

MONDAY 31 MARCH 2003

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

Present

Mr T Nicolson	Cllr L Angus
Mr I Bruce	Mr W Henderson
Mr J Anderson	Cllr J Irvine
Mr E Knight	Mr P Scarsbrook
Mr J MacLeod	Mr L Bisset
Cllr R Anderson	Ms K Fraser
Mr M Peterson	Mr A Johnston
Cllr W Stove	

In Attendance

Mr S Cooper, SIC Infrastructure Services (left 7.45pm)
Mr M Craigie, SIC Infrastructure Services (left 7.45pm)
Mr G Anderson, Mott MacDonald (left 7.45pm)
Mrs M MacLeod, Clerk to the Council

Chairman

Mr T Nicolson, Chairman of the Council presided.

03/03/1

Circular

The Circular calling the meeting was held as read.

03/03/2

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A Cluness, Cllr R Black and Mrs S Newcombe.

03/03/3

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 February 2003 were approved on the motion of Mr W Henderson, seconded by Cllr R Anderson.

At point 03/02/8, Mr T Nicolson wished it to be added that he had said that he felt PSOs would benefit the Health Service as well as other organisations.

03/03/4

Business Arising

Gilbertson Park Gates

The gates were in Aberdeen to be hot dipped galvanized.

Knab Dyke

A sum had been set aside by SIC for the works. Accurate figures would not be available until after the SIC elections.

Bressay Bridge

There had been a consensus at the Lerwick Port Authority meeting that the bridge should have a minimum air draught of 40m.

Seagulls

A commitment had been made by SIC to attempt to tackle the problem in Lerwick.

03/03/5

SIC Education Best Value Service Review

Deferred to next meeting.

03/03/6

Northern Constabulary

There was no police report. The Chairman intended to meet with the new Chief Inspector at some point. He would mention the importance of having regular police reports.

03/03/7

Proposed Lerwick Landfill Site, Gremista

The Chairman welcomed Mr George Anderson, Mr S Cooper and Mr M Craigie to the meeting. Mr Anderson explained that the project was at an early stage with only the site investigation having been completed. This had commenced in December and had now been passed to specialists in London. The public consultation stage had now commenced and it was hoped to have responses back by mid May. It was planned to have manned sites in Lerwick and Bressay for a period of a week to display information and plans. A provisional booking had been made for a public meeting in July. An outline design would be available in May and the environmental impact assessment was due to be complete in June. The detailed design would be available in September when planning and SEPA consents would be sought. Work on site was planned to commence in March 2004 and the construction period would be approximately a year. The site would have an expected capacity of 20 years. A footprint design was circulated. The site

had a soil depth of 4m at the front and 1m at the back. Some of the soil removed would be used to cap Rova Head and the rest would be used on the new site. In reply to Cllr L Angus, Mr Anderson confirmed that knew of nothing further which might render the site unsuitable.

Cllr W Stove enquired as to what recycling facilities would be provided. Mr S Cooper replied that a combination of kerbside and on site recycling was planned. The site would be used for both inert and non hazardous materials. The potential to take hazardous material such as asbestos roofing was being looked at. The ability to take dead animals would be considered but was subject to new legislation. Effluent would be treated to comply with the discharge consent.

Cllr R Anderson felt that purchase price should have been taken into consideration when determining the cost per cubic metre of waste as this may have had an impact on the choice of site. Mr S Cooper confirmed that negotiations for purchase or lease of the land were ongoing. The Chairman thanked Mr Cooper, Mr Anderson and Mr Craigie for their attendance and hoped that they would return at a later stage. He wished them well with the project.

03/03/8

Correspondence

8.1 SIC, Works Licence Policy

Some discussion took place on whether it was relevant for LCC to comment on the developments in Whiteness and Weisdale. There was a view that increases in aquaculture activity, particularly mussel farming, was causing difficulties for small shellfish boats. Mr T Nicolson felt that the introduction of shore based feeding systems may also make it more difficult for small boats to operate, although this was difficult to assess as insufficient detail had been given. Mr J MacLeod pointed out that salmon farms in Shetland had to be competitive with those in other areas and worried that disallowing shore based feeding systems may have a detrimental effect on the Shetland industry. Cllr L Angus felt that there should be no development where there was an existing use of the seabed. It was agreed that decisions should be made on an individual site basis rather than by blanket policy.

8.2 SNP, Willie Ross

Noted.

8.3 Stouts Court Lighting

Noted.

8.4 Planning Aid for Scotland

The letter informed of planning information available on the internet. Cllr W Stove informed members that SIC Planning were intending to run information courses after the SIC elections.

8.5 Mr Michael MacDonald, LCC Co-opted Membership

Some discussion took place on advertising for interested parties to apply for co-opted membership. It was agreed to invite Anderson High School to put forward two members from their School Council. Cllr J Irvine, seconded by Cllr L Angus, moved that Mr MacDonald be co-opted and that the remaining vacancies should be advertised. Mr M Peterson, seconded by Cllr R Anderson, moved an amendment that the remaining vacancies be advertised and that Mr MacDonald be sent a letter informing him that this would take place. Mr Peterson's amendment was adopted by 9 votes to 5. The advert would instruct applicants to obtain further information from the Clerk so that the position with regard to voting rights could be made clear.

8.6 SIC, Care Services Delivered at Home

Cllr L Angus informed members that a decision had been taken by SIC to implement the scheme but that it would be reviewed in a years time. There was concern over the shortfall of £118,000 per annum and it was agreed to write to SIC asking how this was intended to be funded.

8.7 SIC, Road Safety Device

It was agreed to write to SIC suggesting that the device be positioned in Gilbertson Road in the area close to the entrance to Gilbertson Park as this was a fast stretch of road which was used by schoolchildren.

8.8 APT, Radio Equipment, Lerwick Police Station

Noted.

8.9 SIC, Junction at the Knab

Noted.

8.10 SIC, Union Street Footway

Noted.

8.11 Signage at Gilbertson Park

The signs had now been erected. It was agreed to write to SIC requesting that park keepers be asked to bring this to the public's attention.

03/03/9

Financial Report

Noted.

03/03/10

Financial Assistance

10.1 Lerwick Marina Users Association

Cllr L Angus and Mr E Knight declared a non pecuniary interest. It was agreed to award funding of £4,500 on the proposal of Cllr J Irvine, seconded by Cllr R Anderson.

10.2 Lerwick Boating Club

Mr T Nicolson declared a non pecuniary interest as a member of the club and Mr P Scarsbrook took the chair. Cllr L Angus also declared a non pecuniary interest as a member and provided information on the youth activities undertaken by the club. There was debate over whether members of the club should take part in the vote with the Chairman ruling that they could. Cllr R Anderson proposed that an award of £5,000 be made with £2,700 being paid from this year's funds and the remainder being paid next financial year. Mr I Bruce seconded the proposal.

10.3 Da Voar Redd Up 2003

It was agreed to award funding of £250 on the proposal of Cllr J Irvine, seconded by Mr E Knight. It was agreed to suggest the Sea Road as an area in need of attention, especially the areas around the duck pond and Safeways.

10.4 Shetland Skatepark Association

It was agreed to fund the shortfall of £886 on the proposal of Mr T Nicolson, seconded by Mr L Bisset.

10.5 Mr John Leask, Road Grant

Mr J MacLeod moved that the application be refused as the availability of funding had not been advertised and there may be other cases in greater need of assistance. Mr M Peterson seconded his proposal. Mr T Nicolson moved an amendment that funding be awarded from next year's budget according to the formula previously used for road grants. Cllr L Angus seconded his amendment. Mr Nicolson's amendment was carried by 7 votes to 6.

The formula was worked out on 75% of £6 per running metre giving an award of £804.

03/03/11

Planning Applications

11.1 Replace Shed and Part Change Use to Staff Facilities, Islesburgh

No objections.

11.2 Shooting Range, Shetland Clay Target Club

No objections.

11.3 Repair and Restore Hays Dock, Shetland Amenity Trust

No objections.

11.4 Subdivide Ground Floor to Provide 3 Flats, Decca Station

No objections.

03/03/12

Any Other Business

Twageos Road

It was agreed to write to SIC informing them that there was a kink in a streetlamp in Twageos Road and also to request information on the program for replacement of the pavements.

Lerwick Cemetery

Mr E Knight noted that the through water supply to the pond in the cemetery had been stopped. Mr W Henderson had noticed that the gates were being left open again and that joyriders were entering the burial grounds of the cemetery. It was agreed to bring both matters to the attention of SIC.

Public Benches

Cllr L Angus brought members' attention to the poor state of some of the benches around the town. The Chairman had also noticed this and had spoken to SIC Community Services who had undertaken to carry out a survey of the condition of the benches.

Town Hall Windows

Verbal confirmation had been received from Ms Anne Cogle of SIC that LCC could instruct work to commence. The Clerk explained that the letter previously issued by SIC had been addressed to Cllr R Anderson personally and not to LCC. Mr Harry Tait was liaising with SIC Planning on the alteration of the design to include the year

2000.

Pavement at New Fire Station

The pavement was still to be put in at the new fire station. It was agreed to write to SIC bringing this to their attention.

Safeways

Mr M Peterson noted that the dykes around Safeways were not being repaired, that the road markings in the car park needed to be reapplied and also that the car park lighting was being left on during the day. It was agreed to write to Safeways to bring these matters to their attention.

Cunningham Way

Mr T Nicolson had received reports that gates on the footpath were being padlocked. It was agreed to ask Mr Vic Hawthorne of SIC if he could assist with this. LCC had previously provided a stile at the north end of the path and it was suggested that something similar could be done in the future.

North Ness

Mr T Nicolson had had discussions with Mr Vic Hawthorne of SIC regarding the provision of signage at North Ness but there had been difficulty in determining ownership of some areas. Subsequent to this a sign had been erected at Mr M Stewarts shed disallowing public access from that point. It was agreed to write to SIC to request clarification on this as it was thought that the access might be a public right of way.

Bike Racks

Mr T Nicolson noted that there seemed to be a shortage of bike racks around the town and he sought the members' permission to make cost enquiries and investigate possible sites. Mr I Bruce agreed to pursue the provision of racks at the bus station and Mr L Bisset suggested that SIC be asked to include provision in the brief for the new public toilets. Cllr R Anderson suggested the bulge in the pavement outside C and Js as a possible site.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

T R NICOLSON
CHAIRMAN
LCC