHA developments already have low car ownership. She noted that most people will follow the rules and there may be the odd problem, but not everyone will go out and get a car once they have been allocated a house at Grantfield.

She noted that the site was quite central so there was less need for a car, also there were no family homes planned which would also reduce the need. She felt the no-car plan had been blown out of all proportion and LCC should be giving their support to the development.

Cllr L Angus said that the objection had been made on the over development of the site, and there were too many houses for the site.

Mr J Anderson noted that there were few parking areas near HHA's developments at Chapel House and the Baptist Church but this had never been an issue. It was a nightmare to get parked in that area and he would not have been in favour of either site. He was not against the development on the car parking issue but on the over development issue.

Mrs Greaves said that it was all very well saying people shouldn't have cars but she thought the parking was a red herring. She was concerned that there was over development in the area which was adjacent to a busy road. She noted that someone could be allocated a house and then get a job which required them to use a car, and asked if they would then have to give up their tenancy.

Mr Sandison said there were only 25 units on the site and they were very small. It was essentially flats for 1 or 2 persons. There would be relatively few residents on the site. HHA shared a housing list with SIC and it currently stood at 279 people seeking single and couples accommodation. The total list was 476 people for Lerwick as a whole. This reflected the very high demand for housing.

They had done a survey on car ownership at some of their other schemes in Lerwick and the average was 0.77 cars per household. At Nordavatn, which was on the outskirts of the town, ownership was 0.77 per household, and Norgaet was 0.62 cars per house. This showed there was a large number of people who do not want or need cars.

The Chairman said he was not satisfied legislation was in place to restrict people getting cars, and he felt it will be for SIC Legal to sort out so they knew the position.

Cllr W Stove noted that he would abstain from any vote on the issue.

Cllr G Feather noted that the accommodation was for single people and couples, and asked what would happen when they started having families.

Mr Sandison confirmed that they would transfer them to a house in another development. They currently had conditions in place at Nordavatn through the Met Office that there would be children on site over the age of 5 years and so far they had managed to rehouse everyone before the child was born.

Cllr L Angus said he felt it was quite distasteful that LCC were objecting to this when HHA were trying to house people desperate for a home in Lerwick. This was not helpful at all.

Ms K Fraser moved to suspend standing orders, seconded by Mr M Peterson.

Vote:	In favour	4
	Against	2

Ms Fraser moved to proposing reversing the objection and giving it support as it was a worthwhile scheme and this was seconded by Mrs A Simpson.

The Chairman moved to let the original objection stand and Mr J Anderson seconded this.

Vote:	Original objection	3
	Reverse objection	3

The Chairman held the casting vote and voted to let the original objection stand.

Mr Stove and Mr Sandison left the meeting at 8.25pm.

06/10/10

Correspondence

10.1 Brudolff Hotels - Path at Shetland Hotel

The Chairman passed round photographs of the overgrown footpath. He noted that it was not an option to close the footpath as it was a public right of way. He felt it was important Brudolff Hotels improve it as he thought around 50% of its users were their customers.

Ms K Fraser agreed, stating that owners should be obliged to keep it maintained.

Mr M Peterson suggested contacting SIC Planning to see if a right of way did exist, as it may not be the responsibility of Mr R Smith (owner of Brudolff Hotel).

The Chairman noted that he had checked this earlier and as the path has been in existence for more than 20 years it was now a right of way. He noted that he had spoken to a manager of the Shetland Hotel on two occasions regarding the path as it was potentially unsafe.

Cllr W Stove said the matter should be passed to SIC Legal to handle as it could raise legal questions. SIC councillors had been told many times that there were no Rights of Way in Shetland, and there could be a fight between Brudolff Hotels and Shetland Islands Council.

The Chairman agreed to write to SIC Legal and ask them to ask Mr Smith to maintain the path. He felt it was a disgrace that a local business didn't take responsibility for the welfare of its customers.

10.2 Shetland Recreational Trust - Flagpoles

The Chairman noted that he had originally started this but didn't think Scottish Water would agree or that SRT would donate a flagpole, however, this had happened and he wasn't sure if he should pursue it any further. He noted that Mr R Smith of Brudolff Hotels was a resident in the area who had approached him to object to the idea. He thought that it should be up to the next LCC to pursue as he didn't want to upset Mr Smith further.

Cllr W Stove stated that it was not up to the Chairman as an individual and LCC had made a decision as a corporate body to pursue it.

The Chairman said the next stage would be to get plans and put forward to SIC Planning Department. He noted there would be a cost involved to LCC.

Mr M Peterson proposed not to pursue the matter any further and this was seconded by Mrs A Simpson.

Cllr W Stove moved to continue with the plan for a flagpole and this was seconded by Mr J Anderson.

