

MONDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2017

At a meeting of LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in Board Room, Solar House, North Ness, Lerwick, at 7.00pm

Members

Mrs A Simpson	Mr A Carter
Ms K Fraser	Mr S Hay
Mr W Spence	Mr A Johnston
Mr A Wenger	Mr J Fraser
Mr D Ristori	

Ex-Officio Councillors

Cllr A Wishart	Cllr M Bell
Cllr M Stout	Cllr P Campbell

Additional Co-opted Student Members

Miss Eve Thomson

Additional Co-opted Members

Mr B Johnston	Mrs M Hall
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In Attendance

Mrs M Sandison, Clerk to the Council

Chairman

Mrs A Simpson, Vice Chairman to the Council presided.

02/17/01

Circular

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

02/17/02

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Anderson, Mr P Coleman, Mr E Knight, Mr T Carroll, Mr A Henry, Cllr J Wills, and Cllr C Smith.

02/17/03

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 6th January 2017 were approved by Mr J Fraser and Mr A Carter.

02/17/04

Business Arising from the Minutes

Mr Wenger asked if his name could be corrected on page 9 of the Minute.
(Action: Clerk to the council)

Building Budgets Feedback

Mr Wenger asked if there was any feedback.
The clerk report that no feedback had been sent yet.

02/17/05 **Police Scotland Monthly Report**

Mrs Simpson commented that no report was available. She enquired if anyone had any urgent matters they wished to bring to the Police.

02/17/06 **Correspondence**

6.1 Defibrillators – Michael Duncan and Defibrillator Information

Mrs Simpson reported that Mr Duncan had produced a list of defibrillators following query from the Bressay Community Council and had asked if members knew of any more. She reported that Mr Ristori had added Osla's and Shetland Janitorial Supplies and notified that Lerwick Fish Traders were to have one shortly and Mr Duncan was to add them to the list.

Cllr Campbell added that the Swan had a defibrillator.

Cllr Stout informed members that part of the issue was the significant maintenance cost for parts and to highlight that if there were a good number of communities purchasing these, there was the possibility of purchasing together and it would bring the price down.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

6.2 Street Lighting at Westerloch – Neil Hutcheson, Roads, SIC

Mrs Simpson noted the reply from Mr Hutcheson and the light Mr Wenger had raised concern for was to be installed as part of the work at Westerloch.

Mr Wenger acknowledged the letter and thanked Mrs Simpson.

6.3 Painting Railings – Jim Leask, Support Worker, Bridges Project

Mrs Simpson noted from the correspondence that Mr Leask had purchased the materials with advice from the staff at Frank Williamson's. She asked if anyone had any comments on the materials he had purchased.

6.4 Earth Hour – Brian Ford, Historic Environmental Scotland

Mrs Simpson mentioned that they had been asked in previous years to do this. The clerk had contacted Mr Stewart Angus who was quite happy to switch them off between half past eight and half past nine on 25th March 2017.

6.5 Lerwick War Memorial – Michael Duncan, Community Planning & Development, SIC

Following investigation the Vice Chair reported that neither Lerwick Community Council nor the Shetland Islands Council owned the Lerwick War Memorial, although the council had done one off maintenance before, but were not obliged to do it.

Mrs Simpson reported that usually community groups and voluntary organisations had done the maintenance.

6.6 Lerwick War Memorial – Guidance/Pre-application, War Memorial Trust

Mrs Simpson informed members that they were going to apply for funding from the War Memorial Trust. The problem of the memorial's name was queried, as it is listed as 'Men of Shetland', 'Shetland War Memorial' and 'Lerwick War Memorial.'

Members agreed that 'Shetland War Memorial' was probably correct.

Mr Spence said that he had completed these forms before and suggested that they would give you advice if you phoned. He thought it would be called the 'Shetland War Memorial'.

The clerk offered to contact the War Memorials Trust and seek advice.

Mr Fraser commented that War Memorials were across the length and breadth of Shetland, all requiring maintenance at some point. He suggested the formation of a Shetland wide community group that took responsibility for applying for funding for the maintenance of War Memorials all over Shetland.

He suggested contacting various groups who might be interested in forming a working party to take on board periodically assessing the war memorials, researching what various funding was available and following through on.

Mrs Simpson thanked Mr Fraser for his idea and asked if anyone had a view on that.

Cllr Wishart suggested approaching the ASCC.

Mrs Simpson agreed as they had a forthcoming meeting and that might be a good place to start.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

6.7 Anderson High School Parent Council Agenda 7 February 2017

Mrs Simpson asked members if there was anything anyone wanted to raise when Mr Anderson was at this meeting.

Mr Fraser said that he knew there would be plans for the new school, but the existing school had been a major part of Lerwick and of Shetland life for generations and held a special place for many people. He thought about perhaps recognising the closing of the school as well as the opening and wanted to know if this was something that was being considered.

Mrs Simpson asked members of the community council for their opinions and if they thought it would be appropriate for discussion.

Members were happy and Mrs Simpson agreed to ask Mr Anderson to forward on at the Anderson High School parent council meeting.

Mr B Johnston queried the fundraising for the outdoor space.

Mr Fraser informed members that a seating area for the space in front of the school had previously been spoken about and fundraising ideas had been spoken about. He suggested they may have moved on to other ideas, but this had been spoken about when he was on the parent council.

Mrs Simpson said that they could ask Mr Anderson to enquire what the fundraising was for.

(Action: Clerk to the council/Mr Anderson)

6.8 Walking Event Follow-up – Jennifer Sjoberg

Mrs Simpson informed members that Mr Carter and Ms Fraser had attended the event. She enquired if they knew of any further meetings, as there had been lots of ideas on the day.

Mr Carter remarked that there was funding under LEADER 2, for walking in the broadest sense, to be developed in some way. His impression was that they wanted to find out if there was any common project from the attendees at the meeting and a working group could then be formed to take that forward.

Ms Fraser said there were no proper conclusions in the end, but with plenty of ideas for walks up in Unst. She thought that this community council could raise awareness and ideas.

Mr Carter stated that it was noted that various organisation had leaflets, but there was no commonality in terms of signage and descriptions. There was an indication of a wish to come together, with a general accepted and agreed format and he thought that hopefully there could be some common ground between them.

Mrs Simpson asked if they hoped to hear further feedback in the future.

Ms Fraser replied that yes they would and also if they thought of better walks or signage they could forward on.

Mr Ristori mentioned the Shetland Field Studies Group.

Mr Wenger added that the group were looking for members and the next Annual General Meeting was on 10th March with a talk taking place on 10th February.

Mrs Simpson asked if it would be worth passing this information on to Jennifer Sjoberg.

Members agreed with this suggestion.

Mr Carter mentioned that the council did have a member of staff employed following the 'rights of way' legislation which gave anyone in Scotland a right to go anywhere. He thought that one of the key responsibilities of this post was to develop recognised pathways around Shetland.

Ms Fraser mentioned the walks listed on the council website.
(Action: Clerk to the Council)

Additional Agenda Item
Surface Dressing, Re-Surfacing and Reconstruction Programme 2017 – Dave Coupe,
Executive Manager, Roads, SIC

The plans were displayed for members.
Mrs Simpson explained the colour coded different road surfacing that was to be to be carried out.
She highlighted there would be an enforced 20 mph speed limit following works.

Mrs Hall commented that the last road surfacing done at Cheyne Crescent and King Harold Street had been messy, with tar up on the paths and had not been finished off to the same standard as the rest. The paths had footprints on them and the road lines were not finished even though the work was done in the summer. She enquired why it was different and asked if a contractor had been involved.

Cllr Stout replied that a new technique had been used which involved covering a large area in a short time and keeping costs down. He admitted to some splashing along the pavement edges, but in terms of the quality of the surface dressing there was a significant amount of work for the money.

He said with regard to the lines, discussion at the time meant the white lines needing to be replaced for safety, such as at junctions, were done within a few days. A contractor was to come up to repaint the lines, but due to other road works taking place throughout Shetland, the work was to be done during one visit.

Cllr Bell added that it had been mentioned at a previous meeting that thirty years work had been done within one year. There had been a big push to get the work done, although some initial concerns, he felt the large amount of work had been done well.

Cllr Wishart said that although there had been complaints at the time, he really thought that it was work that had been done well and added he would like to see the community council acknowledging that.

Mrs Simpson agreed.

Cllr Stout asked if it was helpful having this level of detail brought to the attention of the community council.

Mrs Simpson said that she thought it was.

Cllr Wishart pointed out that the 20 mph mandatory speed limit was a good thing, but was unsure how it would be enforced.

