

MONDAY 1 OCTOBER 2012

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

Members

Mr J Anderson
Mr D Ristori
Mrs A Simpson
Mr A Johnson
Mr A Westlake

Miss K Fraser
Mr S MacMillan
Mrs E Williamson **arrived 7.10pm**
Mr S Hay
Mr J Stewart

Ex-Officio Councillors

Cllr M Bell

Cllr P Campbell

In Attendance

Mrs K Semple, Clerk to the Council
Mr J Edwards, Quality Improvement Officer, SIC
Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC

Chairman

Mr J Anderson, Chairman to the Council presided.

12/10/01

Circular

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

12/10/02

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr A Carter, Cllr C Smith, Mr A Henry, Mr W Spence, Cllr A Wishart, Mr M Peterson, Cllr J Wills and Cllr M Stout.

12/10/03

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 September were approved by Mrs A Simpson and seconded by Mr D Ristori.

12/10/04

Business Arising from the Minutes

12/09/15 Listing and Fallen Gravestones – The Chairman informed members that Mr J Emptage, Team Leader, Cleansing, Grounds & Building Service, SIC had verbally advised that Shetland Islands Council were aware of the issue and that the gravestones would be reinstated as part of their winter maintenance programme.

12/10/05

Update-Proposed New Anderson High School – Mr J Edwards, Quality Improvement Officer, SIC

Mr Jerry Edwards, Quality Improvement Officer, SIC advised members that he had no additional information to add to that which was already in the public domain.

He stated that Shetland Islands Council had approved the building of the new Anderson High School on the Lower Stoney Hill and that they were in receipt of a letter from the Scottish Government advising that Shetland Islands Council would receive funding, but there were no details as to how much.

Mr J Edwards informed members that, generally, funding assistance would be worked out on meterage; there was an allowance of 11 square meters per pupil at £1,900 per square meter, plus an additional 25% because of Shetland's location; this could mean possible financial assistance of £23,000,000.

He furthered that the Halls of Residence and ASN Base may receive assistance per square meterage on a like for like basis, but that they would be more certain in a few days.

Mr J Edwards added that it was SIC's intention that the proposed new Anderson High School would make use of the facilities at Clickimin Leisure Complex rather than build a whole new games hall; there were no plans, at the moment, to include a games hall into the build but they intended to keep their options open in case some added accommodation was required.

He clarified that AHS school pupils attending Clickimin Leisure Complex, as part of their school day, would continue to be taught by AHS school staff.

Ms K Fraser asked if it was hoped that the Halls of Residence would be built on the same site.

Mr J Edwards responded that there were no plans as yet.

With reference to the school, Mr S Hay noted that, for such an investment, it would be folly to replicate what we already had.

Mr J Edwards responded that there were no plans to build like for like, it would be based on best practice.

When asked what would become of the existing buildings, Mr J Edwards advised that it was too early to comment.

The Chairman asked what provision would be made for community space.

Mr J Edwards replied that it was their intention to build a school that was accessible for the community; it would be a waste not to make use of the buildings out with school hours.

He added that he was confident it would be built by the summer of 2016.

Mrs E Williamson arrived – 7.10pm

The Chairman asked if there would be a risk to funding if the proposed new Anderson High School was built larger than the allotted square meterage per pupil, perhaps allowing for a community Library.

Mr J Edwards advised that historically the Scottish Government provided funding for two thirds of the cost of the build, based on the average school size required.

Concern was raised that access to Clickimin Leisure Complex, by the general public, would be severely restricted during school hours and this may cause ill feeling.

Mr J Edwards replied that it would mainly be the dry side which would be used by the school. However, there was scope in both the dry and wet sides of Clickimin Complex to cordon off areas to allow dual use.

There being no further questions, the Chairman thanked Mr J Edwards for attending the meeting to discuss progress with members.

Mr J Edwards left the meeting at 7.20pm.

12/10/06

Traffic Management Plan - Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC

Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC extended an invitation to Lerwick Community Council, Planning, local Police and the Chair and Vice Chair of the Environment & Transport Committee to form a working group to assist in forming a Traffic Management Plan.

He stated that Roads, SIC had no money for new ventures but that this would not always be the case; it would be prudent to have plans in place for when funds were available, look after the assets that they had and prepare to move forward.

They had to prioritise and come to a sensible arrangement.

Mr D Coupe thought that the working group would be a unified way forward for Lerwick to encompass everything and the longer picture would have to be looked at, such as how the proposed new Anderson High School will change the traffic flow.

He advised that there was a proposal to have a 20mph speed limit from the top of Church Road to the Viking Bus Station. This would have an impact on the traffic flow and, because of the reduced speed of traffic, the traffic lights could be removed and replaced by pelican crossings.

Ms K Fraser enquired if that was the only area which would have these changes implemented.

Mr D Coupe replied that it was; the changes would be easy to put into operation and good for Lerwick. However, he did not preclude other areas from future consideration.

12/09/09 item 9.11 Referencing Harrison Square, Mr D Coupe stated that a report was given to the Environment & Transport Committee recommending Option 1 went ahead. Funding was in place for Option 1 and it did not preclude Option 2 for the future. Consideration would also be given to pedestrianising the area and the parking 'tidied up'.

Concern was raised that removal of parking spaces would affect residents in the area, however, Mr D Coupe assured members that parking for residents would be taken into consideration.

When asked if Burns Walk was still under review, Mr D Coupe replied that it was and that it would be looked at shortly.

Ms K Fraser enquired if consideration had been given to charging for parking.

Mr D Coupe replied that it was under review and would be taken into account in the Traffic Management Plan for the whole of Lerwick.

Ms A Westlake informed members that there was great concern among residents in the Quoys area with regard to the speed of vehicles on the residential road and the safety of children.

Mr D Coupe responded that he had recently received a letter raising the same concern and that the issue was under investigation.

The Chairman thanked Mr D Coupe for attending the meeting.

The presentation being over Mr D Coupe left the meeting at 7.35pm.

12/10/07

Freefield Centre

7.1 Chair's Report – 21 August 2012

The Chairman proposed that based on the 'Spend to Save' initiative, perhaps consideration could be given to Islesburgh or other existing premises, being used for the pensioners Lunch and social club. He thought that Islesburgh particularly had good access and egress and that the pensioners' use of the facility may assist in making Islesburgh actually financially viable in itself.

Cllr M Bell advised that a number of options were currently being considered, and Islesburgh was one of them.

Mrs A Simpson enquired who owned Freefield.

Cllr M Bell replied that the building was owned by Shetland Islands Council but that the ground was owned by Hay & Co. Buildbase.

The Chairman proposed that the service currently enjoyed at Freefield Centre is maintained, but that the use of existing premises under the 'Spend to Save' initiative be given due consideration.

Mr A Johnson seconded the Chairman's proposal.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Cllr C Smith, Chairman, Social Services Committee, to advise him of Lerwick Community Council's views.
(Action: Clerk of the Council)

12/10/08

Lerwick Community Council Website

Members approved the new website stating that it was splendid, straightforward and informative.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

12/10/09

Correspondence

9.1 Harrison Square/Irvine Place – Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, SIC

Discussed during item 12/10/06

9.2 Pedestrian Crossings – Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC

Discussed during item 12/10/06

9.3 Traffic Management Plan – Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC

Discussed during item 12/10/06

9.4 Urinating Footballers – Mr B Robertson, Acting Chairman, Shetland Football Association

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to the Shetland Football Association, and Works League, to see that if they, along with the management of Clickimin Leisure Complex could work together to achieve a solution to the problem.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Should this approach not be viable, the Chairman suggested that the Referees Association be written to for their assistance and players booked for ungentlemanly conduct if caught urinating outdoors.

9.5 Urinating Footballers - Mr R Geddes, Manager, Clickimin Complex

Ms K Fraser suggested that the Shetland Recreational Trust might consider taking over the responsibility of the Lochside public toilets during the football season.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Mr J Johnson, General Manager, Shetland Recreational Trust to enquire if he would give the proposal some consideration.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

9.6 LOTDA Information Boards – Ms C Irvine, Acting BID Manager, Living Lerwick

Noted

9.7 SIC Properties – Mr A Rolfe, Team Leader, Assets & Properties, SIC

Noted

9.8 Staney Hill/Hoofields Scheme Name Suggestions – Mr P Moar, Lerwick Resident

Mr D Ristori noted that his preference was 'Gronneberg Place'.

Ms K Fraser suggested that the name 'Irene Leask' be incorporated into a place name; she was the first person to run the community shop, ran it for ten years and was a well know character.

The Chairman asked members to forward any further suggestions on to the Clerk of the Council to compile and send to Staney Hill Community Association, for their consideration, along with Mr P Moar's suggestions.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

12/10/10

Financial Report as at 26 September 2012

Noted

10.1 Main Annual Running Costs 2012-2013

Noted

10.2 Annual Grants & Projects

Noted

10.3 Grants & Projects

Noted

12/10/11

Applications for Grant Funding

11.1 Islesburgh Pyrotechnics Display Club – Lerwick Fireworks Display 2012

The Chairman declared a non-pecuniary interest.

Mr D Ristori proposed a grant of £2,000.

The proposal was seconded by Mr J Stewart.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

11.2 Shetland Gymnastics Club – To Attend a Competition in Inverness

Ms A Westlake pointed out that any grant given would be spent out with Shetland.

The Chairman stated that it was a fair comment.

However he pointed out that the majority of the clubs' children resided in Lerwick. Also, he was aware that a great deal of time was spent assisting the young gymnasts and that the Coaches were very 'hands on' and proactive.

The Chair proposed a grant of £1,000.

This was seconded by Mr A McMillan.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

12/10/12

Planning Applications

12.1 2012/289/PPF change of use of land from Class 6 storage to create area to undertake oil rig decommissioning, Greenhead Base, Lerwick

No objections

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

12/10/13

Lerwick Planning Applications – September 2012

Noted

12/10/14

Any Other Business

Site of Old Archives

Mr D Ristori suggested that when the site was cleared, consideration could be given to it being used for housing.

Ms E Williamson suggested that the site could be kept as a green belt, it would tie in with the playing park and flower park.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Occupational Health and ask what plans, if any, they had for the building once it is vacated.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

North Ness Offices – Lights

Mr D Ristori remarked that the lights in the North Ness offices appeared to be on constantly.

Ms A Simpson advised that the lights were automatic and would go off if no one was there.

Cllr P Campbell agreed with Ms A Simpson but said he would look into the concern.

(Action: Cllr P Campbell)

Signs – Gutter’s Gaet and Mitchell’s Road

Mr D Ristori stated that the signs for Gutter’s Gaet and Mitchell’s Road had not yet been erected.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Mr N Hutcheson, Engineer, Roads, SIC to request that the signs are erected.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Quoys – Road Safety Concern

In the interests of pedestrian safety, Ms A Westlake again noted her concern that vehicles were driving at speeds which were not suitable for a residential, built up area.

She noted that in the interests of safety, the provision a ‘sleeping policeman’ would not be financially excessive.

The Chairman agreed; he asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC and request that a traffic counter is deployed in the area in order to record vehicles speed.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Community Benefit Fund

Mrs E Williamson informed members that the group was making good progress.

Viking Energy had offered Shetland Community Benefit Fund a total of £1,800,000 each year but it was CBF’s hope to negotiate another £500 per windmill which would Nett over £2,000,000 each year.

The Chairman noted that the group had to be seen to approach all renewable schemes; he asked if approaches had been made to any of the others.

Ms E Williamson advised that they had not, as yet, but they had themselves been approached by smaller schemes.

She understood how other communities might feel if Shetland Community Benefit fund approached renewable energy schemes in their areas.

The Chairman stated that there were two sides, the construction impact and the long term impact. The nearer an area was to windmills, the more finances they would receive.

Ms E Williamson further advised that there would be two pots of funds; one would filter through to Community Councils and the other would be used for loans and small grants for businesses.

She thought that it was all looking very positive; funding would come in from the very moment the ‘first shovel went into the ground’.

There being no other competent business the meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Minute ends.

MR J ANDERSON
CHAIRMAN
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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