

MONDAY 2 MAY 2016

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

Members

Mrs A Simpson	Mr J Anderson
Mr A Johnston	Mr A Wenger
Ms K Fraser	Mr S Hay
Mr P Coleman (Arr 7.10pm)	Mr W Spence
Mr J Fraser (Arr 7.15pm)	Mr A Carter
Mr E Knight	

Ex-Officio Councillors

Cllr M Bell	Cllr J Wills (Arr 7.10pm)
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In Attendance

Mr Mark Clarke, Project Manager, Morrison Construction
Mr Trevor Smith, Project Manager, Capital Programmes, SIC
P C Malcolm MacLeod, Police Scotland
Mrs Pat Christie, Community Planning & Development Officer
Mrs M Sandison, Clerk to the Council

Chairman

Mr J Anderson, Chairman to the Council presided.

05/16/01

Circular

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

05/16/02

Apologies for absence

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

05/16/03

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting were approved by Ms K Fraser and seconded by Mr S Hay.

05/16/04

Business Arising from the Minutes

05/16/05

New AHS Construction – Mark Clark, Project Director, Morrison Construction and Trevor Smith, Project Manager, Capital Programmes, SIC

Mr Anderson welcomed Mr Clark and Mr Smith to the meeting and accepted apologies on behalf of Mrs Budge.

Mr Clark introduced himself and Mr Smith and offered to give the community council a brief presentation showing some slides and answer any questions following that. A few slides showing the architects plans and were followed by slides showing the site progress to date. The school dining area was an open atrium area, an attractive and modern feature in other recent school developments explained Mr Clarke with internal terraces looking down on a seating and standing communal area. The Halls of Residence was shown, three storeys high, with plenty of social spaces and en-suite bedrooms.

Mr Clarke showed progress to date with slides of the construction site revealing the Halls of Residence at the second floor level with roof steel work in place and the School at the fourth floor level. He said that construction was moving at a reasonable pace.

Mr Anderson thanked Mr Clarke for the presentation and for the informative site visit the community council recently had. He asked if anyone had any questions.

Cllr Wills enquired as to how the landscaping was progressing.

Mr Clarke replied that ground work in wet conditions was always difficult, but a lot of rock was on site, so in general they were coping. The site had a very hard surface and had not stopped them.

Cllr Wills asked if they were re-using the rock, did they have enough rock and was there surplus.

Mr Clarke said that there was no surplus rock. They had enough to balance out and were not short of material. Environmentally it was the right thing to do, instead of taking to the tip. It was quality rock which was good to re-use once broken down.

Mr Spence enquired when the rock breaking might stop.

Mr Clarke replied that the bulk of the rock was out two to three months ago. The septic tank store pump was deep to allow for drainage. The pump station was in at the school and nearly complete for the Halls of Residence. Only the local trenches were left to do. Over the next three to four months it would gradually be less and less. He apologised for the noise. Unfortunately it was the method they had had to adopt. It was not possible to blast so near to housing and the swimming pool.

Cllr Wills asked what had been the biggest problem so far on the project.

Mr Clarke replied that it was the rock. It was very tough, in fact the hardest he had come across. This meant that the school was not going anywhere. It was quality material used in the roads, car parks. He said that Shetland Quality Construction was working with it very well. Along with local firms, Garriocks and EM Plant.

Mr Hay expressed how impressed he was with the pace and scale in which the buildings were going up. He was pleased to hear about the durability and keen to hear if the design was flexible enough to allow for changing learning needs, as it was to be Shetland's learning centre.

Mr Clarke said he couldn't give a qualified answer as he was a construction man, but he had been involved in a number of school builds. The nature of these buildings allowed for a level of flexibility built in and for future expansion. There is the opportunity to develop spaces to suit needs as they evolve. It was a central feature of modern school buildings which allowed it to be knocked around easier it was far removed from the 1960s tower designs which were 'higgledy-piggledy'. It allowed kids to transit the school easily and the modern core area, gives them circulation space and connectivity.

It was agreed that the design would be a better environment for both children and teachers.

Mr Clarke said that feedback from Elgin High School was that everybody liked the building. Having the central area meant it functioned well and it was easy to travel around the school.

Police Constable Malcolm Macleod arrived 7.25pm

Mr Anderson enquired about the completion date.

Mr Clarke replied that it would be September 2017.

Mr Smith said that the decision of how and when to move had not yet been decided. They were not under estimating that task. It would be the best and least disruptive time and suggested that it may be possibly during the October holidays.

Mr Clarke agreed that the task was not to be under estimated. He suggested being ruthless and getting rid of everything that they didn't need. He had seen hundreds perhaps thousands of boxes left in corridors.

Mr Anderson asked about the hostel completion date.

Mr Clarke replied it was the same, good progress was being made, although you don't always know what is around the corner. He mentioned that the trades involved were on the Island. They were hoping to stay on track and pushing to beat that or at least make it. There was a possibility of damaged kit due to the nature of a sophisticated building. They had a mantra that it will be sunny till September 2017. They had experienced reasonable weather to date.

Mr Anderson thanked Mr Clarke and Mr Smith for coming along.

Mr Clarke thanked the community council for the time and opportunity.

Mr Clarke and Mr Smith left at 7.35pm.

05/16/12

Police Scotland

Mr Anderson welcomed PC Malcolm Macleod to the meeting.

PC Macleod asked if the monthly report had been circulated.

The clerk replied that the report had been recently received.

PC Macleod said that it would be forwarded. He had been asked to attend by his reporting officer and asked if anyone had any questions.

Cllr Wills mentioned the problem of 'boy racers' on Victoria Pier and asked if the Police had any resources for dealing with them.

PC Macleod replied that generally they had a good relationship with them. He suggested that if aware of any problem then it could be highlighted and can be dealt with straight away.

Cllr Wills asked about the use of CCTV camera's for detecting culprits.

PC Macleod advised that their use was limited. He suggested that Police presence out and about at the weekend was more effective. He said that unfortunately they were always going to be there.

Cllr Wills suggested the use of 'smiley' signs as seen in little villages, advising on your speed.

PC Macleod agreed they were a handy tool. He suggested that this was something to be raised.

Mr Anderson asked if they had noticed any improvement in traffic behaviour on the street.

PC Macleod couldn't say for sure and a review was being done. He advised that there were still a lot of cars parked at the Market Cross.

Mr Anderson thanked PC Macleod for coming along.

PC Malcolm Macleod left at 7.45pm.

05/16/06

LOOT for LERWICK

Mr Anderson informed members that a total of nineteen applications had been approved. They were over-subscribed in proportion to the money so there would be a degree of competition. The event was to take place on 21st May and another two or three willing hands to help would be appreciated, if anyone can spare the time.

Some members offered to help on the day.

Mrs Christie mentioned that Delting had twelve applications in and South Mainland was currently producing their PR.

Mr Fraser suggested a few members attending the Delting event to see how things go.

Mrs Christie mentioned that Delting had had an event before. She commented that the applications were excellent and very varied with lots of new groups competing.

Mr Anderson said it was perhaps a reflection of the reduced availability of money. It was just a simple form, followed by a two minute presentation so little effort was involved.

05/16/07

Correspondence

7.1 School Transport Stop Assessment Reports

Mr Anderson explained the documents were assessments of bus stop locations. He asked if anyone had any comments.

7.2 Pelican Crossings

Mr Anderson noted the reply received from Roads that Siemens were to visit in June and undertake installations and maintenance checks.

Cllr Wills mentioned that half of the crossing lights at Albert Buildings had failed and was the cause of much confusion.

Mr Anderson suggested that we pass on the information to Roads. He queried the proposed traffic order and if all new lights were installed.

Cllr Wills remarked that it had been postponed due to twenty eight objections. The discussion was on-going and would be before the Environment and Transport Committee on 14 June.

7.3 Yellow Lines

Mr Anderson noted the letter from Roads and the gentle reminder regarding the Highway Code. He asked if anyone had any questions.

7.4 Flower Park Sports Facilities

Mr Anderson noted the reply received and suggested we write thanking them.
(Action: Clerk to the council)

7.5 Community Path Grant Application

Mr Anderson noted that any progress would be reported in June.

Cllr Wills mentioned he had reported the state of the path near the Sandy Loch with barriers that had fallen down. He said prompt action was taken within twelve hours of raising the concern and a temporary barrier was put in place.

7.6 Living Lerwick Christmas Lights Grant Receipt

Noted.

7.7 Scottish Rural Parliament Local Event

Mr Anderson suggested that anyone interested in attending should inform the clerk who will forward on.

7.8 Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 Consultation of Draft Regulations

Mrs Simpson commented that she had started to look over the questionnaire. She queried if it should be completed individually or something that the community council could fill in. A good read of the document was recommended to become better informed.

Mr Anderson agreed that members were encouraged to look over the document and for it to be included in the June agenda.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

7.9 Tesco Bags of Help Greenspace Funding

Mr Anderson asked if anyone had a proposal. It was agreed to try again for the Sletts sea path area, although it was marginal that it would fit the funding criteria.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

7.10 CDF PB Pilot Project Funding '16/'17

Noted.

7.11 CDF Project Upgrade Lighting at Clickimin Broch

Noted.

7.12 Water & Sewage Exemption Scheme '16-'17

Noted.

7.13 Clerk Pay Rate & SIC Salary Scales

This item was held until the end.

05/16/08

Grant Applications

8.1 British Royal Legion Lerwick Pipe Band – New Uniforms

Mr Anderson explained that the Pipe Band had a bid in with 'Loot for Lerwick' for two new uniforms, so were hoping for four in total.

Mr Carter proposed approving the full grant of two thousand pounds.

Mr Spence seconded the motion.

Mr Fraser said he opposed the proposal as he thought the British Legion could raise the funds themselves with one big night of fundraising.

Cllr Wills pointed out that they planned to hold a few fundraising activities.

Mr Anderson emphasised that it was not the British Legion but the Pipe Band who were looking for funding.

Cllr Wills remarked that the band were an asset to the community, it was a reasonable application to make along with plans to raise their own funds.

Mr Coleman seconded Mr Fraser's objection saying that it was a lot of money and the community council only had so much money available.

Mr Wenger left the meeting at 8.15pm

Both proposals were put to the vote.

Proposal to grant funding to the Royal British Legion Pipe Band received six votes.

Proposal to refuse funding received three votes.

The proposal to grant funding was carried.

(Action: Clerk to the council)

05/16/09

Planning Applications

9.1 2016/124/PPF – Erect Student Accommodation – 68 Commercial Road, Lerwick, ZE1 0NJ – Cityheart Limited

Cllr Wills declared an interest as a trustee of Shetland Charitable Trust which owns the company that owns the land.

Cllr Bell declared an interest as member of the planning board.

Mr Coleman stated that he had no objections to the planning.

Mrs Simpson raised concern regarding the lack of parking in the area and in relation to the eighty residents to be accommodated.

Ms Fraser suggested that being student accommodation less car provision would be necessary. She commented about over provision, but could understand the possibility of take-over of other spaces in the area.

Mr Spence agreed there was limited parking provision for what will be mature students in an eighty folk hostel. He suggested that a larger percentage will have a vehicle.

Mr Carter made a comparison with the NAFC Marine Centre large parking area and with only a fraction of the eighty students.

Mr Anderson proposed they make comment on the perceived insufficient parking.

Mrs Simpson agreed that it seemed very low for the number of students and additional for staff.

Mr Spence mentioned the area becoming built-up with new flats and the need to reflect on how it was going to end up.

Ms Fraser suggested it was time they stopped thinking about car parking spaces, although the college at Gremista had a limited bus service. She pointed out the lack of student accommodation and the critical need for the college.

Mr Anderson concluded that they would write and raise concern for the parking.
(Action: Clerk to the Council)

9.2 2016/156/PPF – To build 9no. housing units (5no. – 2 person/2 apartment, 3no. – 3 person/3 apartment and 1no. 6 person/5 apartment) on site for which planning permission exists for housing – Hill Grind, Lerwick, ZE1 0GT – Hjalmland Housing Association Ltd

Mr Anderson and Mr Coleman declared an interest as members of Hjalmland Housing Association Board.

Mrs Simpson welcomed the development.

Ms Fraser informed members that a chalet had been taken away and the area cleared.

Mr Anderson asked if there were any further comments.
(Action: Clerk to the Council)

05/16/10

Finance

10.1 Core Funding Financial Report 27 April 2016-05-25
Noted.

Additional Agenda Item

Open Day – Tesco Thursday 5th May

Mr Anderson informed members that information about a Tesco Open Day for community organisations had been received too late for the agenda. It advertised three sessions run by a new Community Champion for Tesco.

He asked the clerk to circulate the email to members and if anyone who was interested in attending to let her know.

(Action: Clerk to the Council)

Agenda Item held till the end

7.13 Clerk Pay Rate & SIC Salary Scales

The community council agreed to raise the Clerk's salary to that recommended by the ASCC effective from 1st April 2016.

05/16/11

A.O.B.

Additional Planning Application

2015/406/PPF – To erect dwelling house and alter existing communal car park – Adjacent to 43 Fogralea, Lerwick, ZE1 0SE – Mr James Watt

Mr Spence asked for support from of the community council in relation to the planning application and concerns raised by neighbours. He explained the background

to previous refusal by the planning department. He outlined the proposed plans and concern that they didn't fit in with the character of the area.

Other areas of concern were for the proposed additional parking and the lack of space for turning and large vehicle access, such as the refuse truck and the shortage of green space surrounding the property.

Discussion took place on the areas of concern and members looked at planning documents.

Some members suggesting waiting until the application appeared before the community council, but it was not sure if this would happen before the next meeting. It was agreed to write to planning and raise concerns expressed by the neighbours in the area.

(Action: Clerk to the Council)

Shetland Charitable Trust Governance Review

Cllr Wills informed members that the next meeting of the Charitable Trust on 12 May would include a proposed change in the governance of the trust with a reduction from seven to four councillor trustees.

He explained that no public consultation was to take place and that previously the ASCC had been consulted and expressed the view that everyone should be elected. He said there should be public consultation.

Mr Anderson said that he didn't disagree and asked if all members were happy. It was agreed to write to the trust calling for the public to be consulted over the changes.
(Action: Clerk to the Council)

There being no further competent business the meeting concluded at 8.55pm.
Minute ends.

MR J ANDERSON
CHAIRMAN
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chairman.....

Date.....