

MONDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 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 A Henry
Mr E Knight
Mr A Carter
Mr W Spence
Mr S Hay

Miss K Fraser
Mr A Johnson
Mrs A Simpson
Mr D Ristori
Mr J Stewart

Ex-Officio Councillors

Cllr M Stout
Cllr C Smith

Cllr A Wishart
Cllr J Wills (**left 8.15pm**)

In Attendance

Mr G Steel, Community Liaison Manager, SSE
Mr D Hitchin, Operations Manager, Lerwick Power Station
Mrs K Semple, Clerk to the Council

Chairman

Mr J Anderson, Chairman to the Council presided.

12/09/01

Circular

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

12/09/02

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr L Angus, Mr M Peterson, Mr A McMillan, Mrs E Williamson, Ms A Westlake, Cllr P Campbell and Cllr M Bell.

12/09/03

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 July were approved by Mr A Henry and seconded by Mrs A Simpson.

12/09/04

Business Arising from the Minutes

LCC Office Accommodation

Mr E Knight asked if things were any further forward with regard to office accommodation for Lerwick Community Council within the Town Hall.

The Clerk stated that Cllr M Bell had advised her that in principal there would be no objection to office space being shared, however, she would find the 9-5, Monday to Friday routine quite restrictive.

12/07/06 6.7 Heritage Place Names Map

The Chairman advised that there had been two expressions of interest.

Mr B Smith, Archivist had also been written to and asked if he would be willing to assist in the production, but he had yet to respond.

12/07/12 Living Lerwick – BID Update

Mr A Carter enquired if LCC were to receive an update.

The Clerk informed members that a BID representative had indicated that they hoped to update members on their progress together with a funding request at a later date.

12/09/05

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

Presentation deferred until the October 2012 meeting of Lerwick Community Council.
(Action: Clerk of the Council)

12/09/06

Proposed New Replacement Power Station – Mr G Steel, Community Liaison Officer, SSE & Mr D Hitchin, Operations Manager, Lerwick Power Station

Mr G Steel, Community Liaison Officer, SSE provided members with a Powerpoint presentation regarding the proposed new Lerwick Power Station.

He advised that the existing Gremista station is now beyond its projected lifecycle, and does not meet the current environmental regulations required by SEPA. Therefore their proposal is to construct a new power station near Rova Head with the subsequent decommissioning, deconstruction and remediation of the existing site. The aim being to commence construction in 2014 and complete commissioning by late 2016, assuming all consents meet the anticipated programme.

Mr G Steel stated that the overall feedback from the Public Consultation and first exhibition, June 2012 was positive and most of the 82 attendees who expressed a view indicated agreement with the initial proposals.

A further exhibition is planned for this autumn presenting the detailed design following feedback received. An in depth assessment of the project's environmental impact will accompany the application for consent.

The submission of proposal will be in late autumn, followed by a statutory consultation period.

In relation to the construction it is anticipated that all large items of plant will be delivered by sea, using existing facilities at Greenhead and Dales Voe. Noise levels will be monitored during the construction process to ensure that they remain within prescribed limits.

Cllr J Wills enquired if consideration had been given to making use of waste heaps for feeding into District Heating.

Mr D Hitchin replied that initial discussions had taken place with Mr N Martin, Manager, Shetland Heat, Energy and Power Ltd and things would be looked at more closely at a later date.

Cllr J Wills also asked if any consideration had been given to Sullom Voe as a suitable site.

Mr D Hitchin replied that the network was designed to run from Lerwick and that the water was cooler.

Mr E Knight raised concern that the siting of proposed new Power Station may conflict with any future proposals for a tunnel to Bressay.

Cllr J Wills thought that any planned tunnel would be further north of the proposed new Power Station.

Mr G Hitchin stated that he would check into the concern.

Mr A Carter enquired about the decommissioning of the old Power Station.

Mr G Hitchin advised that the old Power Station would be demolished and the site made serviceable and fully cleared of any contamination. He thought that the process would take around 18 months.

The Chairman enquired how things would tie in with the NINE's project.

Mr G Steel stated that what was proposed by NINE's would be integrated into the site.

The Chairman also asked how any decision with Viking Energy would impact on the programme.

Mr G Steel responded that a replacement power station would be needed to provide Shetland with a reliable and secure electricity supply regardless of Viking, but the proposed interconnector has an impact on the running regime which is anticipated, 'standby' or 'full duty'.

He further explained that the development of the proposal and application for Section 36 consent would allow for both options, but the Environmental Impact Assessment would be based upon the most extreme case - which would be a new station with capacity of up to 120MW, operating on a full duty running regime, as the existing power station. By seeking consent to cover both scenarios, the best option could be considered once there is greater clarity with regard to the development of the interconnector.

Cllr M Stout enquired if there was much difference in cost between stand by and full duty.

Mr D Hitchin replied that there was a big difference but he did not have the figures to hand.

Cllr J Wills asked if any thought had been give to a floating Power Station.

Mr D Hitchin responded that it had never been considered.

The Chairman thanked Mr G Steel and Mr D Hitchin for attending the meeting and giving their presentation.

The presentation being over, Mr G steel and Mr D Hitchin left the meeting at 7.40pm.

12/09/07

Community Council Review

7.1 ASCC – Survey Findings Shetland Community Council Review June/July 2012

Noted

7.2 Synopsis of Individual Responses from CC's – July 2012

Cllr J Wills noted that there did not appear to be any progress in implementing the proposals put forward by Community Councils.

Cllr M Stout reasoned that for many CC's it was like 'running into a wall' due to practical difficulties. A number of the suggestions would mean that CC's would have to be employers and that would bring with it additional costs such as Employers Liability Insurance.

Ms K Fraser stated that she found it hard to see how CC's could deliver things cheaper and it would be too difficult to step in and run, for example, bus services and Freefield Centre.

She thought that some ideas were more workable, like the purchase of Christmas Trees coming out of LCC's budget.

The Chairman asked all members to contact the Clerk with any savings suggestion that they had, no matter how small.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

12/09/08

Shetland's Local Bus Services Redesign Project – Consultation Timetable

8.1 Public Consultation Document – Local Bus Services Redesign Project

It was thought that, in general, the report looked good; there appeared to be little change in the bus services for the town, the main changes were on country runs.

It was agreed that by re-routing the west and north late evening services, along Old North Road/Ladies Drive, a much greater population could be served with only a nominal increase to the existing route(s).

It was also suggested that buses try to accommodate bicycles, either in the bus itself by removing seats, or cycle racks fitted.

Concern was raised that buses from the airport left right on schedule, regardless, thereby leaving travellers, who were delayed from flights, without transport.

Cllr A Wishart explained that it was not just an airport bus, and that operators could be fined by the Transport Commission if frequently late or early.

It was suggested that consideration could be given to a revised timetable for the last bus north from Sumburgh Airport, leaving no earlier than 7.45pm but perhaps as late as 8.00pm, in order that any potential customers from delayed flights could utilise the service.

Cllr M Stout suggested that an approach be made to Flybe to fund the running of a dedicated airport bus.

Ms K Fraser proposed integrated ticketing, for multi-stage journeys, across multiple operators, along with multi-journey discounts to ease and encourage the use of public transport.

The Chairman agreed to the suggestions.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Cllr A Wishart informed members that integrated ticketing, to include ferries, was being looked at for the Smart Card.

12/09/09

Correspondence

9.1 Report-OSCR's on Shetland Charitable Trusts Proposed Reorganisation – Mr K Mathers, Charity Services Senior Case Officer, OSCR

Cllr J Wills advised that SCT were soon to meet to discuss the letter from OSCR and the way forward.

He noted that there was an argument whereby once democratic control was lost, it could never be regained and at the forthcoming Trust meeting he would propose the motion that the current scheme is not implemented and Trustees are directly elected not councillors.

He stated that it was the majority of opinion that Trustees should be elected, not appointed and he proposed to write to Mr D Ratter to advise that he would stand by his previous comment that the majority of SCT Trustees should be elected and not appointed 'willy nilly'.

The Chairman stated that it remained the view of Lerwick Community Council that the majority of the Trustees should be elected democratically.

Cllr J Wills informed members that Shetland Charitable Trust owned more assets than SIC's reserves and soon it would own much more. He hoped that OSCR would take SCT to court as 'they would beat them'.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

9.2 2012/122/PPF – Drainage Concern, New Storage Shed, Shetland Amenity rust – Mr J Wiseman, Planning Officer, SIC

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Mr J Wiseman, Planning Officer, SIC and formally withdraw the objection.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Cllr J Wills Left – 8.15pm

9.3 Traffic Lights at Co-op and Viking Bus Station – Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC and request that in light of the length of time taken to get parts to repair Traffic Lights, consideration should be given to replacing the lights with an alternative, such as Zebra Crossings or Pedestrian Islands.

Cllr C Smith stated that alternative options were already under consideration
(Action: Clerk of the Council)

9.4 Gressay Loan, Cul-De-Sac, Possible Streetlight Removal – Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC

Mr E Knight advised that the light had already been removed.

9.5 Grass Cutting, Roadside Verges – Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC

Cllr M Stout informed members that it was his belief it was cheaper to cut the grass fairly regularly as if left for too long, the weight of the grass increased the difficulty of cutting making it a longer process.

He added that rather than being swept up and dumped, the cut grass was now left to mulch, saving money.

9.6 Grass Cutting, Public Areas – Mr G MacDonald, Cleansing & Grounds Maintenance Officer, SIC

Noted

9.7 LOTDA Information Boards – Mr J Molloy, Asset Strategy Manager, SIC & Mr A Blaine, Deputy Manager, Shetland Amenity Trust

The Chairman stated that as far as he was aware Living Lerwick was trying to 'resurrect' the information boards as part of their trail. The boards and the erection of the boards had already been paid for by Shetland Amenity Trust. All that was left to be paid for was the planning permission and the board with the errors which required to be redone.

He asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Living Lerwick to confirm if they did have any plans to progress the project as part of their proposed trail.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

9.8 Footballers Urinating Outdoors – Mr R Geddes, Manager, Clickimin Leisure Complex

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Shetland Football Association and ask that they consider funding the opening of the public toilet during the football season.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

He also asked the Clerk to write to Mr R Geddes, Manager, Clickimin Leisure Complex and request that they administer the use of the toilet.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

9.9 Church Road Traffic Counter Data – Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, Roads, SIC

Noted

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

Mr A Carter stated that the 'Plan' looked more like a 'to do' list and was not at all strategic.

The Chairman agreed that there was no visible strategy.

Cllr M Stout suggested that the 2011 Policy would be a lot more strategic and that it was on the Council website.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to email the link to all members.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Members agreed that Mr D Coupe, Executive Manager, or Mr C Gair, Traffic Engineer, Roads, SIC should be invited to a meeting of Lerwick Community Council to discuss the Plan.

The Chairman asked members to contact the Clerk with details of anything which had been omitted from the list. He asked the Clerk of the Council to compile the suggestions in a formal response and ensure Mr Coupe or Mr Gair received the details prior attending a meeting so they could give their response at the meeting.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

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

The Chairman asked that the item be deferred until a meeting attended by Mr D Coupe or Mr C Gair.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

9.12 SIC Budget-Open Letter to SIC – Mr A Wenger, Lerwick Resident

Mr J Stewart voiced his disappointment that the Graduate Scheme was cut and put forward himself as a success story.

Cllr A Wishart responded that with a call for mass redundancies there could be a lot of criticism if paid graduate placements were taken on. He went on to say that Shetland would change dramatically but it might be a better place in ten years time.

Mr S Hay added that cuts to spending were vital but there needed to be clarity of vision so that people could make sense of the cuts.

Cllr M Stout thought that the letter was excellent and that the Council needed to get to grips with a realistic set of proposals and balance them with cuts. He advised that what was slowing up the process was statutory consultations and that there were currently '52 reviews on the go'.

12/09/10 **To be Approved – Unaudited Financial Accounts for Year Ended 31 March 2012**

Approved.
(Action: Clerk of the Council)

12/09/11 **Financial Report as at 28 August 2012**

The Chairman advised members that the amount of the second tranche payment was unclear and that it would be best, until confirmed, to consider the second tranche payment to be £11,956 and not £13,450, reducing the estimated free funds by £1,494.

12/09/12 **Planning Applications**

12.1 2012/262/PPF – Infill existing door to form window and paint exterior, 108 Commercial Street

No objections
(Action: Clerk of the Council)

12.2 2012/233/PPF – Permanent Retention of Emergency Helicopter Landing Site, Clickimin

No objections
(Action: Clerk of the Council)

12/09/13 **Traffic & Parking Order**

13.1 SIC (12 Queens Place, Lerwick)(Parking Place for Disabled Persons Vehicle)(Revocation No 2) Order 2012

No objections
(Action: Clerk of the Council)

12/09/14 **Lerwick Planning Applications – August 2012**

Noted

12/09/15 **Any Other Business**

SIC Property Sales

Mr D Ristori asked if Shetland Islands Council had managed to sell any of its properties.

Mr M Stout replied that Craigielea had sold and St Clements would be going back on the market.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Assets & Properties, SIC to enquire which other properties were due to go on the market.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

Fallen Gravestones

On behalf of Mr M Peterson, the Chairman raised concern that in the new Lerwick Cemetery, particularly in the lower half, some gravestones had fallen over and a number of others are in danger of falling over.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Jonathan Emptage, Cleansing, Grounds and Burial Service, SIC to enquire as to what arrangements were being put in place to reinstate the fallen gravestones and make safe those which are unstable.

(Action: Clerk of the Council)

LCCCT Unaudited Financial Accounts year ended March 2012

Approved

There being no other competent business the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Minute ends.

MR J ANDERSON
CHAIRMAN
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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