Vote:	Against flagpole	3
	In favour	3

The Chairman had the casting vote and he voted in favour of the flagpole, so it was agreed the next stage would be to get the services of an engineer to provide plans and take it through the planning process.

Mr J Anderson suggested nominating Mr R Anderson to do this as he had experience of planning issues and this was agreed.

10.3 SIC Planning - Lerwick Lanes Signage

The Chairman thought that Mr D Ristori may be interested in progressing this matter as he had originally suggested it.

Mr Ristori agreed, and asked if it would be appropriate to get Mr Douglas Sinclair to assist him as he had a lot of knowledge of the lanes. This was agreed.

10.4 SIC Planning - Appeal: Mrs C Miller, Change of Use Noted

10.5 Islesburgh Pyrotechnic Display Club - Thanks Noted

06/10/11 **Financial Report** Noted

06/10/12 **Planning Applications**

12.1 Storage, etc, North Ness - BP Fuels Marketing Ltd

The Chairman expressed concern at the storage of hazardous substances in residential and built up areas. He noted that Orkney had recently objected to a similar application and BP had told them they would move out. He felt that shouldn't happen in Shetland but SIC Planning should be in discussions with BP to persuade them to have it removed.

Mr M Peterson felt it was inevitable that BP would say they'd pull out if the application was refused and they should stay there for the foreseeable future.

The Chairman agreed to express concern and urge SIC Planning to have discussions with BP to move in the long term.

12.2 Subdivide 131 North Road to residential units - SIC Housing Services

No objections

12.3 Access & Develop Industrial Estate, Staney Hill - GB & AM Anderson

Mr M Peterson expressed similar concern as the earlier application that the development was next to a gas storage depot. He felt it was crazy to grant planning permission to a development next door to gas storage.

He proposed to object on the basis that there could be problems regarding safety and this was seconded by Ms K Fraser. She felt they needed reassurances that it was safe.

Mr J Anderson felt it was safe to presume that legislation was in place to ensure the area around the gas depot was protected.

Cllr L Angus moved an amendment that LCC seek reassurances that the proposed development would comply with all relevant health & safety regulations. This was seconded by Mr J Anderson.

Vote: Amendment 6
Mr M Peterson withdrew his motion.

12.4 Erect Dwellinghouse, Pegasus Place - Garriock Bros Ltd

No objections

12.5 Change of use to Child Day Care Facility, 4-6 Fox Lane - Mrs L Boxwell

No objections

06/10/13 **Any Other Business**

13.1 Town Hall Booklet

Mrs A Simpson noted that work on the booklet would be carried out over the winter.

13.2 Environmental Awards

Cllr L Angus proposed to nominate Mrs Emily Knight for the work she puts in creating a garden at the bottom of Gressay Loan as it fulfills all the criteria for the Environmental Awards. He felt it was an excellent example of volunteering.

13.3 Trees at Clickimin Footpath

Ms M Robertson noted that the trees planted at the rear of the Clickimin footpath were being choked with grass and felt it had been a waste of time planting the trees if no aftercare was carried out.

The Chairman agreed and said it was neglect. It would be a major piece of work to get the grass removed.

Mrs A Simpson noted that this had been raised a few months ago, and, following contact with Shetland Amenity Trust, the covers around the trees had been removed instead of the grass. She agreed it was a huge task.

Cllr J Henry said the trees were not dying and were growing a few inches per year.

The Chairman agreed that work had to be done to allow the trees to grow and agreed to write to Shetland Amenity Trust expressing concern at the lack of after care and enquire if there were any plans to maintain the area.

13.4 Old Building - North Road

Ms M Robertson asked if there was any possibility of the building being knocked down as it was in a terrible state of disrepair and an eyesore.

The Chairman noted that this had been discussed at previous meetings. The building was in two halves and owned by two owners. He had had discussions with both parties and there were plans to improve. One owner wanted to knock down his half and rebuild it, but this would not be possible without knocking down the other half as well.

Mrs A Simpson asked if this was not now a health & safety issue.

The Chairman said it was not far from it. One corner was open to nesting birds which would attract vermin.

Mrs K Greaves asked if there would come a time for enforcement but the Chairman said he had hoped to be able to resolve the problem without resorting to enforcement.

13.6 New Community Council

The Chairman noted that the next meeting would be the last meeting of the current Community Council and a new one would be formed after 16 November. There were 13 names in for the 16 seats, so there would be a by-election in January to fill the remaining 3 seats. He reminded any members who had not returned their forms in time for re-election in October that they should reapply in January. He asked the Clerk to arrange for a photograph to be taken at the next meeting to mark the end of the current Council.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

MR T NICOLSON
CHAIRMAN
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL