

MONDAY 7 JANUARY 2013

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

Members

Mr W Spence	Mr J Anderson
Mr A Johnson	Mrs A Simpson
Mr A Carter	Mr D Ristori
Mr S McMillan	Ms K Fraser
Ms E Williamson	Mr A Henry
Mr E Knight	Mr L Angus
Ms A Westlake	

Ex-Officio Councillors

Cllr M Bell	Cllr A Wishart
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In Attendance

Mrs K Semple, Clerk to the Council

Chairman

Mr J Anderson, Chairman to the Council presided.

01/13/01

Circular

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

01/13/02

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr M Peterson, Mr S Hay, Cllr C Smith and Cllr J Wills.

01/13/03

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 December were approved by Ms K Fraser and seconded by Mr A Carter.

01/13/04

Business Arising from the Minutes

12/12/06 Town Hall Windows

Cllr M Bell advised that 'a paper was on the way through', following which, there would be a joint seminar between Shetland Islands Council and Lerwick Community Council. He was unsure when this would take place but hoped that it would not be too long.

He further advised that, as a precautionary measure, bookings were not being taken, for the Town Hall, for a portion of 2014.

12/12/13 New Housing Scheme – Staney Hill

Miss K Fraser asked if Lerwick Community Council had received any communication from North Staney Hill Residents Association; she believed that the Association was in favour of 'Freehill'.

The Clerk replied that she was still awaiting a response but would chase things up.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

01/13/05

Police Monthly Report – December 2012

The Chairman stated that it was unfortunate that cutbacks within Northern Constabulary had meant the end to a police officer attending each meeting of Lerwick Community Council.

In relation to the report he commented that he was pleased to see that the detection rate, of over 74%, remained high.

Cllr A Wishart enquired if a request could be made for the figures provided, in subsequent reports, to be made comparable to that of the same time during the previous year.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

The Clerk was also asked to write for an update with regard to the Traffic Warden

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

01/13/06

For Approval – Draft Lighting Agreement, Clickimin Broch

6.1 Emails via LCC & SIC re Draft Lighting Agreement

Noted

6.2 Draft Agreement – Amended by Keir Marshall, Governance & Law, SIC

Members agreed to accept the draft Clickimin Broch Floodlighting Agreement, with the inclusion of the amendments made by Keir Marshall, Governance & Law, SIC.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

01/13/07

LCC Wards

7.1 LCC Wards – Mrs A Cogle, Team Leader, Governance & Law, SIC

Concern was raised that should Lerwick be split into wards, members of the public may feel inhibited if they thought they could only discuss their issue with a particular Community Council member; there could be many reasons why someone may want to choose who they wished to approach. It was thought there appeared no real advantage and there was some unease that it may be difficult to ensure an even balance of Community Council members in each ward.

In return, it was suggested that the public may find that they would receive improved assistance if they could go to a Community Councillor who has an enhanced understanding of the particular ward with which they are entrusted. It was also thought that as a consequence, it would provide much needed publicity for Lerwick Community Council.

Members agreed to review the issue nearer the next Community Council elections, due to take place at the end of 2014.

01/13/08 **LCC Website Link Costs – Shetland Daily**

It was agreed that the discounted quote was still too high.

The Clerk was asked to seek a quote for a link from Shetland News and, in addition, arrange for photographs of members, with their agreement, to be added to the site.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

01/13/09 **Correspondence**

9.1 Footballers Urinating Outdoors – Mr J Johnston, General Manager. Clickimin Leisure Complex

Noted

9.2 Footballers Urinating outdoors – Mr B Robertson, Secretary, Shetland Football Association

Noted

9.3 Serco Strike Action, Impact on the Community – Mr T Scott, MSP

Cllr A Wishart stated that as far as he understood, there were continuing discussions between Serco and RMT.

9.4 Serco Strike Action, Impact on the Community - Mr J Linklater, Customer Care Manager, Serco Northlink Ferries

Noting Serco's proposed policy of having a variable muster list to reflect the volume of passengers travelling, concern was raised as to how Serco would handle a situation where there was an unexpected rush of passengers wishing to travel as a result of the cancellation of their flights.

The Chairman requested that Serco be written to, and quite pointedly asked, what contingency plans they had to cater for a large, unexpected, increase in the volume of passengers wishing to travel.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

In addition, he requested that the Scottish Government be written to and asked what obligation had been laid on Serco, if any, to assist and provide transport for stranded air passengers, in the event of flights being cancelled owing to bad weather conditions.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Ms A Westlake raised concern that Serco had removed the requirement for passengers to provide photo ID, particularly in light of the recent seizure of a large quantity of drugs.

It was agreed that the Clerk of the Council should write to Chief Inspector A McInnes, Area Command, to enquire if they had found the requirement for photo ID on the ferry valuable and would they think it worth reinstating.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

9.5 Objection-2012/352/PPF New Observatory – Dawn Stewart, Planning Officer, Development Management, SIC

Noted

9.6 Additional Taxi Rank – Mr D Hepburn, Chairman, Taxi Owners Association

Mrs A Simpson enquired if there were planning regulations for Taxi companies to ensure they had adequate parking facilities for their cars.

Mr L Angus responded that some firms contracted individuals to drive for them, using their own cars but displaying the company logo.

The Chairman put forward the initiative that as there was a possibility that the Viking Bus Station may be closed in order to save money; perhaps the Taxi Association could be invited to look after the building, allowing the toilets and waiting room to be kept open and existing services maintained.

It was agreed that the suggestion was worth further consideration. The Clerk of the Council was asked to write to Carl Symons, Acting Executive Manager, Buildings & Transport, SIC with regard to the proposal.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

CLlr A Wishart asked if it could be that the Shetland Taxi Association may be seeing an opportunity following the letter from Lerwick Community Council; why had they not requested it themselves.

Mr D Ristori noted that Holmsgarth and the pier were the only places that Taxi's could legally wait and reiterated the need for an additional rank.

The Chairman mused if legislation could be put in place to allow taxi's to wait in off road bus stops, when bus runs were completed for the day.

9.7 Street Lighting Review-Reduction Options – Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC

Mr L Angus stated that only a relatively small amount of money would be saved; he did not see how it could be equated with the loss of lighting for the hours suggested.

CLlr M Bell advised that savings would be made on maintenance.

CLlr A Wishart assured members that although it was not a huge sum, small savings really mattered and they all added up; it was work in progress.

After discussion, there was some concern at the proposed removal of street lights on industrial estates, particularly with regard to the safety of pedestrians during business hours in winter. However, members agreed that the public should not have to pay for the lighting, and a suggestion was made that premises owners should be asked to cover the costs themselves.

Due to lack of information, which had been specifically requested, no definite comment was made with regard to part-night lighting, in the residential areas selected for trial. However it was decided that a request should be made for a breakdown of the projected savings to be made as a result of the proposed trial.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Ms A Westlake noted that the lights were left on in the Library until 11pm.

Miss K Fraser responded that the historic building was found worthy of lighting. The costs had been investigated and that they were not excessive.

9.8 Proposed Windfarm, Hill of Tagdale – Mr A Ward, Evra Energy Ltd

Having no site of plans, there was uncertainty as to whether the proposed windfarm was in the Lerwick Community Council ward or not. However, as it would at least be adjacent to, and impact on Lerwick to some degree, members agreed to welcome a presentation when Evra Energy Ltd was ready to provide one.

9.9 Review of Traffic Management Schemes, Lerwick-Consultative Working Group – Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC

Members were happy for the Chairman and Vice chairman to be primary and substitute member, respectively, on the Consultative Working Group.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

9.10 My Place Awards-Call for Nominations – Mr J Pelan, Director, The Scottish Civic Trust

Scottish Civic Trust My Place Award

Mareel, Lerwick District Heating Scheme/SHEAP, Islesburgh Youth Hostel and Shetland Amenity Trust's Voar Redd Up were all put forward. By a show of hands they received two, one, two and eight votes respectively.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Scottish Civic Trust My Place Civic Champion Award

Members agreed to nominate Cecilia James for undertaking her own single handed 'Redd Up' of rubbish from the roadsides from Voe to Lerwick.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

9.11 Postal Charges – CC Letter from Mr A McMillan to Mr T Scott, MSP

The Chairman advised that Kate Massie, Admin, ASCC was compiling examples of excessive postal charges. He asked for details of any incidences to be forwarded directly on to her or the Clerk of Lerwick Community Council.

In addition, the Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Alastair Carmichael MP, offering Lerwick Community Council's support and copy the letter to Tavish Scott MSP, and Kate Massie, ASCC.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

01/13/10

Financial Report as at 2 January 2013

The Clerk advised that applications for grant funding would be considered at the next meeting of Lerwick Community Council; she was waiting for two applications to be returned.

The Chairman stated that he hoped that a quote for the proposed Heritage Place Names Map would also be available for discussion.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

01/13/11

Planning Applications

11.1 2012/378/PPF – Erect two storage units with external storage, Arlanda Industrial Estate

No objections

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

11.2 2012/383/PPF – Change of use of former ground floor restaurant to 2 residential flats, 17 Hillhead, Lerwick

No objections

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

01/13/12 **Lerwick Planning Applications – December 2012**

Noted

01/13/13 **Any Other Business**

Clickimin Campsite

Mr D Ristori expressed his disappointment at the resulting loss of the Campsite, which he thought worked so well at Clickimin, due to the proposed siting of the new Anderson High School. He enquired if the use of the site could be seasonal or if it could be replaced with an alternative one.

Mr A Carter declared an interest as a 'keen Camper-vaner'. He advised that the campsite was highly thought of and that it had received a lot of national publicity.

There was a strong feeling among members that if the site had to be given up, an alternative, equally good, site should be sought.

Ms A Westlake noted that the loss of the campsite would have a detrimental effect on tourism, something Shetland could ill afford.

Cllr A Wishart added that the campsite had a lot of local use, and, if an alternative site proved viable, a private individual may consider running one.

The Chairman suggested that the land could be gifted to the Council and in return they could develop an alternative site.

Mrs E Williamson expressed concern for the trees which had been so carefully planted and cultivated and hoped that they would receive due consideration.

Mr E Knight could see no reason as to why Lerwick Community Council could not put in an objection to the loss of the campsite.

The Chairman did not dispute the concern but noted that 'we were faced with choices and had to prioritise'.

He suggested that a representation be made to Planning, SIC for a potential site to be included in the Local Development Plan.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

In addition, he advised that he would raise the issue at the next meeting of the Local Project Team for the proposed new Anderson High School.

Braefield Road Junction

Mr D Ristori advised that there were road safety concerns driving into Braefield Road from the junction. He thought that widening the road, near number 20 would resolve the issue.

Cllr A Wishart advised that there were a number of projects on the list, estimated costs from £2,000 to £1,000,000, none were happening but it could be added on the list.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

New Year

Ms A Simpson commented that, in the Market Cross, no clear indication of the New Year was heard by those present. She suggested that Lerwick Community Council could approach Living Lerwick with a view to work together in order to arrange some festivities to bring in the New

Year. She suggested live music or fireworks, something to mark the event like that which was done in years past.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Retaining Wall

Mr L Angus noted that the retaining wall, opposite the Widows Homes, was in a very poor condition and could become a safety issue if not addressed soon.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Phil Crossland, Director, Infrastructure Services, SIC with regard to the issue.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

There being no further competent business the meeting concluded at 8.50pm.

Minute ends.

MR J ANDERSON
CHAIRMAN
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chairman..... Date.....