

MONDAY 24 MAY 2004

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

Present

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

Additional Co-opted Members

Mr M McDonald

Ex Officio Members

Cllr J Henry	Cllr G Feather
Cllr A Cluness	

In Attendance

Mrs M MacLeod, Clerk
PS G McCarthy, Northern Constabulary (left 7.20pm)
Mr J Tait, Shetland Times
Shetland Post Reporter

Chairman

Mr T Nicolson, Chairman of the Council presided.

04/5/1

Circular

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

04/5/2

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Irvine, Mr K Watt and Mr J Ogg.

04/5/3

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 19n April 2004 were approved on the motion of Mr R Anderson, seconded by Mr P Scarsbrook. Minute reference 4.4.6. should have read "Mr J Anderson mentioned that the high profile assaults last year had not been alcohol related".

04/5/4

Business Arising

Pegasus Place

The site was still in a dangerous condition and fly tipping had been taking place. The Chairman had spoken with Mr A Hamilton of SIC who was making enquiries.

It was agreed to write again to SIC expressing concern and asking that the matter be treated with urgency.

04/5/5

Police Report

PS G McCarthy reported the figures since the last meeting as follows:

Lerwick incidents 527, town centre 135
15 vandalism, 2 detected
14 airgun incidents detected (reported at last meeting)
6 thefts, 4 detected
9 assaults, 7 detected
8 drugs searches, all positive
7 medical assistance
3 drunk drivers
112 hours foot patrol

He reported that they were pleased with the outcome of a high court case that had resulted in someone being sentenced to four years for the supply of drugs.

The operational requirement for CCTV provision for Lerwick had been completed. Fourteen cameras would be required to cover the area from Charlotte House to Church Road. There was a duct already in place that could be used and this would minimise disruption. A report was being prepared which would be presented to the June meeting of the Community Safety Partnership and would then be forwarded to SIC. PS McCarthy thought he would be able to present the report to LCC once completed.

Mr P Scarsbrook asked PS McCarthy how effective he thought the passive drugs dogs were. He responded that he thought they were a good idea and that the initiative was working well. They had been involved in the detection of the drugs concerned in the High Court case mentioned earlier. Mr J MacLeod asked how much drugs had been detected at the airport and ferry terminal. PS McCarthy didn't have the figures to hand but agreed to provide them for the next meeting. He could confirm that they had been involved in the detection of packages at the Post Office. Mr T Nicolson hoped that figures could now be collated on the initiative and presented to the Scottish Executive to assist in the argument for external funding of the project.

Ms K Fraser felt that the area proposed to be covered by the alcohol byelaw, which had been discussed at the last meeting, was too large. She suggested that the area should be restricted to the main part of the town as she felt there would be less respect for the byelaw if the area covered was too large. Cllr W Stove disagreed saying that restricting the area would be detrimental to the areas outside of the byelaw as he felt less resources would be allocated to them. It was the general feeling of the meeting that the byelaw should cover the whole town.

04/5/6

SIC (Various Roads, Lerwick) (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) (Variation No. 3) Order 2004

No objections.

04/5/7

Proposed Bressay Bridge

Mr R Anderson agreed to attend the Project Liaison Group meeting on behalf of LCC.

04/5/8

Co-opted Membership

8.1 Application, Averil Simpson

It was agreed to co-opt Mrs Simpson as a member.

8.2 Resignation, Stephanie Stevenson

It was agreed to write to the school to ask them to elect another representative.

04/5/9

Correspondence

9.1 ASCC Meetings

Mr J MacLeod, who had attended the meeting on LCC's behalf, felt that the amount of business on the agenda had been fine. He agreed that the disruption during the presentation had been unacceptable and also felt that the meeting venue could have been better, however as meetings would be held in the new Voluntary Services Centre in future this was not really an issue. The concerns detailed in the letter were not shared strongly by members of LCC.

9.2 SIC, New Anderson High School

Mr R Anderson referred to a consultants report which had included a comparison of the present site with the Clickimin site. The Clickimin site had been costed at an extra £8m in the report, however he emphasised the advantage of the existing facilities at Clickimin and the traffic problems associated with the present site. Cllr A Cluness explained the process whereby the present site had been chosen as the preferred site. He added that the process had been a democratic one and the decision had now been made. Mr T Nicolson commented that the issue had been going on so long that he welcomed a decision being taken, whether he agreed with it or not. Mr J Anderson enquired as to whether residents in the area had been consulted. Cllr Cluness confirmed that they had not but that they were to be consulted now on the detailed plans. Mr J Anderson commented that this consultation would take place after the decision on the site had already been made. Mr R Anderson remained dissatisfied with the inequality of the comparison between the two sites. He moved that LCC write to SIC expressing disappointment at SIC's failure in its consideration of the Clickimin site, Mrs S Newcombe seconded his motion. Mr J MacLeod, seconded by Mr P Scarsbrook, proposed a counter-motion that LCC should welcome SIC's decision to choose the lower cost option. Mr MacLeod's counter-motion was carried by eight votes to three. Cllr A Cluness confirmed to Mr M McDonald that the old building would be retained and incorporated into the plans for the new school.

9.3 Tower Consultants

Noted.

9.4 SIC, Playground Maintenance

Noted.

9.5 SIC, Road Issues in Lerwick

Noted.

9.6 Volunteer Centre Shetland

Noted.

9.7 SIC, Provision of Communal Refuse Stores: Voderview, Soldian Court and Norstane

The Chairman had spoken with Mr Dobson of SIC and had been informed that the plans to provide communal refuse stores had been abandoned due to opposition from residents in the areas concerned.

9.8 Gilbertson Park Railings

A photograph was circulated showing extensive corrosive damage to the railings. It was agreed to write to Historic Scotland, enclosing the photograph, saying that it was believed that the incorrect treatment of the railings had been at their insistence and expressing concern. Cllr E Knight commented that the original railings would have been wrought iron not steel if Historic Scotland had wished to be accurate.

04/5/10

Financial Report

Noted. The Chairman ruled that the decision taken at the April meeting in relation to reducing the budget for 2004/2005 had been unconstitutional as the item had not been included on the agenda and he felt it was of such importance that all members should have had the opportunity to have been involved in the discussion. Mr J MacLeod commented that he had brought his motion under the agenda item "Financial Report" and he held this to be constitutional. The Chairman countered that the item "Financial Report" was on the agenda for information only and not for the purpose of decision-making. Mr L Bisset stated that the item was still not on the agenda as the "decision" could not be reviewed, as it could not be held to have been made if not taken in accordance with the constitution. On the proposal of Mr R Anderson, seconded by Mr L Bisset, it was agreed to put the item on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

In response to an enquiry from Mr R Anderson the Clerk confirmed that the unadjusted 2004/2005 budget of £43,246 should be received in the current week.

04/5/11

Financial Assistance

11.1 Dogs Against Drugs

It was agreed to award assistance of £1,000 on the motion of Mr T Nicolson, seconded by Mr P Scarsbrook.

11.2 Lerwick Spurs Football Club

It was agreed to award assistance of £250 on the motion of Mr R Anderson, seconded by Mr J MacLeod.

11.3 Junior Intercounty Association

It was agreed to award assistance of £1,500 on the motion of Mr R Anderson, seconded by Cllr W Stove.

11.4 Island Trails

It was decided not to award funding for this venture, as the applicant was a business.

04/5/12

Planning Applications

12.1 Realign Footpath and Reconstruct Wall, The Knab

No objections.

12.2 Various Letters Regarding Proposed Skatepark

It was agreed to hold this in abeyance until the outcome of the consultation for the Clickimin site was known.

12.3 Planning Appeal, Safeways

Noted.

04/5/13

Any Other Business

13.1 Pensioners Accommodation

The RNLI had to either sell or rent their property because of their charitable status. The Clerk had referred them to Ms J Watt of SIC.

13.2 Dogs Against Drugs

Members were invited to a demonstration of the dogs in action at the Holmsgarth Ferry Terminal at 6pm on Wednesday 26 May.

13.3 Traffic Management, Oversund Road

It was agreed to write to SIC asking what the plans were for the road and when they would be exhibited to the public.

13.4 Path at Clickimin Loch

Mr P Scarsbrook brought attention to the poor surface of the path. Cllr J Henry informed members that the path was due to be re-laid at some point as it had to be widened to accommodate wheelchairs.

13.5 Traffic Signs

Mrs S Newcombe brought attention to an area of road at Norstane where children often played and traffic tended to turn into at speed. The Chairman agreed to speak to Mr D MacNae of SIC regarding signage.

13.6 Road at Sands of Sound

The contractors working on the house at the end of the road had given assurances that they would try to keep the road in as good condition as they could for the summer for visitors to the beach. It was agreed to review the situation regarding the road once the building work was finished.

13.7 Staney Hill Road

The Chairman had instructed works to be carried out on the road.

13.8 Advertisement for Clerk and Treasurer (Maternity Cover)

The Chairman informed members that an advert would be placed in the Shetland Times. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Mr R Anderson, would conduct the interviews.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

MR T R NICOLSON
CHAIRMAN
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL