

MONDAY 17 September 2007

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

Present

Mr J Anderson	Mr D Ristori
Mrs A Simpson	Mrs M Robertson
Ms K Fraser	Mr E Knight
Cllr C Miller (left 8.20)	Mr A Johnson

In Attendance

Ms R Inkster, Co-ordinator, Shetland Childcare Partnership
Mrs H Budge, Head of Education, Shetland Islands Council
Mr C Medley, Head of Housing & Capital Programme, SIC
Mrs June Porter, Community Work, Shetland Islands Council
Mrs K Semple, Clerk to the Council

Chairman

Mr J Anderson, Chairman to the council presided.

07/09/01 **Circular**

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

07/09/02 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr A Goudie, Mr M Peterson, Mr W Spence, Mr L Bisset, Mr S Gordon, Mrs K Greaves, Mr J Henry, Cllr L Angus and Mr R Anderson.

07/09/03 **Minutes**

The minutes of the LCC meeting held on 23 July 2007 were approved by Ms K Fraser and seconded by Mr A Johnson.

07/09/04 The minutes for the LCCCT meeting held on 23 July 2007 were approved by Ms K Fraser and seconded by Mr A Johnson.

07/09/05 **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no further business arising from the meetings.

07/09/06 **Police Report**

As PC G McCarthy was not present, no police report was available.

07/09/07 **Ms R Inkster, Shetland Childcare Partnership – Feasibility Study, Childcare in Early Years.**

Mr R Inkster, Co-ordinator, Shetland Childcare Partnership began her presentation by stating Childcare Partnerships were set up nationally in 1999

to bring together the voluntary, private and public sectors of childcare in early years.

She stated that the aims of the Partnership were to work together to meet the needs of the young and families in Shetland.

Ms R Inkster noted that since 1999 the Partnership had undergone continuous change with the introduction of new laws and regulations, as society changed in general and the community became more dependent on childcare outwith the family.

Ms R Inkster noted the remit of Shetland Childcare Partnership was to identify and support sustainable, affordable quality childcare and aim to strengthen what was available and encourage growth to meet the needs of families.

Ms R Inkster stated the objectives of the feasibility study was to make an up to date assessment of childcare currently available in Shetland and examine the way forward to continue to improve the service and availability of childcare to meet the growing demands.

Ms R Inkster stated AB Associates had completed a study, backed up by a business plan which recognized the fragility of childcare within Shetland and noted concerns had been raised regarding the difficulty in finding registered care, particularly from students at Shetland College. Ms Inkster also noted private Childminders, able to provide care for babies from 3 months old, were becoming rare.

Mrs H Budge, Head of Education, Shetland Islands Council, began her part of the presentation by stating her interests lay primarily with primary school provision although noted it was very important to 'dovetail' both pre-school and primary school care.

She stated both Bells Brae and Sound School needed to be looked at carefully and assessed for their suitability and durability taking into consideration population trends, requests for placements at the school's from out with Lerwick and the impact of a fixed link from Bressay.

Mrs H Budge stated all options should be looked at and reasons for and against each option considered. The condition of both Sound and Bells Brae School's would have to be looked at and Shetland Childcare Partnership would have to be clear before they came forward with any proposals.

The Chairman thanked both Ms Inkster and Mrs Budge for attending the meeting and invited them to make another presentation later on in the year when further forward with the feasibility study.

The presentation concluded at 7.25.

07/09/09

Mr Chris Medley, Head of Housing and Capital Programme, SIC-Knab Dyke

The Chairman asked Mr Medley for an update on the situation regarding the Knab Dyke.

Mr Medley noted the reconstruction of the Knab Dyke would be going out to tender soon and stated tender documents were currently being prepared.

He noted costs for 'walls' tended to be very high and that it was his intention not to put a price tag on the project but to put it out to tender and see what quotes came back.

The Chairman asked if funds were available in this year's budget for the project.

Mr Medley replied that £500,000 had been set aside from the Capital Programme for the project.

The Chairman asked if a viewpoint and interpretive boards at the 'Horses Head' had been included in the project as requested by Lerwick Community Council.

Mr Medley stated he was unsure but would check his records and get back in touch.

Ms K Fraser approached Mr Medley on a Housing matter and asked if there had been any progress with the redevelopment of Hoofields.

Mr Medley stated there had been a delay in the redevelopment due to their failure to recruit a Project Manager, despite the position being advertised locally and nationally four times. He also noted progress had been held up by building control who had been struggling to process applications but he hoped to get a warrant soon to allow work on Ladies Drive to go out to tender.

Mrs K Fraser asked what would be happening with the empty Chalets at Hoofields.

Mr Medley replied that the Chalets were in various conditions, some were at the end of their life while others would be reused or sold on. He stated there had been a lot of interest in the Chalets and there would be no problem finding places for them.

Cllr C Miller asked how many homes housing hoped to develop.

Mr Medley replied that approximately 60 were to be built in Lerwick including replacing the Chalets, so they would be taking away 40 but replacing them with 60.

The Chairman thanked Mr Medley for his presentation which concluded at 7.45

07/09/09

Correspondence

9.1 SIC Infrastructure Services – Open Land for Protection

Noted.

9.2 SIC Infrastructure Services – Lerwick lanes Signage

The Chairman asked the Clerk to the Council to write to Mr Hutcheson, Infrastructure Services, Shetland Islands Council and request a copy of the survey and list of the signs intended to be repaired or replaced.

9.3 SIC Infrastructure Services – Sletts Sea Wall and Oversund Roundabout

Noted.

9.4 SIC Infrastructure Services – Sletts Sea Wall

Noted.

9.5 SIC Infrastructure Services – Gilbertson Road

Noted

9.6 SIC Executive Services – Knab Dyke Reconstruction

Noted.

9.7 SIC Executive Services Department – Lerwick Knab Dyke

Noted

9.8 SIC Executive Services Department - Complaint 1-7 Stout's Court, Lerwick

Noted

9.9 SIC Executive Services Department – Rent Notice: Offices at Stout's Court

Noted

The Chairman asked the Clerk to the Council to write to Linda Murray, Finance Services, Shetland Islands Council and ask that the increase in rental charges be taken into consideration when reviewing Lerwick Community Council's Annual budget.

9.10 Waterwatch Scotland – Clickimin Loch, Sewage Discharges

Noted

The Chairman asked the Clerk to the Council to write to Mr George Leslie who sent a written complaint, to Scottish Water, regarding the problem and advise him, as per Scottish Water's letter, that a temporary measure has been put in place while a bid for Capital funds for a permanent solution is being sought.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to the Council to assure Mr Leslie that the situation also is being closely monitored by SEPA.

9.11 Scottish Water – Clickimin Loch Sewage Discharges

Noted

9.12 SEPA – Untreated Sewage Discharge into Clickimin Loch

Noted

9.13 Waterwatch Scotland – Clickimin Loch, Sewage Discharges

Noted

9.14 SIC Executive Services – St Clements Hall

Noted

9.15 NHS Shetland – Public Consultation, Relocation of Montfield Patient Services to Gilbert Bain Hospital – Phase 1

The Chairman stated he would be unavailable to attend the meeting on 27 September and noted the letter contained an email address where interested parties could forward their comments should they wish to do so.

9.16 NHS Shetland – Public Consultation, Relocation of Montfield Patient Services to Gilbert Bain Hospital – Phase 1

Noted

9.17 Shetland Litho – Quotation Number: - 9309 Lerwick Town Hall Guide

The Chairman stated an additional quote should be sought and asked the Clerk of the Council to contact other firms who could do the preparation and printing locally and provide quotes.

9.18 SIC (Various Roads, Lerwick) (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) (Variation No.4) Order 2007

Noted

9.19 ASCC- Area Representative

No members of LCC attending the meeting expressed an interest in the position.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to the Council to write to Morag Gerrard, Association Shetland Community Councils and advise her of the outcome.

9.20 The Scottish Parliament – Future of Post Offices in Highlands and Islands

Noted

9.21 Lerwick Town Centre – Grant Acknowledgement

Noted

9.22 Celtic Badminton – Grant Acknowledgement

Noted

9.23 Cunningsburgh & Districts Agricultural Society – Grant Acknowledgement

Noted

9.24 Mr Alan Irvine – Information Boards

The Chairman noted that Mr Irvine had raised some valid points in his letter and asked the Clerk of the Council to send a copy of Mr Irvine's letter with a covering letter to the Amenity Trust as he believed they had a budget for this type of project.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to Write to Mr Irvine and inform him of the course of action taken.

9.25 SIC Economic Development Unit – Proposed Viking Windfarm: Second Learning Journey to Windfarms in Scotland

Mr E Knight expressed an interest in attending the meeting.

The Chairman advised Mr Knight to contact Alastair Hamilton, Senior Adviser, Viking Energy the next day to check the availability of places and provide his Air Discount Scheme PIN number as requested in Mr Hamilton's letter.

9.26 SIC Executive Services Department – Request to carry over budget Funds

Noted

9.27 SIC Infrastructure Services – Planning Applications

Noted

9.28 Shetland Family History Society – Microfilm Reader

Ms K Fraser stated there was a possibility the Shetland Library, where she works, may be interested in the Microfilm Reader but stressed that was her own opinion and she would have to speak to her employer first.

The Chairman asked her to check out the possibility of the Library's interest in the Microfilm Reader and requested that should the Library not be interested she contact Shetland Family History Society and ask the Microfilm Reader to be put to Shetland Scrapstore.

9.29 SIC Infrastructure Services – Scottish Water Provision of Water and Waste Services.

Ms M Robertson noted the request to 'identify water and wastewater issues' in the letter and stated the current concerns over the lack of capacity of water and wastewater services for proposed new builds should be raised.

The Chairman stated that Scottish Water would only react to the local plan and until there was a commitment from Shetland Islands Council to develop housing and industry, Scottish Water did not have to do anything.

Cllr C Miller stated the situation was most unsatisfactory. She asked that Graham Spall, Executive Director, Infrastructure Services, Shetland Islands Council should be written to and asked that he, on behalf of Shetland Islands Council push Scottish Water to take action and remedy the situation.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council write to Mr Spall as requested.

9.30 Shetland Amenity Trust – Da Voar Redd Up 2007

Noted

9.31 SIC Education & Social Care Department – Knab Dyke/North Taing Seating

Noted

07/09/10

Financial Report

Noted

07/09/11

Financial Assistance

11.1 Martin & Alison K Ramsay – Road Resurfacing

Mrs A Simpson stated that as the road was freely used by the public the full 75% of costs should be awarded. This was seconded by Mr D Ristori.

The Chairman stated that payment of the grant, which would come to £727 should be sent with a covering letter showing appreciation to Mr and Mrs Ramsay for allowing the public to use the road and thanking them for allowing it to continue.

11.2 Pamela Williamson – The Shetland Blues Festival

Mrs M Robertson Proposed £700 should be awarded in retrospect.

This proposal was seconded by Mr D Ristori.

11.3 Mary Blance – Shetland Forwards

Mr E Knight proposed the full £500 left to be funded by Shetland Forwards for their project be awarded.

This proposal was seconded by Ms M Robertson

11.4 Islesburgh Pyrotechnics Display Club

The Chairman declared an interest but noted that due to the removal of funding from other sources this may be the last year Islesburgh Pyrotechnics could put on the display.

Mr Eddie Knight put forward the proposal that the Club be awarded the full £2,000 requested, which had also been awarded by Lerwick Community Council in previous years.

Mr D Ristori seconded this proposal.

Cllr Caroline Miller left the meeting at 8.20pm.

07/09/12

Planning Applications

12.1 2007/307/PCD Conversion of offices to flats and small offices, 6 Mounthooly Street

No objections

12.2 2007/312/PCD Demolish Existing Building and erect new building, Old Pumping Station, South Road

No objections

12.3 2007/363/PCD To erect Cinema and Music Venue and create car park, North Ness

No objections

07/09/13

Any Other Business

The Chairman read out the details of planning application **2007/371/ADV** from Clydesdale Bank, Commercial Street to erect illuminated signs and asked members if there were any objections. None were received.

The Chairman read out details of a letter from ZetTrans regarding a 'Study into Transport Link between Bressay and the Shetland Mainland'. He noted the details of the letter had also appeared in the Shetland Times and encouraged LCC members to respond in writing or email using the details provided.

Mr D Ristori stated a loading bay area had been marked off outside the Cancer Research Shop, Harrison Square. He noted this was a good idea and enquired if it was official.

The Chairman asked the Clerk of the Council to write to Mr Neil Hutcheson, Roads, Infrastructure Services, Shetland Islands Council to clarify the situation and request the loading bay area be kept on a permanent basis.

Mrs M Robertson voiced her concern over the lack of information and consultation given to residents in the Knab area over the proposed build of the New Anderson High School.

She stated it was the uncertainty and lack of clarity regarding the proposed new build which was causing the concern and asked that a letter be written to the project team to raise these issues and ask that residents in the Knab area be kept directly informed of the situation.

The Chairman asked the clerk of the Council to write to Craig Nicolson, Capital Programmes, Executive Services Department, Shetland Islands Council requesting that residents in the affected area are kept in touch with proceedings and also to invite Mr Nicolson to the next meeting of Lerwick Community Council to make a presentation in light of the recent report regarding the proposed New Anderson High School made in the Shetland Times.

The meeting concluded at 8.45pm.

MR J ANDERSON
CHAIRMAN
LERWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL