

**MONDAY 10 MARCH 2008**

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

**Members**

Mr J Anderson	Mr E Knight
Mrs A Simpson	Mr W Spence
Mr D Ristori	Mrs K Fraser
Mr M Peterson left 8.30	Mr A Johnson
Mr R Leith	Mrs K Greaves
Mr W Stove	

**Ex-Officio Councilors**

Cllr J Henry left 8.40

**In Attendance**

PS G McCarthy, Northern Constabulary  
Dr Lorraine Gray, SSMEI Project Officer, NAFC Marine Centre  
Mr Laurence Tait, Project Site Supervisor, Scottish Water  
Mr R Taylor, Shetland Times Reporter  
Mrs K Semple, Clerk to the Council

**Chairman**

Mr J Anderson, Chairman to the council presided.

08/03/01

**Circular**

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

08/03/02

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Alan Goudie and Ms M Robertson.

08/03/03

**Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2008 were approved by Ms K Fraser and seconded by Mr R Leith.

08/03/04

**Business Arising from the Minutes**

**08/02/09 9.2** Mr R Leith stated the Up Helly Aa Hosts and Hostesses had approached Shetland Islands Council but 'had drawn a blank'.

He pointed out that although it was not minuted at the previous Lerwick Community Council meeting; Cllr A Cluness had stated 'plenty of chairs were available at Shetland Islands Council'.

Mr R Leith pointed out it was all very well saying chairs were available but could the Up Helly Aa Hosts and Hostesses actually get the chairs when they were needed?

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Cllr A Cluness asking him to identify where the chairs were and confirm they would be readily available on request.

He asked for a copy of the letter to be sent to the Gilbertson Park, Up Helly Aa Hosts and Hostesses.

**08/02/09 9.5** The Chairman stated that following his enquiries the DLO had informed him the path at the Knab was costing £150 per metre. He concluded the cost per meter for the footpath link proposal may be slightly less and estimated the cost to be approximately £24,000 for a path measuring 200 metres.

The Chairman noted it was likely a handrail would also be required and possibly steps. He stated that if the path was funded by Lerwick Community Council they would be liable which would be a concern.

Mr W Spence stated he had recently received a quote of £175 per metre for a wide hard surface road. He therefore felt the quote of £150 per metre for a path was very expensive.

Ms K Fraser enquired if chips could be put down to form a path rather than anything full scale. She pointed out that people could just go the long way if necessary.

Mrs A Simpson stated chips may not be appropriate if it was necessary to make the path suitable for wheelchair use like the path at the Knab.

Mr W Spence stated the path would have to come up to a certain standard. However, he was aware of various paths currently in use which were unsuitable for wheelchairs and they seemed to be accepted.

Mr W Spence wondered at the possibility of the community taking on the project and financing it.

The Chairman proposed he would speak contact a local contractor for a quote for a basic hardcore path.

08/03/05

#### **Police Report**

PS G McCarthy provided the following details of offences compared to those of the same time last year.

Crimes against the person - down from 33 to 13, of which 12 were detected  
Crimes involving indecency – down from 23 to 16, of which 15 were detected  
Crimes of dishonesty - down from 255 to 239, of which 163 were detected  
Crimes of vandalism – up from 234 to 240, of which 108 were detected  
Miscellaneous crimes – down from 765 to 704, with 680 detections  
Traffic Offences - down from 633 to 600, with 599 detections

PS G McCarthy reported an overall detection rate of 87%, a 6.6% decrease in crimes compared to that of last year.

Mr R Leith enquired what percentage of crimes were committed in the area which would be covered by CCTV and would CCTV make a difference.

PS G McCarthy stated he could not provide a breakdown. He noted that CCTV would be another tool in the detection and hopefully the prevention of crime.

Mrs K Greaves referred to the recent incident where a pedestrian was injured by a car on Commercial Street. She asked what steps the Police were taking to discourage motorists from unnecessarily driving through the street.

PS G McCarthy replied a number of fixed penalty notices had been issued to motorists and that would continue.

Mr M Peterson asked if the Sergeant could provide information on safe staffing levels as promised at the last meeting of Lerwick Community Council.

PS G McCarthy explained it could not be discussed in open forum but confirmed they had sufficient staff to operate 24/7 with increased staff levels when needed.

Mr W Stove stated that two years previously, when he had last been a member of Lerwick Community Council, the Council was informed a number of 'Special Constables' were to be recruited.

He asked how many were currently working and how they were utilised.

The Sergeant replied 13 had been recruited and assisted the Police throughout the week and weekend.

Mr W Stove noted his belief that it would take 17 Special Constables before they were regarded as 'fully staffed'

PS G McCarthy confirmed that was case and stated they would always be looking for people to commit.

The Chairman asked if there was any word of a replacement Traffic Warden.

The Sergeant replied the situation was the same and as yet no one was in place.

The Chairman thanked PS G McCarthy for the report.

PS G McCarthy left the meeting at 7.15.

08/03/06

**Dr Lorraine Gray, SSMEI Project Officer, NAFC Marine Centre - Management of Marine and Coastal Environment**

Dr L Gray stated the purpose of the project was to pilot a more efficient Marine Planning System and make the current regime more integral, efficient and better informed. Marine Spatial Planning is an extension of the terrestrial planning system.

She explained the documents under consultation were produced under the auspices of a project called the Scottish Sustainable Marine Environment Initiative (SSMEI).

The Shetland project is one of four pilots in Scotland led by the Scottish Government to test marine spatial planning. The overall direction of the work has been led by the Local Steering Group.

Dr L Gray noted there were two documents out for consultation: 1. a policy framework that guides developers, planners and regulators in the placement of activities, and 2. a marine atlas which details all the current considerations, broken into 3 different themes: 1. activities - these are potential objections to a planning application e.g. fishing grounds; 2. statutory constraints - features that are non-negotiable in terms of where they occur e.g. major shipping routes; and 3. advisory constraints - features that will trigger Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.

The consultation period ends 16 May 2008.

Mr J Henry asked what system was in place to consult with aquaculture.

Dr L Gray replied they worked together in the same office and were in close contact.

The Chairman enquired where SSMEI fitted in with the Scottish Marine Bill.

Dr L Gray explained it was a voluntary plan, not introducing legislation and acted by assisting bodies in finding relevant information from once source. Rather than having to go to five different documents they could go to one.

The Chairman asked if all partners in the organisation were happy with the Plan.

Dr L Gray stated there was a problem due to the lack of skills base to use the mapping. She explained that currently SNH and SEPA would have a problem using the system but it could be used by Planners and the Fisheries College.

The Chairman asked if the system was expensive.

Dr L Gray replied it was not really expensive but was difficult to use.

There being no other questions the Chairman thanked Dr L Gray for her presentation.

The presentation concluded at 7.25

08/03/07

**Mr Laurence Tait, Project Site Supervisor, Scottish Water – Lerwick Mains Renewal Project**

Mr L Tait, Project Site Supervisor, Scottish Water displayed a map highlighting some of the major pipe work in Lerwick.

He explained pipes in the blue areas, Knab Road; Lighthouse Buildings; Mansfield; Lovers Loan; St Sunniva Street; Cheyne Crescent and most of Burgess Street and St Olaf Street had already been laid.

Pipe to be sleeved ran through Bruce Crescent; Church Road; Mounthooly Street and Gardie Lane.

The larger balance of the pipe is planned to be replaced by open cut and runs through North and South Lochside; South Road; Scalloway Road; Commercial Road; St Magnus Street; North Ness; Fort Road; Pitt Lane Esplanade; Knab Road Cul-de-sac; a small portion of North Road and both half of St Olaf Street and Burgess Street.

The North Road services are to be transferred from Iron to an existing plastic pipe.

Cllr E Knight enquired if there was a problem with the pipes at Gressay Loan and Mansfield.

Mr L Tait replied the feed through St Olaf Street had been turned off; therefore water was being channeled through minor lines bringing some sediment.

Mr M Peterson noted he often had gas coming through his pipes.

Mr L Tait explained it would be air coming through the pipe rather than gas.

Mr R Leith asked which would be the next area to be disrupted.

Mr L Tait replied Commercial Road would be the next area to be dealt with. He went on to explain the plan was to tend to the pipe work at North Road before summer and Lochside and South Road during summer.

Mr M Peterson raised the question of reinstatement regarding the road, noting it was not unusual to be left in poor condition. He also asked how Scottish Water liaised with Shetland Islands Council.

Mr L Tait stated Scottish Water was in regular discussion with Roads, Shetland Islands Council and noted they seemed quite pleased with the quality of reinstatement.

He stated that from 1<sup>st</sup> April Shetland Islands Council would have more clout with contractors and could fine them if they did not meet requirements.

The Chairman enquired if there was any reason why in some areas the open cut system was used rather than sleeve which was less disruptive.

Mr L Tait explained that in some cases the sleeve pipe was too large to go through the existing pipe.

He stated Scottish Water were trying to reduce the upheaval. Whenever possible they would sleeve the pipe on both sides of the road.

In other cases they would lay a larger pipe on one side of the road, as close to the kerb as possible and open cut.

Mr W Stove noted that that system had been used to replace the pipe in St Olaf Street and congratulated Scottish Water on the good job they had done.

The Chairman enquired as to how long the programme would take.

Mr L Tait replied that according to a recent update, the programme should be completed by 31 October 2008.

Mr M Peterson pointed out a mess had been made of the top soil at South Stoney Hill when valves were replaced. He noted some work would be required to reinstate the ground.

Mr L Tait replied he was unaware of the problem.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Mr S McConnachie, Customer Operations Team Manager, Scottish Water and see the problem is tended to.

Mr J Henry noted it would be useful if Scottish Water could keep Lerwick Community Council updated on a regular basis, perhaps every three months.

Mr L Tait replied it would be no problem and he could bring along a spreadsheet to show their progress.

The Chairman thanked Mr Tait for attending the meeting and his presentation which ended at 7.45.

08/03/08

#### **125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Lerwick Town Hall**

Mrs A Simpson stated a draft of the Town Hall booklet would be ready for the next meeting of Lerwick Community Council.

The Chairman asked if anyone had any thoughts on how to mark the event over and above the booklet.

Mrs K Greaves thought an exhibition held in the Town Hall using photographs from the archives and snapshots from the general public may be of interest.

Mrs A Simpson stated something which would involve children would be worthwhile.

Mr W Spence suggested children, on their last day of term, may like to dress up in the attire children would have worn 125 years ago. Their teachers could wear the black cap and gown.

The Chairman stated he would contact Margaret Rorie, Headmistress, Bells Brae School and Yvonne Laursen, Headmistress, Sound School and suggest the idea to them.

He also suggested some form of musical event held in the evening may be appropriate.

Mr M Peterson suggested a traditional meal of the time, salt fish and tatties could be made.

Mrs A Simpson stated she would take back all the suggestions to the committee meeting the following week.

## Correspondence

### **9.1 Gavin Douglas, Regional Works Manager, Historic Scotland – Clickimin Broch**

Mrs A Simpson asked how Historic Scotland knew the number of visitors to the site. She asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Gavin Douglas and requesting how they knew what the visitor figures were and what they were.

Mr M Peterson stated Clickimin Broch was the second most visited site in Shetland, the first he thought, being Jarlshoff.

Mr W Stove explained a lot of work had gone into planning a visitor's centre at the site many years ago but eventually it was not deemed feasible.

Mr M Peterson stated the proprietors of Sound Service Station had offered Shetland Islands Council an area suitable to develop for two buses to park, but they refused.

Mr J Henry noted that of late buses parked on South Westerloch Road and visitors walked to the site from there.

Mrs A Simpson suggested that as admission to the site was free we should leave things as they are but some sort of provision should be made for buses to park.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Roads, Shetland Islands Council and ask that they provide parking space to accommodate two buses.

### **9.2 James Linklater, Customer Care Manager, Northlink Ferries – Photo ID**

The Chairman noted from the correspondence that Northlink would be happy to update the current customer ID card of any individual to include a photo.

Mr M Peterson stated Ferry passengers in Orkney were also concerned over the request for photo ID by Northlink. He suggested ZetTrans be written to in order to indicate Lerwick Community Council's opposition.

Cllr E Knight stated he had no objections to the requirement of photographic ID, pointing out it was not a particular problem when Northlink was offering to add passenger's photographs to the current ID card.

Mr M Peterson proposed that Lerwick Community Council object to Northlink's request for passengers to carry photo ID.

There being no seconder to this proposal, Mr M Peterson withdrew his objection.

Mr R Leith voiced concern as to how the request for photo ID would affect passengers travelling from the mainland to Shetland.

Ms K Fraser agreed this may cause problems and noted a family or individuals trip could be ruined if they had forgotten to travel with photo ID.

The Chairman noted Northlink's insistence on passengers travelling with photo ID did seem strange when photo ID was not required from passengers by air.

He asked the clerk of the council to write to James Linklater, Customer Care Manager, Northlink asking if the request for photo ID applied to passengers on all their routes.

### **9.3 Emily Howe, ITV Productions – ITV Programme**

The Chairman suggested that any member of Lerwick Community Council with an interest in Emily Howe's project contact her themselves.

### **9.4 Florence Grains, Audit and Scrutiny Committee – Council Policy on the Provision of Soft Verges on Roads**

Noted

### **9.5 Jonathan Molloy, Planning, SIC – Handout 3 Report Structure**

Noted

### **9.6 Bessie Barron, Planning, SIC – Suggested Street Names – Shetland Museum and Archive**

Mr M Peterson stated he thought the name Gutters' Gaet appalling and proposed it should not be considered.

Mrs K Greaves proposed the road should be called 'Hays Gaet', this was seconded by Mr M Peterson.

The proposal received three votes.

Ms K Fraser proposed the road should be 'Gutters' Gaet' as suggested by Shetland Amenity Trust. This was seconded by Cllr E Knight.

The proposal received six votes.

Mr W Spence suggested the name 'Mitchell's Road' be approved so long as it has been made certain there is not already another 'Mitchell's Road'.

This was seconded by Mr R Leith.

### **9.7 Magnus Malcolmson, Sport & Leisure Services – Jubilee Flower Park – Winter Closure; North Taing – Bench Installation; Knab – Ditch Extension**

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Magnus Malcolmson, Sport and Leisure Services, Shetland Islands Council, and ask that he place one of the Council's benches on the site at North Taing to avoid any further delays.

The Chairman expressed his disappointment at the report regarding the flooding on the path at the Knab. He stated he would photograph the problem areas and send copies to Mr Malcolmson.

08/03/10

### **Financial Report**

Noted

08/03/11

### **Financial Assistance**

#### **11.1 Lerwick & Bressay Parish Church – Alteration and Refurbishment of St Columba's Church**

Mrs A Simpson noted the cost to repair and refurbish the Church organ was estimated to be £10,000. She suggested this could be paid for by Lerwick Community Council Charitable Trust.

Mr W Stove proposed that the £10,000 costs be paid by Lerwick Community Council and staggered between this budget and the next rather than take money from the Charitable Trust.

The Chairman pointed out payment would not be made until receipts were received for the work carried out.

Mrs A Simpson asked what the purpose of Lerwick Community Council Charitable Trust was if the money could not be spent.

The Chairman stated it was there to fund larger projects, eg £6,000 had been used to finance the installation of a lift at Islesburgh.

Mrs A Simpson stated she saw the funding of the repair and refurbishment of the organ as a large project. She pointed out that the Church of Scotland was a community church.

Cllr E Knight stated he had no objection to Mrs A Simpson's proposal.

Ms K Fraser noted her agreement with Mrs A Simpson.

Mr W Stove pointed out he had no problem with the proposal. However he expressed concern that Shetland Islands Council would recover any money over 10% of the Lerwick Community Council annual budget left unspent at the end of the financial year.

Mr W Stove proposed that £10,000 be awarded to Church of Scotland, specifically for the organ repairs. He suggested £5,000 should come from Lerwick Community Council Charitable Trust and £5,000 from Lerwick Community Council staggered over this financial year and the next.

Mrs K Greaves expressed concern at any funding coming out of Lerwick Community Councils budget for the following budget year.

The Chairman agreed to Mr Stove's proposal. He noted Church of Scotland should be informed that up to £10,000 would be awarded to them for repair and refurbishment of the church organ, payable upon receipt of invoices.

Mr W Stove proposed £3,000 for the project should come out of this year's budget, £2,000 from the next and £5,000 from Lerwick Community Council Charitable Trust.

His proposal was unanimously agreed.

#### **11.2 xl Club, Anderson High – Trip to Cape Town to Undertake Voluntary Work**

Mrs A Simpson proposed £1,000 be awarded.

This was seconded by Mr R Leith.

08/03/12

#### **Planning Applications**

**2008/87/PCD To demolish former fire station and erect single storey office building, Former Fire Station, North Road, Grantfield, Lerwick by ZetTrans.**

The above application arrived too late to be included in the agenda.

The Chairman read out the details and displayed the enclosed plans.

No objections were raised.

08/03/13

#### **Parking Orders**

**SIC (24 St Olaf Street, Lerwick) (Parking Place for Disabled Person's Vehicle) Order 2008**

No objections.

08/03/14

#### **Any Other Business**

The Chairman welcomed Mr Stove as new member of Lerwick Community Council.

He advised the council that Mr Stove had previously been a member of Lerwick Community Council for almost 15 years.

Mrs K Greaves noted the building at Market Cross currently occupied by SYIS was looking very shabby. She stated a window had been left broken for some time and the window frames were rotting.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to find out who was responsible for the building and ask them to address the problem.

Mrs A Simpson stated the paintwork indicating two disabled parking spaces in front of TSB were so worn someone had inadvertently parked there and received a fine.

She asked if the paintwork could be renewed and if there was actually a need for two disabled parking spaces in that area. She thought that originally the two



disabled parking spaces were there for visitors to Harbour House, which was no longer in use.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Dave MacNae, Roads, Shetland Islands Council and ask if there was still a need for the two disabled parking spaces bearing in mind the proposed plans for public toilets.

He also asked the Clerk to point out the paintwork indicating the parking spaces had become quite worn.

Mr D Ristori expressed the need for an 'Otters Crossing' sign to be placed at Clickimin between Trebister and Sandy Loch.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Neil Hutcheson, Roads, Shetland Islands Council and request a sign be erected.

The Chairman read out a letter regarding the naming of a road in Quoys.

The developer of the site, Hjaltland Housing Association, suggested name for the road should be Arheim.

Upon the request of Ms K Fraser, the Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Bryan Leask, Property Services Manager, Hjaltland Housing Association and ask them to clarify where the name had come from and why was it chosen.

He stated a decision would be made at the next meeting of Lerwick Community Council, if an answer had been received by that date.

The Chairman read out a letter from Legal and Admin, Shetland Islands Council. The letter advised of an appeal from GB Oils Ltd relating to the site at North Ness, Lerwick.

The content of the letter was noted.

The Chairman read out a letter from SEPA which stated they were holding a seminar on Thermal Treatment Criteria at the Salutation Hotel, Perth, 1 April 2008 and asked if there were any interested parties.

Mr W Spence stated he was unsure if it would be worthwhile to go as Shetland already met the criteria. He went on to say 28 representatives from councils throughout Scotland came to look at our plant and were given a presentation on landfill and decommission.

The Chairman proposed the Clerk of the Council write and request a copy of the briefing paper. This was seconded by Cllr E Knight.

The Chairman thanked members for attending the meeting.

There being no other competent business the meeting closed at 9.05.

MR J ANDERSON  
CHAIRMAN  
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL