

**MONDAY 18 June 2007**

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

**Present**

Mr J Anderson	Cllr E Knight
Mr R Anderson	Mr W Spence
Cllr A Wishart	Ms M Robertson
Ms K Fraser	Mr R Leith
Cllr C Miller	Mrs A Simpson
Cllr J Henry	

**In Attendance**

Acting Sergeant L Falconer, Northern Constabulary  
Mrs K Semple, Clerk to the Council  
Rosalind Griffiths, Shetland Times Reporter

**Chairman**

Mr J Anderson, Chairman to the council presided.

07/06/01 **Circular**

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

07/06/02 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr A Goudie, Mr M Peterson, Mrs K Greaves, Mr L Bisset, Mr S Gordon, Mr D Ristori, Mr A Johnson and Cllr L Angus.

07/06/03 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2007 were approved by Ms M Robertson and seconded by Cllr A Wishart.

07/06/04 **Business Arising from the Minutes**

**07/05/10 Cllr A Wishart** asked if the existing steps at the Old Judane Factory would be taken away as they were dangerous and unsafe.

Cllr Caroline Miller replied she was unsure but a new pedestrian walkway would be built so the steps would not have to be used. She stated that the LPA would know but she was sure the steps would be improved as they were a right of way.

07/06/05

**Police Report**

Acting Sergeant L Falconer provided the following details of offences since the May 2007 meeting of LCC.

4 positive drug turns, all reported to the Procurator Fiscal  
5 drink drivers caught and reported to the Procurator Fiscal  
5 people reported to the Procurator Fiscal for breaking the Alcohol Bye-law

Mrs A Simpson asked Acting Sergeant L Falconer where the Alcohol-Bye Law offences were being made.

The Acting Sergeant replied that it was mostly Commercial Street but offenders had been warned all over Lerwick. She stated that some people seemed unaware that the Bye-Law did not only apply to the main town.

Mrs A Simpson asked if any difference had been noted since the Bye-Law was introduced.

Acting Sergeant L Falconer stated that there was not nearly so much glass, litter and debris in the street and people were less inclined to 'hang around'.

The Chairman asked if this had resulted in the problem being dispersed causing problems in other areas.

The Acting Sergeant replied that no additional problems had occurred and people just seemed to go their separate ways.

Cllr E Knight asked what powers the Community Warden had.

The Acting Sergeant replied that they could issue fixed penalties for littering and dog fouling.

The Chairman thanked acting Sergeant L Falconer for giving the report which ended at 7.10pm.

07/06/06

**Proposal by Chairman to present remaining LCC Millennium 'Coins' and 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary VE Day Medals to upper primary pupils at Bell's Brae and Sound Schools.**

The Chairman explained he had spoken to the Head Teachers of both Bell's Brae and Sound schools who would be interested in presenting the coins to the children in senior primary before the end of term.

He asked for the agreement of LCC members and this was received.

07/06/07

**Discussion on proposed alternatives for New High School Location**

The Chairman opened the discussion by stating ideas regarding the location of the New High School should be discussed so Shetland Islands Council could be made aware of Lerwick Community Council's thoughts.

Mr R Leith noted that he had spoken to scores of people who did not think the Knab was a suitable area for the new High School and many residents in the area were also against the idea.

Mrs M Robertson noted she was a member of the Bellview Residents Group and seconded that general consensus. Ms M Robertson stated that she could not understand why the new High School had to be built at the Knab. She cited Health and Safety issues and pointed out that the cliffs alone would be a nightmare to police but raised concerns that she could be accused of 'Nimbyism'.

Mrs A Simpson stated she was all in favour of the Clickimin as a site for the new High School noting that it was a central location and she felt it would be good for the School to be built on a new site. Mrs A Simpson felt the site at the Knab was very exposed for the school children and thought there could be issues regarding getting trucks and equipment onto the site during construction. Mrs Simpson felt the actual design of the new school was huge and impractical and felt it should be looked at again.

Mr R Anderson stated that in the early 1980's it became policy to build Leisure Centers out with Lerwick as close to Junior High Schools as possible but this did not seem to be a consideration for Lerwick's High School. He noted that it had been reported that it was cheaper to build at the Knab but felt that anything could be made to look cheaper when necessary.

Mr W Spence noted that at a meeting with members of the public and Councillors it was generally felt to be a good idea to build the new school at the Knab as part of a developing programme.

Ms M Robertson stated that communication had been appalling and changes to the plans had been made without consultation. She thought that the change of staff on the project would have made an improvement but found there had been no change.