6.9 Scottish Civic Trust My Place Awards – Andrew Sandison, Park Lane Community Garden
Noted.

02/17/07

Finance

7.1 Core Funding Financial Report 30th January 2017

Mrs Simpson pointed out that the increased available funds was due to some of the under spent budget for office supplies going back into the available funds. She asked if there were any questions.

Mr Wenger asked about the six hundred pounds no longer required by the Riding Club.

The clerk explained that the money had been granted by the community council, but was no longer needed. The funds were part of the Community Development Fund (Distribution) funding and it was shown on the financial report, as it was unspent.

Mr Wenger asked how they might go about getting somebody to spend it.

Mr Fraser suggested going back to those who missed out at the Participatory Budgeting event.

Mrs Simpson asked if that was possible.

The clerk reported the possibility, but would it need to be checked out with Michael Duncan from the Community Development and Planning department of the council.

Mrs Simpson agreed that they check that was alright and could do that.

Members discussed the deadline for spending the funds.

Cllr Stout informed members that normally if the community council was unable to pass it on to the original project, then it would have to be returned.

Cllr Campbell asked about the possibility of the funds being carried forward.

The clerk reported that a percentage of the main funding could be carried forward, but this was not the case for the Community Development (Distribution) Funding.

Mr Fraser suggested that they could approach the Port Authority and offer the rent for the Junior Up Helly Aa application for the next five years.

Cllr Stout advised about the grants system, pointing out that it was about community groups coming forward with a specific project and approaching the community council for funding. He wasn't saying it was a bad idea, but that this had to be approached in a slightly different way.

Mrs Simpson confirmed that the clerk would check what could and could not be done with the funding.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

Lerwick Town Hall Guides

Mrs Simpson asked if anyone had any ideas about selling some of the Town Hall Guides.

Mr B Johnston asked where they were sold at.

The clerk mentioned they were sold at the Museum, Northlink, The Shetland Times Bookshop, Tourist Office and the Town Hall.

Mr Wenger asked about the possibility of having them at the Christian Bookshop.

Members suggested Cruise ships and visiting yachts.

Mr Hay mentioned Jolene Garriock who co-ordinates Cruise Ships.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

7.2 Paths for All Remittance

Mrs Simpson informed members that the Stoney Hill Sign had been erected, but Ms Fraser had noticed a spelling mistake. She suggested that this would need to be sorted and then community council members could be contacted regarding some publicity that was necessary.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

7.3 Invoice for Paint – Bank Lane Railings – Jim Leask, Bridges Project

Mrs Simpson noted the invoice of £41.33 for paint and brushes for Bank Lane.

02/17/08

Grant Applications

8.1 Junior Up Helly Aa – Rent for ground for Peerie Galley Shed – Mr Ian Spence

Mrs Simpson asked if any member had any comments regarding the request of £82.12 for the ground rent.

Mr Carter wondered how appropriate it would be to explore their thoughts on the response to question 2c.

Mrs Simpson acknowledged that it was the Equal Opportunities part.

Cllr Wishart suggested that it was always possible to have a policy in place, but whether it was mandatory or followed was the question. He didn't see the need to get into that.

Mr Carter asked if there was any way they could encourage the organisation to adopt a more progressive attitude to this issue. He suggested that in light of what was going on internationally, that they looked at their own.

Members suggested asking Ms Thomson if she had any comments to make.

Ms Thomson said she had never felt oppressed in anyway and thought you could not defend Up Helly Aa, as it was silly and nonsense. She said that from her point of view, of being a Shetland woman, it was not an issue.

Mrs Simpson asked if she thought it was not an issue in the school.

Ms Thomson replied that no, she did not and thought that if a woman wanted to take part the choice was there.

Mrs Simpson pointed out that with the Equal Opportunities Policy the choice was there, but they didn't know what the policy said.

Mr Ristori said that this question was on last week's 'Speakeasy' programme with the school on and they had said that they would be more than happy to support that option for the Junior Up Helly Aa, but not for the big one.

Mr A Johnston commented that the big one and the junior one had to run together.

Mrs Simpson asked why he thought that.

Mr A Johnston replied that one wouldn't work without the other.

Mr B Johnston suggested that they were straying off the point as the group had asked the community council for assistance. He remarked that this was an application for funding to be discussed, and the other issue was maybe for another agenda.

Mr A Johnston said that historically the community council had said they would pay the rent and in previous years the community council has just paid the bill. He said due to the financial set up now there needed to be an application, but they did decide many years ago that there contribution would be for the ground rent.

Mrs Simpson said she didn't know how as a public body, they were placed when a group with an equal opportunities policy was not adhered to. She said she was unsure about that, as it was public money. She thought that they would need to see the policy.

Mrs Simpson suggested that they hold the application over until the next meeting until they saw the policy and decided if they were alright giving the funding.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

02/17/09

Planning Applications

9.1 2016/432/PPF – Change of use to Class 6 and erect storage extension – Stronachs Body Repairs, Port Business Park, Lerwick, ZE1 0TW

No objections.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

9.2 2016/436/PPF – Change of use to class 10 Library – Old Museum & Library, Lower Hillhead, Lerwick, ZE1 0EL – Shetland Islands Council

Ms Fraser declared an interest as the Library Manager.

Ms Fraser mentioned that they had organised some consultation in the past year with customers during the Open Day held in July to mark the 50th Anniversary of the old Library. She said feedback was available on the library website. Generally there had been quite positive feedback, with only a few people who did not like the building at all.

Mrs Simpson thanked Ms Fraser for the information.

No objections.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

02/17/10

Any Other Business

ASCC Bi-Annual Meeting

Mrs Simpson asked if any member was keen to attend. Mr Anderson was attending and the clerk might like to attend. She said that normally two representatives from each community council attended. The meeting was to be held on Saturday 25th March at 11am in the Shetland Museum.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

Building Budgets Meeting

Mr Wenger asked about the feedback from the Bressay & Lerwick meeting.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

Town Centre 20mph

Cllr Stout advised about the 20 mph speed restrictions and asked if there were any last minute comments.

Mrs Simpson thanked Cllr Stout and asked if anyone had any comments.

Mr Wenger said he had wanted to know what type of accidents had been reported.

Cllr Stout replied that there was a range of accidents involved. He said the important thing was that the way accident statistics were gathered meant there was a responsibility to look at accident clusters. He said that there was a statutory duty to show they had done what they could to reduce those accident figures.

Mr Wenger mentioned the example that some of the accidents would have involved people getting in and out of parking spaces and a change in the speed limit would not help.

Cllr Wishart commented that the types of accidents were well enough described in the papers that went to Living Lerwick and were in the public domain, where they could be looked up.

Cllr Stout said that the only remaining option for doing something about that around the Esplanade area was to enforce the 20 mph speed restriction. He had no doubt that it would be fully debated at the meeting the next day, and appreciated any minute last comments or thoughts.

Drop off at Schools

Mrs Hall asked about drop off points at the schools and commented on the number of cars parked in the area with cars stopping in the middle of the road and children getting out.

Cllr Stout said it came down to motivating parents and challenging attitudes. He spoke about putting in dropping off spaces, but having them taken up with parked cars.

Cllr Wishart asked if he could comment again on the speed limit and reported that at the meeting about pedestrianisation of the street, the feeling there was of welcoming the speed limit.

Mrs Simpson agreed that there no problem with that at that the meeting.

Knab Gates

Mr Fraser mentioned that a spring loaded bolt in the gate at the Knab had rusted and was beyond use.

Mr B Johnston reported that both the gates were like that.

Mrs Simpson said that they would pass the information on.
(Action: Clerk to the council)

Alcohol Focus Group

Mr Fraser said Lucy Flaws from NHS Health Improvement, was hosting Alcohol Focus Groups in Shetland. A Lerwick meeting was to be held on 16th February at 6.30pm. He said that there was room for more to attend. He understood one of the topics was to be held on alcohol provision and the results of these focus groups were to feed into the decision making process and formulate licensing policy from next year. He suggested that if anyone was interested to contact Lucy Flaws at NHS Health Improvement.

Mrs Simpson asked if anyone wanted to go to that then Mr Fraser had advised them how to do that.

New AHS & Halls of Residence Open Day

Mrs Simpson asked if members were interested in a tour of the new Anderson High School and asked the clerk to organise this.
(Action: Clerk to the council)

Planning Review

Mrs Simpson spoke about the large document and finding a guide for Community Council members. The briefing notes had been circulated by the clerk and the document would be sent when it arrived. She said that this item would be on the March agenda.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

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

Minute ends.

MRS A SIMPSON
VICE CHAIRMAN
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Vice Chairman.....

Date.....