

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

**Present**

Mr R Anderson  
Cllr G Feather  
Ms K Fraser  
Cllr J Henry  
Mr A Johnston  
Cllr E Knight

Mr J MacLeod  
Mr T Nicolson  
Mr M Peterson  
Mr P Scarsbrook  
Mr W Spence  
Cllr W Stove

**Additional Co-Opted Members**

Mr A Goudie  
Mr D Ristori

Mrs K Greaves  
Ms M Robertson

**In Attendance**

PS G McCarthy, Lerwick Police Station  
Ms M Clark, Shetland Times Reporter  
Miss C Duncan, Clerk to the Council

**Chairman**

Mr T Nicolson, Chairman of the Council, presided

06/09/01

**Circular**

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

06/09/02

**Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Anderson, Cllr L Angus, Cllr A Cluness, Cllr J Irvine and Mrs A Simpson.

06/09/03

**Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 24 July 2006 were approved by Mr P Scarsbrook and seconded by Cllr J Henry.

06/09/04

**Business Arising**

**06/07/06 Community Council Elections 2006**

Cllr G Feather noted that Quarff would be part of the South Mainland ward and not with Lerwick & Gulberwick, as stated by the Chairman. Cllr W Stove confirmed this.

**SIC Planning Notices**

Mrs K Greaves felt that all planning applications that would change the face of Lerwick should be advertised in the Shetland Times. The Chairman said that he would note her comments when discussing that item later on the agenda.

**06/07/10.3 Convert Old Pumping Station - South Road**

Cllr G Feather noted that several residents in the area were not happy with the proposed conversion. The Chairman stated that he had not spoken to every resident in the area, just those closest to the proposed works. They had identified possible parking problems.

**06/07/08.9 Planning - Seating, Turntable, Knab**

The Chairman had discussed this with Mr V Hawthorne of SIC Planning Department and he felt that the Planning Department wanted to move responsibility to the voluntary sector, ie. Lerwick Community Council.

He understood that Shetland Islands Council have departments full of staff paid to undertake such tasks, and LCC has only one paid clerk whose job description does not include overseeing such projects.

He felt that the planned seating should be included in the reconstruction of the Knab dyke and that it could be a possibility in the future. There had been difficulties recently with a rock slide and dealing with it was a priority.

Mrs K Greaves suggested used large pieces of Virkie rock which, once in place, would be unable to be moved and wouldn't require maintenance.

The Chairman said he was open to suggestions. He would write to planning and ask if it was possible for the project to be included in the reconstruction of the walls.

Ms M Robertson asked if it was possible to find out the proposed timescale for the repair of the part of wall that had collapsed.

The Chairman stated that it was currently being assessed and was now stable. Other parts of the wall were looking vulnerable too.

#### **06/07/08.10 SIC Infrastructure - Coastal Erosion, South End**

The Chairman noted that there had been no update received. Cllr E Knight stated that it had been discussed by Shetland Islands Council. Members had expressed concern and it will be progressed.

Cllr J Henry noted that this was a Shetland-wide problem. Members from each area had been appointed to a working group, and Cllr L Angus was representing Lerwick.

06/09/05

#### **Police Report**

PS G McCarthy referred to figures released last week to the press by Chief Inspector M Bell. These were compared with the figures as the same stage last year.

Overall crime was down by 26%.  
Crimes against the person were up to 19 from 9 last year.  
All 19 had been detected and 2 reported to the Procurator Fiscal.  
Indecency - 24 last year, decreased to 8 this year  
Vandalisms - 181 last year, down to 100 this year  
Dishonesty - 175 last year, down to 115 this year  
Miscellaneous, inc. drug offences - 72 last year, up to 100 this year

He noted that he was quite happy with this increase as it indicated that the Police were being more pro-active and detecting more drug offences.

The Safer Scotland Campaign was currently underway, running from 4 September to 1 October, regarding alcohol, youths and anti social behaviour. 24 litres of alcohol had been confiscated from youths in the first week. A 10 year old boy had been hospitalised after consuming alcohol and kept in overnight.

They were targeting licenced premises and areas where youths gathered to drink. He encouraged the public to contact the police if they were aware of any such gatherings.

A number of complaints had been received regarding motorbikes using the Staney Hill road and the footpath along the rear of Clickimin Loch. A number of youths had been spoken to and 2 adults reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

The Chairman noted that a few years ago LCC had considered the problems with the gate at the sound end of the Clickimin footpath. There had been complaints that

people using pushchairs or wheelchairs had difficulty accessing them and it was decided to remove the gates as a trial. Motorbikes were identified at that time as a potential problem. He asked if it was time to revisit the issue and reinstate the gates.

Ms K Fraser asked what type of gate would be suitable for wheelchairs to get through and not motorbikes. She felt it was better to police the area.

Cllr J Henry stated he wanted it left as it is. There were more pushchairs using the path than motorbikes, so he felt it should be left alone.

Mr M Peterson asked if the police had power to seize motorbikes and could signage be erected to indicate this.

PS G McCarthy stated that there are aspects of the Road Traffic Legislation which would apply, and they would be able to seize unlicensed motorbikes. However, they were trying to find out ways to carry out the legislation and so at present they did not seize motorbikes.

The Chairman said that he agreed with Cllr Henry and Ms Fraser, and it would be better to monitor the situation. He felt that signage would not do any harm and agreed to contact Shetland Islands Council asking for signs stating "motorbikes not permitted" to be erected.

The Chairman said he had been heartened by the report in the Shetland Times and that the detection rate in Shetland was as good as anywhere else in the country. The drugs issue still a concern to the people of Shetland and the police were trying to keep the islands as drug free as possible.

Mr J MacLeod asked who decided which offences were broadcast by the local media. Did the police issue information on all offences and radio stations decided which they carried, or did the police only select certain crimes to broadcast. He referred to a recent incident when a BMW car in Skeld had been scratched and this was broadcast, however, there was no mention of windows smashed by large bricks at a house beside a Lerwick main road.

PS McCarthy stated that they issue a press release to the media if they are asking for witnesses. They used to issue details of every incident of random vandalism but they did not get much feedback. In fact, the feedback they received was that offenders were looking in the paper each week to see how many of their offences were reported. Where they felt the public may come forward, they released information, otherwise it was not released.

Mr J MacLeod noted that there was a practice he had recently become aware of whereby if the police find the keys in the ignition of an unaccompanied car, they would lock the car and take the keys to the police station. This had recently happened to him while his car was outside his house as he loaded it with suitcases.

No attempt had been made to contact him, despite the fact the car was parked outside his home, and as he was a firefighter this could have had serious consequences if he had received a call-out. He had also hear of this happening to other people and he stated that it was not an offence to leave your car in this way.

The Chairman noted that this was nothing new and the practice had been ongoing for 30-40 years. It was a safeguard to protect the vehicle from the risk of being taken by joy riders.

PS McCarthy agreed that this was a safe community and he was aware that people often left their cars and homes unlocked. However, the role of the police was to prevent crime and if they found a car in this situation they would remove the keys in

order to prevent the unlawful element from committing crime. They would try to contact the owner and get them to collect the keys as soon as possible. They had a duty to prevent crime as well as detect it.

Mrs K Greaves stated that groups of young people aged around 13 to 15 often roamed the Anderson Road area in the early hours of the morning, drinking alcohol, leaving rubbish and had even smashed a car window. She asked where were the police or the parents when this was happening.

The Chairman agreed that it should be the responsibility of the parents to ensure their children are not out causing trouble in the early hours. He noted that the police can't be everywhere as they had limited resources. He noted that it was approaching the time of year when more vandalism and trouble occurred due to the dark nights. He felt it was a difficult time for police, and this was a national trend, often fuelled by alcohol or drugs.

Cllr G Feather asked what was the position regarding skateboarding on the pavements and noted that one youth had shot across the road in front of him, nearly causing an accident.

PS McCarthy felt that there was no offence other than poor uses of the road. He thought there was no legislation regarding skateboards on roads.

Mr R Anderson stated that overall crime being down by 26% was good news. He asked if this was the same nationally or was it peculiar to Shetland.

PS McCarthy stated that not many areas can say its crime rate is down. Shetland also had a 72% detection rate and not many forces can compete with that. 45% is the average for Scotland as a whole.

Mr M Peterson asked for the status of the bye-law regarding drinking in public and if it was in place yet.

PS McCarthy confirmed that it was not yet in place and he was unsure when it would be. He noted that the Safer Shetland Action Line was operational, offering a confidential line for anyone wishing to report a crime, and this would be reported to the relevant body.

The Chairman thanked him for attending and he left the meeting at 7.35pm.

06/09/06

**Library Provision in Lerwick**

The Chairman noted that he had been invited to attend a meeting regarding this recently but had been unable to attend. However, he had asked the project team to attend a LCC meeting to get the views of its members and they had agreed. He felt this was the best way to keep LCC members involved in the project.

06/09/07

**Parking Order - St Olaf's Street**

No comments or objections.

06/09/08

**Correspondence**

**8.1 ASCC - Grants to Shetland-Wide Organisations**

The Chairman noted that item 3 read that they were "willing to listen to any valid arguments for change" and they had included a list of applicants for funding. These appeared to be Shetland applications, not just Lerwick. He felt, when an application was received, LCC should write to Shetland Islands Council asking if they had requested funding from them and to get permission to grant assistance.

Mr R Anderson stated that he objected very strongly to what was being suggested and he had difficulty believing it. ASCC had discussed this and it had gone to the Liaison Group. At that forum, 4 members of SIC and 4 Community Council representatives had discussed it and the motion had been agreed unanimously. He was alarmed that, since then, he had been asking what happened next but had not received a reply. Now the motion has gone before the Director of Finance who has said no chance.

He noted that the liaison group was a body in its own right comprising members of Shetland Islands Council and Community Councils. He felt that the Director of Finance had no right to refuse and he would like to suggest writing to ensure that it goes on the agenda at the next ASCC meeting, and to ask the Director of Finance what his locus is in this matter, as he doesn't know where he is coming from. He felt things had gone upside down, with officers of the Council dictating what to do.

The Chairman noted that Mr Anderson had been involved in this for some time and he supported his views.

Mr M Peterson noted that the largest proportion of grants had gone to Shetland wide organisations as opposed to Lerwick organisations. His objection was to the words "exceptional circumstances" and he disagreed with the Chairman's interpretation.

Mr R Anderson noted that Mr Peterson had made this point before. Part of the problem was the terminology and that each person could have their own interpretation of it. He agreed it should be sorted out.

The Chairman agreed that it had to be sorted so that everyone knew where they stood. His view was that a lot of Shetland organisations are based in Lerwick, with the majority of its members being Lerwick residents. He had a clear conscience that they tried to help organisations as fairly as possible. He felt sad that some of LCC's own members were making an issue of it and nit-picking. He agreed they should continue with the process to define it.

Mr J MacLeod pointed out that "exceptional circumstances" was a term laid down in accounting practices and perhaps they should get their definition of it. He agreed the phrase needed to be redefined.

## **8.2 ASCC - October Meeting**

The Chairman agreed to attend, and Mr P Scarsbrook said he let him know if he was available. The Chairman asked if there were any other agenda items.

Cllr W Stove noted that the elections would be soon and suggested that ASCC raise the profile of the Community Councils.

The Chairman agreed, stating that Shetland Islands Council were currently working on a booklet to do this, and would discuss the possibility of doing a programme on radio Shetland to explain how community councils operate.

Mr R Anderson noted that there appeared to be no process for getting items on the agenda at the Liaison Group and wanted to know the administrative procedure for decisions taken by the Joint Working Group. The Chairman agreed to write to ASCC to find out.

## **8.3 Bank of Scotland - Autoteller Machines**

The Chairman noted that there had been long periods in the summer when the machines were not working and the Bank had to wait for engineers to arrive from the mainland to repair them. The local manager was trying to get new machines installed which would ease the problem.