Cllr E Knight stated he had visited people in his ward and consulted with senior staff at the Anderson High who thought that the new school should be built at the Knab. He noted that there was plenty room at the Knab for the school and stated that if the school were to move it would just be another 'Nail in the Coffin' of Commercial Street. Cllr E Knight noted he had heard a lot about 'lack of communication' but stated there were all sorts of agencies to consult and felt people should be careful otherwise the project may be put on hold for another 8 years.

Mr R Anderson replied he would rather the project be put on hold than built in the wrong place. He stated that it would be ludicrous for the Shetland Islands Council to have the new school built at the Knab to protect Commercial Street.

Cllr E Knight noted to build the school at the Knab to protect Commercial Street was only one of many reasons for building it there and to pick up on that point was nonsense.

Ms K Fraser noted that some residents may not be happy for the school to be built at the Knab but equally Clickimin residents may not be happy if the

school is built in their area either. She stated that it seemed sense to build the new school at the Knab, a brown area, rather than on a green area at Clickimin.

The Chairman noted that no one wanted to see the project stalled but stated that the design, as it lies, is impractical and financially prohibitive. He suggested that people should think laterally and look at the bigger picture by considering incorporating Bell's Brae School, including a Hall with multi-use facilities which could for example be used as a music venue and possibly consider building the school out at Seafield.

Cllr A Wishart noted the strong views and valid reasons on both sides of the debate. He had also heard Clickimin would be the most expensive option but also understood that prices could be manipulated to suit.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Chris Medley, Capital Projects Unit Manager, Shetland Islands Council and ask for an update along with target costs for building on both the Knab and Clickimin sites.

07/06/08

### **Correspondence**

#### **8.1 Scottish Water, Joanna Peebles – Lack of Treatment Capacity at Lerwick**

Cllr J Henry stated he had a meeting with Ms Peebles, the Chairman and Directors of Scottish Water. He said the delegates listened to what he had to say and went away with a list of complaints.

Cllr C Miller said she was also at the meeting and put forward complaints from all over Shetland regarding the water pressure and stated the delegated went away with a clear message of discontent

The Chairman stated that the letter from Ms Peebles did not directly answer the questions that were put to her but he was able to inform the LCC that there was spare capacity for 143 properties at Rova Head and 50-60 at Sandy Loch.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to the Council to write to Ms Peebles again to ask her to clarify the situation.

The Chairman noted that the good news was that 11,000 meters (8 miles) of water mains in and around the town were to be replaced using the 'cut and shut' process causing as little disturbance as possible. He explained that this would clear up the problem of 'brown water'.

#### **8.2 Sletts Sea Wall**

Option 2, chosen as the preferred option by Lerwick Councilors was also the preferred option of LCC.

Cllr J Henry stated he would take the views of the LCC to the next Councilors meeting.

#### **8.2 Shetland Childcare Partnership**

The Chair asked the Clerk to the Council to invite Ms Inkster, Co-ordinator of the Shetland Childcare Partnership, to make a presentation at a meeting of Lerwick Community Council.

#### **8.4 Knab Dyke**

The Chairman asked the Clerk to the Council to write to Mr M Malcolmson, Sport and Leisure Services, and invite him to make a presentation at a meeting of the Lerwick Community Council once he has had a response from the Capital Projects Review Team. The Chair also asked that the Clerk remind Mr M Malcolmson of their request for the interpretive panel and seating area at the Horses Head.

The Chairman asked that the Clerk to the Council write to Chris Medley of the Capital Projects Review Team with regard to the Knab Dyke situation and ask for a breakdown of their budget.

#### **8.5 Bell's Brae Primary School – Grant Acknowledgement**

Noted

#### **8.6 SIC Infrastructure Services – Surfacing and Surface Dressing Programmes**

Noted

07/06/09

#### **Financial Report**

Noted

07/06/10

#### **Financial Assistance**

No applications received

07/06/11

#### **Planning Applications**

##### **11.1 2007/242/PCD To subdivide existing ground floor flat – 18 Harbour Street, Lerwick**

No objections

##### **11.2 2007/245/PCD Erect dwellinghouse, Upper Quoys, Upper Sound, Lerwick**

No objections

07/06/12

#### **Any Other Business**

Mr R Leith noted that North Taing had become an attraction for people to watch seals from and suggested a bin be requested for the area to counter the litter problem.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to the Council to write to Mr J Emptage, Cleansing Service Manager, Infrastructure Services and ask for a bin to be put on the site.

Mr R Anderson noted the grassy area at Breiwick Road was looking very long and needed to be cut.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to the Council to write to Mr M Malcolmson, Sport and Leisure Services, and make him aware of the situation.

The Chairman requested that when the Clerk to the Council wrote to Mr Malcolmson, she ask if Lerwick Community Council purchased two benches would he arrange for them to be sited on the two concrete bases at the Knab.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

MR J ANDERSON  
CHAIRMAN  
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL