

MONDAY 15 DECEMBER 2003

At a meeting of **LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick at 6.30pm.

Present

Mrs S Newcombe	Mr A Johnston
Mr L Bisset	Mr P Scarsbrook
Ms K Fraser	Cllr E Knight
Cllr W Stove	Mr R Anderson
Mr T Nicolson	

Additional Co-opted Members

Mr M MacDonald	Ms B Nisbet
Mr J Anderson	Ms S Stevenson
Mr J Ogg	

Ex Officio Members

Cllr J Henry	Cllr G Feather
Cllr A Cluness	

In Attendance

Mr A Jamieson, SIC Education (left 7.05pm)
Mr J Johnson, Shetland Recreational Trust (left 8.05pm)
PS G McCarthy (left 7.15pm)
K Cook, Shetland Times
Mrs M MacLeod, Clerk

Chairman

Mr T Nicolson, Chairman of the Council presided.

03/12/1

Circular

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

03/12/2

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J MacLeod, Cllr L Angus, Cllr J Irvine and Mr M Peterson.

03/12/3

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2003 were approved on the motion of Mr P Scarsbrook, seconded by Ms K Fraser. It was noted that it had been agreed to write to SIC asking that the previous decision to look at both sites for Anderson High School be reinstated.

03/12/4

Business Arising

Litter Management at Sands of Sound Beach

Cllr J Henry informed members that the first meeting of the working group had been cancelled.

03/12/5

SIC Education Service, Attendance by Mr Alex Jamieson

The Chairman welcomed Mr Jamieson to the meeting. Mr Jamieson advised that there had been a HMI inspection two years ago and that a follow up was scheduled for the week beginning 2 February. This involved lots of paperwork. The next Best Value meeting was to take place the following Wednesday and a former head teacher, Mr J Irvine, had been employed on a consultancy basis to ensure that a report would be ready on staffing applications.

Mr Jamieson reported that there had been a decision by SIC to investigate the present site for a new Anderson High School and to only look at the Clickimin site if the present site was unsuitable. Mr R Anderson felt that there were problems with the present site such as disruption to the children and that there were advantages to the Clickimin site such as proximity of facilities and easier traffic access. Cllr W Stove reassured members that traffic management would be a priority and that a rebuild was planned rather than refurbishment. Mr Jamieson confirmed that assurances had been received from the consultants that there would be minimal disruption to pupils.

The Chairman reminded members that the previous Lerwick Community Council had indicated a preference for the Clickimin site but that this was a new council and views may now be different. He was anxious to see movement in a positive direction. He thanked Mr Jamieson for his attendance.

03/12/6

Police Report

PS G McCarthy reported the statistics for the period from the previous meeting as follows:

4 minor assaults, all detected
3 breach of the peace, all detected
19 searches for drugs, 5 found to be in possession
4 damage, 2 detected
6 contraventions of traffic legislation (1 drunk driver)

Over 50 hours of foot patrol had taken place in the town centre. It was hoped that people were more aware of the police

presence and found officers approachable. The winter safety and festive campaigns were due to commence shortly. Mr R Anderson enquired as to whether the foot patrols in the town centre were concentrated at weekends. PS McCarthy responded that this was the case. Mr J Ogg said that he had noticed an increase in the police presence at the weekend. PS McCarthy reported that 3 officers would be coming at the end of January and that would also increase the profile. Mr T Nicolson was heartened to see that the attempted murder investigation was still ongoing.

Cllr W Stove commented that he was pleased to see the advertisement for special constables and enquired as to what response had been received. PS McCarthy responded that 4 lapsed special constables had indicated an interest in retraining and 3 new applications had been received. The funding for the advertisement had been received from Inverness but there was no additional funding for the operation.

Mr P Scarsbrook asked whether the new speed cameras were now in operation. PS McCarthy reported that they were not in operation but it was not intended to publicise when they would be. Mr J Anderson commented that the positioning may have to be changed slightly as the traffic from the boat was now following a different route. The Chairman thanked PS McCarthy for his attendance.

03/12/7

Pedestrian Crossing Facilities at Sound

There was nothing further. It was agreed to write to SIC asking for a progress report.

03/12/8

Correspondence

8.1 LPA, Parking at Holmsgarth Ferry Timetable

Cllr J Henry reported that this was being discussed at every meeting of LPA. Discussion followed on whether Shetlanders should be further penalised when travelling by parking charges and whether country residents should be given priority over Lerwick residents.

8.2 SIC Charitable Trust, Information Bulletin

The Chairman felt that Shetland was lucky to have the resource Charitable Trust. He congratulated the Trust on the provision of the document. He felt it was clearly presented and very much appreciated. Mr R Anderson pointed out that the figures contained in the letter did not tie up and added that there would be a reduction in services if cuts had to be made.

8.3 SIC Grant Aid Review, Public Meetings

Cllr J Henry felt this was important as some changes would take place. Mr L Bisset added that it was relevant to LCC as organisations applied to LCC for additional funding. Cllr W Stove, Cllr E Knight and Cllr J Henry would be in attendance. All members were encouraged to attend.

8.4 SIC, Pensioners Rest Room

The clerk had been in discussion with RNLI who were keen to provide accommodation.

8.5 Chewing Gum

It was agreed to write to SIC urging that cleaning should take place before Up Helly Aa and to forward the information asking that different types of machinery be investigated. The information would also be forwarded to the Shetland Retailers Association.

8.6 Pre-application Consultation, Vodafone Installation

Noted.

8.7 Amenity Trust, Da Voar Redd Up

Noted. Cllr W Stove commented that there was no mention of the Commercial Street or North Road areas.

03/12/9

Financial Report

It was agreed to write to ASCC for an update on the Archie Foundation. The final cost of the Town Hall stained glass windows was £3422 so the surplus could be returned to the budget.

03/12/10

Financial Assistance

Ness of Sound Walking Route

It was agreed to award funding of £1,000 on the motion of Mr T Nicolson, seconded by Mr L Bisset. There was to be no implication that LCC would continue to be involved with revenue for maintenance. They would be asked to report back to a meeting on progress.

Paths at Clickimin

Mr James Johnson of Shetland Recreational Trust explained that the Trust had been responsible for the path between

Westerloch and Bruce Crescent for 15 years and it was well used. There were 7 gates on the path and he agreed that they did cause problems. The gates had been installed because of problems in the past with motorcycles and livestock. The livestock issue had now been resolved with the erection of fences. The SIC had agreed to help with funding for replacement of the gates and that the number could be reduced. It was necessary to agree on a suitable type of replacement gate. Several options were handed around. He added that the path was currently 1m wide and needed to be 1.5m wide to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act. He would provide information at a later date but there was no easy solution to this.

Mr T Nicolson had thought there had been plans to put in cycle paths when the district heating pipes were laid. He wondered if gates were still necessary now that the livestock issue had been addressed. Mr J Johnson said that gates would not be necessary if a cycle path was put in but he would still like to see gates at either end for traffic safety. A survey of the path was being carried out and he thought it was better not to commit expenditure until the results were known. He was unsure whether the funding from SIC would still be available in another financial year. Mr L Bisset preferred to see no gates and suggested the type of traffic barriers used at school gates. It was agreed to remove the gate at the campsite and the swing part of the gate at Westerloch on a trial basis and to monitor the result. Mr Johnson agreed to report back when the results of the survey were known.

03/12/11

Planning Applications

11.1 Brentham House

There were no objections but it was agreed to note concerns regarding parking.

03/12/12

Any Other Business

Disabled Parking Space, Millgaet

No objections.

Water Consultation Meetings

It was agreed to write to Scottish Water saying that it was felt it would be in their interest to organise a meeting in Shetland.

Pavement at Gremista

It was agreed to write to SIC asking that the kerb of the pavement turning into Gremista be painted in high visibility paint.

Scottish Executive Budget Strategy Consultation.

Mr L Bisset had attended the meeting. He felt that consultation had been poor as the document was only made available at the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

MR T R NICOLSON
CHAIRMAN
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL