

**MONDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2019**

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

**Members**

Mr D Ristori

Ms K Fraser

Mr E Knight

Mr A Irvine

Mrs A Simpson

Mrs M Hall

Mr A Carter

Mr A Wenger

Mrs J Williamson

**Ex-Officio Councillors**

Cllr A Hawick

Cllr B Wishart

Cllr M Bell

Cllr C Smith

Cllr S Leask

**In Attendance**

Mr D Morrish MSYP

Mr S Mathieson, Living Lerwick

Sgt Chris Hardwick

Ms F Valente, Clerk

**Chairman**

Mrs A Simpson/Mr G Robinson

02/19/01

**Circular**

Mrs Simpson volunteered to chair the meeting in the absence of Mr Anderson and Mr Robinson. She welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mr Robinson took the chair during the Police Scotland item.

02/19/02

**Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Bell and Cllr Smith both declared an interest in the Planning items, as members of the Planning Committee.

02/19/03

**Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr P Campbell, Mr M Peterson and Mrs P Christie, Mr A Johnston, Mr Stewart Hay, and Mr J Anderson.

02/19/04

**Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting were approved by Mr Ristori and seconded by Mr Knight.

02/19/05

**Business Arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising.

02/19/06

**Police Scotland Monthly Report**

Sgt Hardwick reported that following the request from the Community Council to investigate incidents of illegal parking in Commercial St that the police had been monitoring the area more frequently and had caught ten drivers who had illegally parked in disabled spaces. They had all been issued with penalties.

He said that Police Scotland had been in talks with SIC regarding the decriminalisation of parking, which would make it a civil matter that the Council could pursue. However, as Cllr Bell pointed out, there is no chance that SIC could take on the enforcement of parking as it would cost far too much. The income received from parking fines would not cover the cost of a traffic warden.

There was a discussion about the best way to deal with the problem and it was decided that pressure should be maintained on Police Scotland to deal with it. Cllr Bell noted that crime in town centre was falling and therefore it was reasonable to expect that traffic problems could be addressed with the existing resources.

Cllr Hawick suggested that more publicity about the number of people being caught parking illegally might help and that this should be raised at meetings in the future when the Police, and the press were present. A Tingwall resident had complained to Police Scotland regarding disabled parking in Lerwick and had copied the letter to the Community Council. Ms Fraser suggested replying to him and suggesting that they forwarded the letter to the media.

Mr Robinson noted that the anti-social parking was also affecting people needing to access electric vehicle charging points.

02/19/07 **Finance – Core Funding Report as at 30 January 2019**

There were no comments on the core funding report.

02/19/08 **Community Council Projects**

There was a discussion about what projects the Community Council would like to get involved with should funding become available. There were a variety of funding opportunities each year from various sources, but they all required some kind of preparedness in order to be successful.

Cllr Hawick said that Islesburgh Youth Club, which is self funded, is trying to extend the amount of days of that the club was open, for example, they would like to have a Saturday afternoon youth club, but there was no resources for this at the moment. She wondered if this was the type of project the Community Council could take on. She was particularly interested in trying to help children whose parents were not able to afford the other activities that were on offer in Lerwick.

Cllr Hawick added that her work with the HM Prisons meant that she had met with some of the Shetland prisoners who were keen to give something back to the community. Some of them had been working on creating play equipment for a play park in Aberdeen, and she suggested that it might be a good idea to see whether they could make play equipment for play areas in Shetland. There would be funding required for transporting the equipment back to Shetland in setting it up in a play park.

Mr Mathieson said that money was needed for a debrillator for the town centre and that Living Lerwick were partnering with the Coastguard service to get one installed.

It was suggested that match funding for a cycle-path might be a useful project. Sustrans projects required match funding so an input from the Community Council of for example, £30,000 might be enough to get the project started. Mr Mathieson mentioned the Active Travel Group which was being organised by Robina Barton. He suggested the Community Council contacted Ms Barton for an update.

Mr Morrish said that the success of the Big Take Over in 2018 had inspired people to consider holding another take over event, which would also benefit from funding.

Mrs Simpson said that these were all good ideas that would need to be discussed in more detail. She suggested that it would be sensible to set up a small working group to discuss what projects the Community Council could get involved in, that they could either fund from existing budgets or apply for new streams of funding as they arise.

02/19/09 **Planning Application 2018/274/HAZ (SBS, Greenhead)**

Mr Robinson, declared an interest in this item, as a Board Member of Lerwick Port Authority. He left the room during the discussion. There was no objection to planning application.

02/19/10 **Planning Application 2018/357/PPP(North Ness)**

There was a short discussion about the application to renew planning consent for a dwelling at North Ness. There was no objection to the application.

**2019/016/PPF (Sandy Loch)**

There were no objections to the application for a new pumping station for Scottish Water.

**2017/197/PPF (Grantfield)**

There was a discussion about the application that had been returned to the Community Council for additional consultation due to some changes to the parking layout. There were no objections to the application.

02/19/11 **Revocation of Disabled Parking Space**

There was no objection to the revocation of the disabled parking space at Voderview that was no longer required. Mr Robinson said that another disabled space at 24 Burnside was also no longer required.

02/19/12 **Christmas Lighting in the Town Centre**

Mr Ristori asked whether there was anything that could be done by the Community Council to extend the Christmas lighting to beyond the area managed by Living Lerwick. He said that in previous years the town centre's Christmas lighting had extended as far as Bolts shopping centre, and that it was a shame that the lights were now restricted to the area around Commercial Street and the Esplanade.

Mr Robinson said that it was really for the Lerwick town centre businesses to come up with a proposal for the lighting. This kind of project would need someone to manage it. Who would put up the lighting, maintain them and take them down again. This was not something for the Community Council to take on. Cllr Hawick agreed and suggested that

the time to discuss this would be when the business owners came forward with a proposal. Mr Mathieson, from Living Lerwick said that the cost of renewing light bulbs for the Christmas lighting was very expensive. This year alone had cost around £10,000. It would require serious funding in order to extend the lights, and that Living Lerwick's responsibility did not extend beyond Cee & Jays. Mrs Hall said that it was a pity the Christmas lights were not on during the summer season too as it would make the town centre more attractive for tourists.

01/19/13 **By-Elections – Vacancy for Lerwick Community Council**

There is one vacancy for a Community Councillor and six available spaces for co-opted members. To date, nobody had declared an interest in filling the vacancy.

01/19/14 **A.O.B.**

- a. Ms Fraser reported that there were many incidents around the town where communal recycling bins were not being closed properly with the result that in windy conditions the bin lids were banging and creating a nuisance, and the rubbish was left to blow around the streets. She wondered whether there was anything that could be done to ensure that the bin lids were closed after use, or that there was something in place to stop the lids blowing completely open. The clerk was asked to writing to Housing/Recycling Services to see if this situation could be looked into. Ms Fraser added that there needed to be more glass recycling points within walking distance of housing estates that were a long way from the main recycling points at the supermarkets. The clerk was asked to enquire about this.
- b. Cllr Hawick said that the state of the toilets at the King George V playpark were in a poor state. The clerk was asked to report this matter to infrastructure services.
- c. Mr Morrish commented on the unsafe driving and parking that he had witnessed outside Bell's Brae school recently. Cllr Wishart said that there was an ongoing campaign to tackle this problem, which the police were well aware of, however, the inconsiderate drivers still persist.

There being no further competent business the meeting concluded at 8.10 pm.

***Minute ends.***

CHAIRMAN  
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chairman.....

Date.....