

MONDAY 1 APRIL 2013

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

Members

Mr A Henry
Mr A Johnson
Mrs A Simpson
Ms K Fraser

Mr J Anderson
Mr L Angus
Mr S Hay **Co-opted**
Mr A Wenger

Ex-Officio Councillors

Cllr M Bell
Cllr C Smith

Cllr J Wills **left 8.10pm**
Cllr A Wishart

In Attendance

Mrs K Semple, Clerk to the Council

Chairman

Mr J Anderson, Chairman to the Council presided.

04/13/01 **Circular**

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

04/13/02 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr E Knight, Mr A Carter, Mr D Ristori, Mr M Peterson, Cllr M Stout and Cllr P Campbell.

04/13/03 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 March were approved on the motion of Mr L Angus and seconded by Mrs A Simpson.

04/13/04 **Business Arising from the Minutes**

03/13/10, Item 10.2 Caravan and Campsite Cllr J Wills advised that he had written to Education, SIC to ask why a public amenity had to be lost by siting the proposed new Anderson High on the location of the Clickimin Caravan and Campsite when there was an adequate site to the north of Staney Hill Road.

He reminded members that following detailed surveys, the area to the north of Staney Hill had been chosen as the preferred site in 2009. Cllr J Wills could not understand when, why or on whose authority had the decision been made to site the school on the location of the Caravan and Campsite.

The Chairman stated that the proposed siting of the new Anderson High School was yet to be finalised and it was not a 'fait accompli'. The current plan, as far as he was aware, was to site the school on, or butting up to, the Campsite but there was little detail as to why that particular site was chosen.

He added that the Architect had already been on site but the Contractor had yet to visit, therefore it was still 'up in the air' as to whether the proposed school would be built to the north or south of Staney Hill Road.

03/13/15 Proposed New Anderson High School The Chairman provided members with a progress report following his attendance at the recent stakeholders meeting regarding the proposed new Anderson High School.

He advised that contractors were now appointed, they were; Miller Construction Services Ltd, construction contractor; Ryder Architecture, architects; Turner & Townsend, project management, quantity surveyor and CDM coordinator, Sweett Group, Technical advisor and Faithfull & Gould, independent certifier. All the appointees, part of the Hub Co Consortium Group.

The Chairman added that design of the new Anderson High School was based on the Eastwood High School, East Renfrewshire as it best reflected the needs in Shetland; the design is box like with classrooms around the periphery leaving a substantial central atrium 3-4 storeys high. He encouraged members to come forward with ideas for what the atrium space could be used for and advised that he would arrange for the Clerk of the Council to distribute plans to all members to assist them in their deliberation.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Cllr J Wills thought a central atrium was good idea and thought that it should incorporate enough space for all pupils and staff to meet.

03/13/15 Town Hall Windows Restoration Project Cllr M Bell advised that he would try to get a detailed update of any progress regarding the Town Hall Windows in time for the next meeting of Lerwick Community Council.

He clarified that the current scaffolding was just for routine maintenance.

03/13/10 Item 10.6 Name Suggestions, Hoofields Development The Chairman advised that a report from Ms A Jamieson, Executive Manager, Housing, SIC proposed 'Burn Bank Walk' as the name for the new development at Hoofields.

04/13/05

Review of Registration of Births Deaths and Marriages Service - Consultation

Cllr J Wills stated that the centralisation of registrations in the Lerwick office was regrettable but inevitable given the need to bring spending down.

Cllr A Wishart agreed but added that it was not just about budgeting, but also 'encroaching computerisation and record keeping'.

The Chairman noted that the proposal options had less of an impact on Lerwick but may, ultimately, make the service more efficient.

There was no further comment.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

04/13/06

COPE Budget Cuts

6.1 Report No DV006-F Shetland Development Trust Surpluses – COPE Ltd

Noted

6.2 COPE Ltd Funding Cuts – Mr D Ristori, LCC Member

Members agreed that although the item had been taken over by events, Lerwick Community Council could still voice their opinion.

Cllr M Bell informed members that even with COPE's regrettable funding cut, no other Council in Scotland supported a social enterprise to the extent that COPE was supported. He added that it had been hoped that over the years some of COPE's projects would have become more self funding. He added that it was right and proper for COPE to decide to use their funding as they saw fit; it was up to them which businesses they maintained.

He thought that the best thing we could do as a community was to support COPE by buying their products and using their services.

Mr L Angus suggested that perhaps Shetland Islands Council could be encouraged to look again at their recruitment policy with regard employing the disabled.

Cllr M Bell advised that part of the plan was for COPE to employ disabled people, train them and assist them to move on to alternative employment, but this had not happened. He agreed that local authorities had to 'do their bit' and employ people with disabilities.

Cllr J Wills stated that there was scope to argue for increased funding, which he intended to do, but it would be at the expense of other things.

The Chairman raised concern that it appeared to be public perception that the vulnerable were being targeted while other things in the community were supported.

04/13/07

AHS Stakeholder Group - Update

This item was largely discussed during Business Arising.

The Chairman furthered that there would be a three month consultation process, following which a report would be submitted to SIC in August 2013

04/13/08

Correspondence

8.1 Street Lighting Review Concern – Mr N Hutcheson, Engineer, Roads Service, SIC
Noted

8.2 Retaining Wall Blockwork, Clickimin – Mr N Hutcheson, Engineer, Roads Service, SIC
Noted

8.3 Caravan & Campsite, Shetland Local Development Plan – Mr A Taylor, Team Leader, Development Plans & Heritage

CLlr J Wills thought that the response was not good enough and very unhelpful.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Mr A Taylor to ask if, under the circumstances, he would demonstrate some flexibility with regard to the provision of a potential site in the Local Plan for a Caravan and Campsite.

He asked for CLlr A Cooper, Chairman, Development Committee and CLlr F Robertson, Chairman, Planning Committee to be copied into the letter.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

8.4 Shetland Community Benefit Fund Request - Mr C Bunyan, Chairman, Management Committee for SCBF

Members briefly discussed the possibility of looking at a minimum size of project to make representations to.

However, CLlr A Wishart advised members that it was quite a complex matter and that the Committee itself was trying to develop a policy.

8.5 Review of Public Toilets – Mr J Emptage, Team Leader, Cleansing, Grounds & Burial Service

Members agreed that it was very important to keep the Knab toilets open not only for the use of people attending funerals and visiting the graveyard but also because the area is very well used by tourists dog walkers.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Mr J Emptage and express concern and disappointment that the Knab toilet is being considered for closure. In addition he asked the Clerk to enquire what arrangements would be made to provide toilet facilities for people visiting the cemetery, if the decision was made to close them, and finally request detailed terms, including work involved, costs and possible issues, with regard to Lerwick Community Council taking the responsibility of running the toilets.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

8.6 Town Hall Chambers-Removal of 50% Concessionary Rate – Ms A Arthur, Business Support Officer, Executive Services Dept., SIC

The Chairman stated that, with member's approval, bearing in mind the current financial climate an alternative, cheaper venue should be considered.

He informed members that the annual charge to hire meeting rooms in Market House would be £103.12; Clickimin Leisure Centre, £126.50 and Islesburgh £170.50. This would mean an annual saving of between £567.00 and £611.00.

Market House was discounted as there was no evening receptionist, raising issues for anyone arriving late; the other two venues were put to the vote.

Islesburgh – 5 votes
Clickimin Leisure Centre – 3 votes

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to contact Islesburgh to ask if they could accommodate the booking dates previously selected for meetings of Lerwick Community Council.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

04/13/09

Financial Report as at 28 February 2013

Noted

9.2 Budget Forecast 2013-2014 & Comparison figures 2012 to 27.3.13

Noted

9.2 Annual Grants and Projects 2013-2014 & Comparison Figures 2012-2013

The Chairman queried if members thought that, considering the current financial constraints on the budget, funding the lighting at Clickimin Broch may require to be reviewed. If so, the issue should be discussed at a future meeting.

Mr L Angus stated that he would be reluctant to see the lighting switched off permanently as it added to the area and was often complimented on.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Mr L Angus advised that Historic Scotland had planned and designed a Visitor Centre for Clickimin Broch. He asked if the Clerk would write to enquire if the plans were to be progressed.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

04/13/10

Consider arrangements to put ASCC clerical contract out to tender – Requested by Mr A MacDonald, Chairman, Northmaven CC

10.1 Current Job Specification-Administrative Assistant to ASCC(Under Review)

Mr L Angus advised that he was the Chairman of Voluntary Action Shetland, which was responsible for ASCC. The ASCC was independent of Shetland Islands Council and responsible to Community Councils. He added that in addition to the job description, the Administration Assistant also follows up action points, is responsible for all liaisons with SIC and attends numerous meetings on the Chairman's behalf.

He stated that the funding which ASCC receives, also subject to a 30% cut, has to cover all costs, including costly meeting expenses; what Community Councils got was someone at the end of the telephone who assists, understands and offers support.

Mr L Angus added that he thought Mrs Kate Massie, Administration Assistant did a remarkably good job and if anyone thought otherwise, he would like to know about it.

Cllr J Wills left 8.10pm

Mr L Angus furthered that if anyone wanted the role of ASCC reviewed, in the first instance They would have to take it up with Shetland Islands Council.

04/13/11 **Community Council Funding Opportunity – National Lottery Awards For All**

Mr L Angus asked that it be suggested to ASCC that they may wish to consider putting in a bid on behalf of all Community Councils for Community Skips.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

04/13/12 **SIC (Scalloway Road, Lerwick)(Parking Place for Disabled Person's Vehicle) Order 2013**

No objection

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

04/13/13 **Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005-Application for Premises Licence – Bibby Stockholm, Accommodation Barge**

No objection

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

04/13/14 **Planning Applications**

14.1 2013/094/PPF – To Construct Hard Standing Area, Behind Decca Station – GB & AM Anderson

No objection

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

04/13/15 **Lerwick Planning Applications – March 2013**

Noted

04/13/15 **Any Other Business**

Serco

Mr S Hay raised concern that without any form of consultation, in addition to the removal of the requirement for photo ID Serco NorthLink had removed 60% of the fare discount for pensioners, disabled people and students.

The Chairman replied that the Scottish Government was to blame for not making the contract tight enough and that Serco had chosen to exploit things.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Mr S Garrett, Managing Director, Serco NorthLink to enquire what other changes were in the pipeline.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Cllr A Wishart added that, this year, Serco had taken out one third of the freight capacity from Shetland, stating that it was what they had said they would do in order to get the contract.

Bedroom Tax

Mr L Angus expressed his dismay at the proposed Bedroom Tax which he thought was discriminatory and unfair; it penalised those on housing benefit only, and in many cases, there were insufficient alternative properties available.

Cllr M Bell advised that on behalf of Shetland Islands Council, he had written to Alasdair Carmichael, MSP and would be meeting with him, 11 April, to discuss the issue.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to formulate a letter to express the concern of Lerwick Community Council with regard to the issue.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Redundant Road Markings

Mr A Wenger advised members of a road incident which had occurred when a motorist emerged from Market Cross, turning left onto the main road.

In an attempt to observe the old road markings, and not noticing the temporary arrow on the road at the Market Cross junction, the motorist struck the new kerb outside D&G Leslie's and vehicle's wheel was damaged.

The Chairman stated that Lerwick Community Council was not qualified to comment on the incident; however, he asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Roads, SIC and request that they ensure that the correct signage is in place, to avoid any risk of a similar incident, until such time as the works in the area are complete.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

There being no further competent business the meeting concluded at 8.25pm.

Minute ends.

MR J ANDERSON
CHAIRMAN
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chairman.....

Date.....