Mr M Peterson suggested training up local engineers to sort the machines but the Chairman felt there would be security issues involved.

#### **8.4 Mr D Gardner - "Shetland For Sakchai" Campaign**

The Chairman noted this had been a very successful campaign with a good outcome.

#### **8.5 Mr B Irvine - Property at 41 North Road**

The Chairman felt this was a very sad situation and the building was an eyesore. He had been trying to follow it up for some time and had hoped to see something happening this summer. One owner wants to demolish his half of the building without disturbing the other half. It was very complex and he wanted to see it move forward.

Mr J MacLeod asked if dilapidation orders were still available, but the Chairman stated he didn't know and he would prefer mutual agreement between all parties involved.

Mrs K Greaves thought there would be health and safety issues and asked if Shetland Islands Council could issue a compulsory purchase order.

The Chairman noted that a Up Helly Aa squad had been fundraising to buy half the building and had now done so. They planned to make improvements but the other owner had problems with the adjoining tenants and so all plans were on hold at the moment. He would try to liaise between the two owners.

#### **8.6 Scottish Water - Lerwick Sewer Re-Lining**

The Chairman noted that there had been big holes dug along the Esplanade as Scottish Water had found sea water in its system which was interfering with the sewerage system. He didn't think all the work was necessary as Shetland had constant tidal movement and people in Lerwick were currently having to live with brown water as Scottish Water had no money to replace their pipes.

Mr M Peterson felt that some treatment was necessary. The Chairman agreed but felt it was overkill.

#### **8.7 Scottish Water - Discharges at Clickimin Loch and**

#### **8.8 SEPA - Discharge at Westerloch into Clickimin Loch**

The Chairman stated that he would copy these letters to the Westerloch residents who had reported the discharge to him, and ask them to contact all the relevant bodies as soon as the discharge appeared again.

#### **8.9 Shetland Blues Festival - Thanks and**

#### **8.10 Lerwick Pre-School - Thanks**

Noted. Mr J MacLeod suggested that the Clerk list all letters of thanks from recipients of grant awards in order to save paper and this was agreed.

#### **8.11 SIC - Bruce Hostel Wall**

The Chairman noted that the founds had been run and the job was now out to tender for a builder to rebuild the wall.

#### **8.12 SIC - Hand Rail at Clydesdale Bank**                      Noted

#### **8.13 SIC - Lerwick Town Bus Service**

The Chairman noted that the changes to the Sound bus service had been implemented some time ago with no objections. Shetland Islands Council were seeking feedback on the proposed changes to the North Road route. He had discussed it with Mr P Leask and Mr I Bruce and they had told him they wanted to stop the "loop" as not many people used it. Also in winter it was a difficult corner to

negotiate safely, especially if cars were parked there. There appeared to be no objections from residents in the area.

#### **8.14 SIC - Naming of Thoroughfare: 1-6 Rudda Park Noted**

#### **8.15 SIC - Neighbourhood Support Workers Progress Leaflet**

Update for information. The Chairman felt that there was an improvement on the dog fouling situation and people were getting more aware of the problem. He felt that the Support Workers had had an effect in lots of areas.

#### **8.16 SIC - Planning Application Consultation**

The Chairman noted that they had heard Mrs K Greaves' views earlier. Mr J MacLeod suggested asking the Shetland Times to continue printing them as a service to the community and the Chairman agreed to do this.

#### **8.17 SIC - Remedial Works: Sletts**

The Chairman noted that this was remedial works until they could come up with a better plan from consultants.

Mr R Anderson stated he was not terribly happy with the situation but agreed there was little that could be done until the experts came back with a better plan.

#### **8.18 SIC - Stouts Court Play Area**

The Chairman welcomed the response, which came about after complaints from children in the area. He noted that there would be no new equipment meantime but he was happy that it would remain open.

06/09/09 **Financial Report** Noted

06/09/10 **Financial Assistance: Islesburgh Pyrotechnic Display Club**

The Chairman noted that this had been supported in the past and he would like to continue doing so. It was a well organised event for people of all ages to enjoy and he looked favourably on the application.

Mr M Peterson stated that he was opposed to celebrating Guy Fawkes and would like to see the display moved to New Year instead.

The Chairman noted that this had been discussed in the past and it took a large team of volunteers to do the display and they were entitled to celebrate New Year as well.

Also the display was not held on 5 November unless it was a coincidence, the display was held on the first Saturday in November. He moved to award £2000 and this was seconded by Cllr E Knight.

06/09/11 **Planning Applications**

#### **11.1 25 Residential Flats at North Road, Grantfield**

The Chairman noted that Hjalmland Housing Association had previously attended a meeting of Lerwick Community Council to give a presentation on the proposed housing scheme at Grantfield. Members had expressed concern at that time about various issues, including the lack of parking spaces and that the development would be occupied by non-car users. Some members felt that if a tenant decided to purchase a car, it would be hard to police and there could be problems with parking.

After the presentation the Chairman had spoken to Mr B Leask of HHA and he had also been in communication with residents in the area, who all had a very strong feeling that parking would be an issue. Also the density of 25 houses on a small site.

Another concern was the visibility when coming off the Old North Road to Holmsgarth Road.

The Chairman had suggested to Mr Leask that HHA left out Block 2 of the scheme, and instead ramp access was installed to allow parking in the central area, but HHA had decided to go along with the original plans.

A petition had been started by residents and so far had 30 objections. The Chairman had received a hand delivered letter that night with amended information to the application which alarmed him. He felt he would like legal advice as he found it difficult to understand how HHA and SIC had no powers over tenants keeping pets or playing loud music without gathering evidence but HHA can state that if any tenant buys a car they can be removed from the scheme.

Mr J MacLeod stated that he had also spoken to Mr Leask and that under Section 75 there was an obligation to the land owner to let land in a certain way. This scheme was successful in other places such as Inverness and Glasgow. Tenants would be duty bound not to buy a car but, technically, under Human Rights laws they couldn't be stopped from doing so. HHA would then offer them tenancy in another scheme which did allow cars.

He felt that the objection on the grounds of line of sight being obstructed would have to be made through SIC Roads Department and not from a layman. He felt the over-development was a valid point but all the other points made regarded parking.

Cllr G Feather asked if any of the properties would be let to disabled tenants and how would they fare with no car.

The Chairman noted that there was provision for one disabled car parking space and 7 spaces for visitors, although it wasn't specified if the disabled space was for tenants or visitors.

Mr R Anderson noted that the letter referred to the Shetland Local Plan which determined the number of spaces per house as 1½ per unit. He felt if HHA built on ground which should be for parking it was a contradiction of the Local Plan.

The Chairman noted that it was evident in the past that young people wanting to build houses had been refused planning permission as there were no spaces for parking. He felt there could not be one rule for one and another for others. SIC Planning Dept has to be consistent, and people hoping to build a house shouldn't be forced into providing spaces.

Cllr E Knight said he had no doubt that Lerwick needs more 1 & 2 person flats, but 25 in a very limited space is too much. He felt that HHA can't legislate against people buying cars and they would be forcing people to live a lie. This matter was causing concern within SIC and there would probably be a site visit before the application was discussed. He stated that he was not against the development but felt 25 houses was too much.

Ms K Fraser felt that at some point someone would have to be bold to change the car culture. The development proposed was in an area within walking distance of many of the amenities and a lot of people would like to live there. They would be willing to put up with the restricted space to have a home of their own. She felt it would be difficult for HHA to monitor and spy on people that they haven't bought a car.

Mrs K Greaves stated that she was against the development and felt that the parking issue was a red herring. She said that people didn't want to be that far out of town if they had to walk everywhere. She questioned whether there had been an



application for change of use for the site, as it had previously been a factory. She thought HHA should be looking for an alternative site.

Mr P Scarsbrook thought that they needed to look at the broader picture, that it would not just be the cost of building, but there would be a cost to local businesses. He thought that traffic management would be deplorable and the economic effect on businesses in the area could be devastating.

Ms K Fraser stated that this was a car-reliant society and she felt sad that people can't walk or get a bus. She felt it was strange that people seemed unable to manage without cars, and this situation will continue to get worse.

Mr A Goudie felt that they needed to move in a new direction and that although visitors would come with cars they shouldn't be included in the problem as public car parks nearby could be used. He did point out, however, that the development was very close to the main road and thought they needed to be a safe distance back from the road. He agreed that needed more housing but that it should be in other areas, and this site left to be enjoyed as open space.

Mr J MacLeod noted that some people would be very happy to give up their car for a house, and that the scheme works in other areas of Scotland such as Inverness, Glasgow and Edinburgh. He would be attending the next meeting of HHA when he would put forward the views of LCC members.

Cllr W Stove noted that as SIC had to make a decision soon they were bound not to indicate their opinions in advance. He said he could see both sides here, and noted that there would be a lot of disruption to traffic during the construction phase. He felt the change of use issue was interesting as no-one had mentioned that so far and it would be followed up. He noted that the appeal for building at the back of Netherdale had recently been turned down, and the idea of the local plan was to look for other available land instead of trying to squeeze 25 houses into a small site.

Mrs K Greaves noted that the schemes worked well on the mainland as they had better public transport systems.

The Chairman moved to lodge an objection on the grounds of over-development and concerns regarding the future parking provision. With regard to the latest information, he wasn't sure how legal it was and he thought it was a bit of a whitewash.

Mr J MacLeod suggested that it would be more constructive to indicate to HHA what would be more suitable for the area.

The Chairman stated that he didn't want the objection to be clouded and they had to first lodge the objection. He thought that when this was done HHA would have to reduce the numbers. He felt the car issue would be a problem in the future. Mr P Scarsbrook seconded the Chairman's motion.

Mrs K Greaves made a counter-motion to build no houses and instead widen the roundabout and leave the rest as open space. There were no seconders.

Ms K Fraser made a counter-motion for no objection, as it was an attempt to provide a new type of accommodation in Lerwick. This was seconded by Mr J MacLeod.

The members voted:	Counter motion	No objection	3
	Motion	Objection	4

The motion to object to the development was approved.

- 11.2 Erect two dwellinghouses - Plot 15, Quoys, Upper Sound** No objections
- 11.3 Develop 21 house sites - South east of Pegasus Place** No objections
- 11.4 Change of use - shore station to residential, former RNLI Station** No objections

06/09/12

**Any Other Business**

**12.1 Bin at Sommerfields' Bus Stop**

Cllr G Feather noted that there had been talk of siting a bin at the bus stop outside Sommerfields but this had not happened.

The Chairman agreed to pass this to Mr J Emptage, SIC. He had spoken to him regarding siting a dog-litter bin at south Westerloch and had been assured that it would be done.

Mrs K Greaves said there should be bins sited at all bus stops in general, and in particular the one on Holmsgarth Road outside the Shetland Hotel.

**12.2 Algae on Clickimin Loch**

Mrs K Greaves stated she had observed algae on the loch at Clickimin which had concerned her. The Chairman replied that this was usual at this time of year as it was fertiliser residue and the cold weather would kill it.

**12.3 Housing in Lerwick**

Mrs K Greaves noted that the lack of housing provision was always being talked about and asked if there were any new plans for building in Lerwick. She said they can't building 700 houses in Lerwick.

The Chairman replied that Shetland Islands Council had sanctioned to commission a development plan for the Lerwick and Gulberwick areas, and this will seek house building land to structure a plan for future housing.

**12.4 Library Provision**

Mrs K Greaves asked why the library couldn't move back into their old building now that the museum had vacated the upper level.

Ms K Fraser noted that all options would be considered in the feasibility study, and noted that even with the top floor of the old building they still wouldn't have enough space as they now had the learning centre to accommodate.

Cllr E Knight noted that this had already been discussed as an agenda item and the Chairman reiterated that the project team would be invited to a future meeting.

**12.5 Site Visit to Quoys**

Mr P Scarsbrook noted that it had been agreed at an earlier meeting to have a site visit to the junction at Quoys and nothing had happened yet. He felt this area was an accident waiting to happen.

The Chairman noted that PS G McCarthy had agreed to have a look for himself but nothing had been reported back to date.

Cllr G Feather noted that this was his area and he had received complaints from a number of residents. SIC Roads Department had indicated that they were considering putting in a mini roundabout in the near future.

The Chairman stated that he still had concerns regarding the safety of road users in the area. He was in favour of roundabouts and would write to SIC Roads to find out what the current situation was.

#### **12.6 Gremista Roundabout**

Mr M Peterson suggested that Shetland Islands Council considered putting a roundabout at the Gremista junction. There were currently problems and delays for users exiting Gremista.

The Chairman agreed and noted that this would only get worse in the future when the fixed link was in place.

#### **12.7 Knab Dyke**

Mr R Anderson suggested writing to SIC Infrastructure to find out which year there was capital funding to rebuild the dyke.

#### **12.8 Grass Cutting**

Mr R Anderson suggested writing to SIC Infrastructure to congratulate them on the standard of grass cutting in public areas this year, especially the Waarie Geo which had never been done so well before in his opinion. He stated that the contractor had done a good job.

#### **12.9 Johnsmas Foy**

Mr R Anderson noted he had been told by an Esplanade shop keeper that, during the Johnsmas Foy when there was no parking on the pier, they had received complaints from customers that they couldn't get near the shop.

The Chairman said he sympathised and thought that many shopkeepers would say the same. He felt there was no easy solution but noted that it had been a very successful event which had brought people into the town, and he suspected most shops had found their takings to be up.

Mr M Peterson noted that parking had still been available at Fort Charlotte and this was an under-used car park.

#### **12.10 New Build at Anderson High School**

Ms M Robertson noted that there was concern among residents in Knab Road and upper Lovers Loan about proposals that had been circulated. Not all residents had received the information, and that the favoured plan seemed to be for a 5 storey building at the top of the site, although other proposals don't appear to be as intrusive.

The Chairman agreed to write to the project team for an update.

Mr W Spence stated that he was on the school board and there were 2 lots of plans in circulation but nothing had been decided yet. They had had a presentation from the Capital Projects team and they should be invited along to a future meeting.

Cllr W Stove stated he was on the task group and noted that the plans are indicative plans at this early stage. The budget was already 50% more than had been expected.

Mr R Anderson felt this was incredible and he felt angry that they were going to build on the old site instead of moving it to Clickimin. He asked if there had been any cost comparisons between the two sites.

Ms M Robertson noted that most residents were quite happy that the school was staying on its original site but that they wanted the new build to be sympathetic with the area.

Cllr W Stove stated that the costs had nothing to do with Clickimin and the school will be built where it is.

Mr J MacLeod stated that the increased cost was to do with the lack of available contractors on the mainland to carry out the work.

Mr M Peterson said they would need to wait for a downturn in work before hiring any contractors when they would be more affordable.

The Chairman agreed to write to the Capital Projects team to invite them to give a presentation to LCC members.

**12.11 Lerwick Garden Competition**

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for organising this year's garden competition, which had been very successful and there had been a good response with a number of high quality gardens entered.

**12.12 BP Storage at North Ness**

The Chairman noted he was aware that BP had lodged an application to retain storage tanks at North Ness. The Clerk confirmed that the application had been received as it was too late to be included on the agenda for this meeting, it would be on the next meeting's agenda for discussion.

**12.13 Path at Shetland Hotel**

The Chairman suggested writing to the owners of the Shetland Hotel to ask them to clear the path from the Old North Road to the hotel door. It needed to be dug out and reinstated as it had grown over.

**12.14 LCC Photograph**

The Chairman noted that the next meeting would be the last of the current Community Council and he suggested that a commemorative photograph should be taken.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

MR T R NICOLSON  
CHAIRMAN  
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL