

MONDAY 6 January 2014

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

Members

Mr E Knight	Ms K Fraser
Mr D Ristori	Mrs A Simpson
Mr A Johnston	Mr A Wenger
Mr J Anderson	Mr W Spence
Mr M Peterson	Mr A Carter

Ex-Officio Councillors

Cllr A Wishart	Cllr M Bell
----------------	-------------

In Attendance

Mrs K Semple, Clerk to the Council
Mr D Marsh, Team Leader, Trading Standards, SIC

Chairman

Mr J Anderson, Chairman to the Council presided.

01/14/01 **Circular**

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

01/14/02 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr S Hay, Mr A Henry, Ms A Westlake, Cllr C Smith and Cllr M Stout

01/14/03 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 December were approved on the motion of Mr D Ristori and seconded by Mr W Spence.

01/14/04 **Business Arising from the Minutes**

12/13/04 Public Toilets – Charitable Trust Proposal Mr E Knight enquired if Mr J Riise, Executive Manager, Governance & Law, SIC had provided a response with regard to the Charitable Trust proposal for Shetland's public toilets.

The Chairman replied that Mr Riise had yet to respond; he reassured Mr Knight that the request for a response would now be escalated.

Cllr M Bell moved to defend Mr Riise's lack of response by explaining that he had been unwell for a considerable period of time.

The Chairman added that he was aware that Mr Riise was in the process of pooling together the pros and cons of three or four different options to attach with his response, so efforts were being made.

01/14/05

Trading Standards Service – Mr D Marsh, Team Leader, Trading Standards

The Chairman welcomed Mr D Marsh to the meeting and a short power point presentation commenced.

Mr Marsh explained that Trading Standards Service helped to ensure a fair trading environment for businesses and customers. He advised that scams were the single biggest reason for people seeking their advice and assistance; some scams seemed obvious, but not to all, and it was the vulnerable that were most affected. Mr Marsh informed members that Trading Standards were pleased to have been invited to provide training for care professionals, frontline people in daily contact with their clients.

On almost a monthly basis, their Service produced a Scam Alert bulletin to keep people up to date with current scams and advice on what to do if approached. They provided 'No Uninvited Sales People' window stickers to discourage doorstep selling.

Mr Marsh went on to advise that the second highest reason for members of the public to seek their assistance was over the purchase of second hand cars; young people and first time car buyers required the most support. Trading Standards could provide guidance on checks they could do themselves and a guide covering the many aspects which should be considered when purchasing a vehicle.

He stated that Trading Standards were there to help people be aware what their rights were, to offer guidance to businesses on their rights and responsibilities and to ensure that goods offered for sale were safe and fit for purpose.

Schools were provided with resources to assist in educating children about tobacco and the restrictions and retailers checked to ensure they sold within their restrictions by using clearly underage purchasers. A 'Pass Scheme' proof of age card was also promoted, covering a variety of age restriction purchases

Mr Marsh added that they also had the facilities to check weights and measures to ensure that they were correctly calibrated.

He stated that general Trading Standards advice could be found on their webpage on the SIC website and they had a Facebook page to assist in getting messages out, and spread out.

Ms K Fraser enquired if Trading Standards could take people to court.

Mr Marsh replied that wrongdoers could be reported to the Procurator Fiscal in the usual way, but as a last resort. It was their preference to educate individuals and businesses as to the correct and safe way to do things.

Mr D Ristori asked if people in rural areas were pestered by doorstep salesmen.

Mr Marsh replied that the problem had been much reduced by people displaying 'No Uninvited Sales People' signs in their windows, but he was aware that recently salesmen had been trying to coerce homeowners into having their roof power hosed.

Mr A Carter enquired who dealt with national scams.

Mr Marsh responded that it was the fraud unit, based in the City of London; information could be passed directly to them, or via Trading Standards. He added that the exchange of intelligence was vitally important in limiting the damage caused by Scams.

There being no further questions, the Chairman thanked Mr Marsh for providing his very informative and interesting presentation.

Mr Marsh left the meeting at 7.30.

01/14/06

Hjalmland Housing Association Development North Staney Hill - Feasibility

Mr M Peterson expressed concern at being asked for comment when no designs had been made available.

The Chairman stated that the site was currently not zoned for housing and, as such, all that was being asked of Lerwick Community Council, was to show support, or otherwise, of the principle proposal to develop 200-300 houses in the area.

Mr E Knight stated that they should be allowed 'to get on with it'.

Mrs A Simpson and Cllr A Wishart also expressed their support of the proposal.

Acknowledging that there was a need for housing in Lerwick, the Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Mr I Malcolmson, Architect of Redman Sutherland Architects, to offer Lerwick Community Council's support with regard to the principal proposal to develop the land for housing.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

01/14/07

CC By-election Time-Table – 2014

Noted

01/14/08

Amendment to CC Constitution – Local Election Rules

The amendments to section five of the Constitution were accepted and approved by all attending members.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

8.1 Local Election Rules 2013

Noted

8.2 Polling Places Scheme 2013

Noted

01/14/09

Lerwick Information Boards

The Chairman advised that Nick Brett of Gibson Architects had been tasked with drawing up a plan for submission with the Planning Application. Informal discussions with Planning, for a series of boards, indicated that the process should be fairly straightforward.

Detailed design work on the Information Boards is being kept on hold until Planning Permission is received.

01/14/10

Customer Forum –Strategic review of Water Charges 2015-21 – Peter Peacock, Chair, Customer Forum for Water

Noted

01/14/11

Draft Scottish Government Good Practice Principals for Community Benefits from Onshore Renewable Energy Developments

The Chairman asked for any comments to be fed back to the Clerk, prior to 17 January.
(Action: Clerk of the Council)

01/14/12

The Scottish Ambulance-Patient Focus Public Involvement Strategy 2014-16 – Daniel Quee, Communications Officer, Scottish Ambulance Service

Noted

01/14/13

Correspondence

13.1 Meeting Invite – Queens Baton Relay – Sanna Aitken, Active Schools Co-ordinator, SIC

Miss K Fraser agreed to attend the meeting as Lerwick Community Council's representative.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

13.2 Grease Blocked Drains-The Great Wall – Dawn Manson, Lead Environmental Health Officer, SIC

The Chairman clarified that a member of Trade Effluence, Scottish Water, had visited the establishment; it transpired that the grease trap had been incorrectly installed and the owners had been educated as to how to maintain it.

13.3 Keep Clear Markings-Church Road Car Park – Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC

Noted

13.4 Pavement Parking-The Red Dragon, Commercial Road – Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC

Mr Ristori explained that his point of concern was that cars were driving up onto the pavement to park, causing a danger to pedestrians.

Mr Peterson advised members of a similar situation outside Grantfield Garage; a vehicle could often be seen parked at the side of the petrol pumps causing an obstruction to pedestrians.

Cllr M Bell stated that if there was a danger, it was a matter for the Police and the issues should be raised directly with them.

The Chairman agreed and asked the Clerk to write to the Police, commenting on both sites.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

13.5 Request for Support – Mr John Manson, Chairman, Shetland Fireball Association

The Chairman added that the event would last over a week and could bring up to two hundred visitors to Shetland.

Members agreed that they would be happy for Lerwick Community Council to provide a letter of support.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

01/14/14 **Financial Report as at 30 December 2013**

Noted

01/14/15 **Funding Opportunities**

15.1 Scotland Paths for All - To Improve and Develop Local Paths – before end of March 2014

It was agreed that given the constraints on time and finances, Shetland Amenity Trust should be approached and asked to provide quotes to make and install two stiles at a competitive price.

Mr A Johnston agreed to mark on a map, suitable positions for two stiles at Grotty Buckie beach, near Quoys.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

15.2 Historic Scotland – Ancient Monument Grants – before 31 July 2013

Mr Peterson suggested that it may be worthwhile considering requesting funding for a new gate at the Clickimin Broch site.

The Chairman expressed concern that Lerwick Community Council would then become responsible for the gate.

Mr Peterson agreed, for that reason, not to pursue the suggestion.

15.3 Grow Wild Community Sites

Members agreed that it was unfortunate that the information had arrived so close to the deadline for applications.

Members agreed that it may be a project the Moving on Project could take control of.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to forward a copy of the email to Moving on Project, suggesting that Longland or Baila would be good areas to plant up.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

01/14/16

Applications for Premises Licence

16.1 Phu Siam Thai Restaurant – Application for Premises Licence

No objections

01/14/17

Planning Applications

17.1 2013/408/PPF Change of use from offices to 7 apartments 91-93 St Olaf Street, Lerwick - Mr J Goodlad

No objections

17.2 2013/446/PPF Demolish existing building, 72 Commercial Road, Lerwick - Shetland Leasing & Property Developments Ltd

No objections

17.2 Re consultation 2013/382/AMSC - Erect dwellinghouse with access track, parking and turning area garden shed, Garden Of Craigielea, 39 St Olaf Street, Lerwick – Mr & Mrs Finnie

No objections

01/14/18

Lerwick Planning Applications – December 2013

Noted

01/14/19

Any Other Business

Mill Lane

Mr Ristori reminded members that several times over the years, he had expressed concern for the safety of pedestrians walking along the pavement at the foot of Mill Lane. He noted that there was still an issue, and suggested that the incidences of cars using the route was increasing; he proposed that making the route access only may alleviate the situation.

Mr Carter added that the nightclub may have an increased impact.

Mr Johnston suggested that any increased use of the route may have been because of building work blocking the road at the top of Mill Lane.

The Chairman stated that making the route access only, would only work if it was properly policed.

He asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads to request the use of the traffic counter to ascertain the volume of traffic using the route.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Sea Path

Mrs Simpson noted that the Sea Path, behind the Matchbox, had been torn and broken up with recent stormy weather and was in need of a tidy up.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Mr M Malcolmson, Leisure Facilities Officer, SIC with regard to the issue.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Streetlights – Clickimin Footpath

Mr Peterson advised that a member of the public had informed him that lights had been removed from the Clickimin footpath, leaving areas unlit.

Road over Staney Hill

Mr Peterson stated that a member of the public had informed him that the surface of the road over the Staney Hill was being torn up due to incessant traffic using the road.

Parking on Lochside-Car Hire Firm

Referring to car parking on Lochside, Mr Peterson noted that it appeared that a car hire company was using the parking area for storing their vehicles.

The Chairman replied that parking along Lochside had been discussed on a number of previous occasions and LCC had been advised that as long as the cars were taxed and MOT'd, there was little that could be done about it.

Lerwick Port Authority - Presentation

Noting recent changes around Lerwick, Mr Peterson expressed an interest in a representative from Lerwick Port Authority presenting at a forthcoming meeting of Lerwick Community Council.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to remind Mrs S Laurenson, Chief Executive, LPA, they had agreed attend a meeting of Lerwick Community Council and ask to for confirmation of when they would be attending.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Rescue Centre – Tingwall

Mr Peterson expressed his dismay at the closure of the Rescue Centre in Gott; he enquired if Lerwick Community Council would be willing to write a letter of support to keep the centre open.

The Chairman stated that it was his understanding that the Centre was rarely used and that SSPCA would still operate.

Mrs Simpson advised that it was the oil industry that funded the Centre and perhaps they would again.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to SSPCA expressing concern at the closure of the welfare centre; he asked for the letter to be cc'd to Dr Mike Richardson, SOTIAG.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Beach at Sands of Sound-Grotty Buckie

Mr Peterson expressed concern that whilst undertaking work at the small beach at Sands of Sound, it appeared that Scottish Water had unnecessarily removed banking and graded off the beach.

The Chairman declared a non pecuniary interest as an employee of Scottish Water and handed the Chair over to Mrs A Simpson, Vice Chairman.

Photographs taken by Mr Peterson, following the works, were passed around for members to view.

Cllr A Wishart disagreed with Mr M Peterson's remarks; he had been at the beach the previous weekend and had noticed very little difference.

Mr Anderson advised that as a Scottish Water employee, he could not pass comment. However, he asked Mr Peterson to provide copies of the photographs he had taken of the beach to the Clerk of the Council for inclusion in her letter to Scottish Water. Mr Anderson also suggested that Mr Peterson could write personally to Scottish Water.

Cllr A Wishart asked for clarification; who was complaining, the Council, or Mr Peterson.

To assist in the debate, Mr Anderson explained that the scope of works was to install a new emergency overflow to the Ruddy Park waste water pumping station; this involved renewing the overflow which had been cut into the rock rather than pinned over the surface as original outfall had been. Material on the beach had to be removed, purely to facilitate construction and get plant in.

He added that Scottish Water would have photographs of the site before any work took place for comparison purposes.

Mr Peterson reiterated that the entire beach had been degraded.

Cllr A Wishart suggested that Scottish Water be written to and asked to detail the projects scope of works.

Mr Peterson agreed with the suggestion.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

The Vice Chairman handed the Chair back to Mr Anderson

Burgh Road

Mr A Wenger advised that since NHS moved its offices to Montfield, during working hours, cars were frequently parked on both sides of Burgh Road causing a bottleneck thus reducing the road, in part, to a single track.

Mrs Simpson clarified that the parking spaces on Burgh Road were also taken up by staff and visitors to the Dentist, Viewforth, Laburnum and the old Finance office.

The Chairman thought that half of the car park in Burgh Road was coned off, due to works, adding to the issue.

He agreed that visibility was being compromised by the parked cars.

Members suggested that, for safety reasons, it may be necessary to investigate the feasibility of creating a one way system, or using yellow lines to prohibit parking.

It was agreed that Mr D Coupe, Roads, should be written to and advised of the concerns raised.

There being no further competent business the meeting concluded at 8.30pm.

Minute ends.

MR J ANDERSON
CHAIRMAN
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chairman.....

Date.....