

Minute of the Meeting of Birsay Community Council held in the Birsay Community Hall on Thursday, 24 January 2019 at 19:30

Present:

Mr K Spence, Miss K Coghill, Mr R Delday, Mr M Hay, Mr D Scarth and Mr S Spence.

In Attendance:

- Councillor H Johnston.
- Councillor R King.
- Councillor O Tierney.
- Councillor D Tullock.
- Mrs M Spence, Democratic Services Manager/Interim Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been intimated on behalf of Mr A Spence.

2. Police Scotland Matters

Resolved to note that there were no Police Scotland matters to report at this time.

3. Minute of meeting held on 1 November 2018

The Minute of the meeting held on 1 November 2018 was considered by members, and subsequently approved, being proposed by Mr S Spence and seconded by Mr R Delday.

4. Matters Arising

A. Replacement Sign at Fisherman's Huts

Members were advised that R Rendall had prepared the replacement sign in his workshop and would erect it in the agreed location once it has set, and that he had donated his time and expenses towards the sign free of charge, and it was:

Resolved to note the information and that R Rendall would not be requesting payment for this work.

B. Foreshore from Ministry Huts to Zanzibar

The Chair informed members that he had requested two quotes to be available for discussion at the next meeting, and it was:

Resolved that the quotes would be discussed at the next meeting.

C. Slip at Buckquoy

The Chair informed members that he had not yet contacted Historic Environment Scotland regarding the condition of the Slip at Buckquoy, and after discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Chair would contact Historic Environment Scotland, to indicate the Community Council's support of Orkney Islands Council's request.

Mr M Hay joined the meeting at this point.

D. Roond About Birsay Newsletter

The Chair informed members that the next edition of the newsletter was due to be printed in March, and that he, Mr R Delday and Mr M Hay had delivered the previous newsletter, and it was resolved:

1. To print 370 copies as there were fewer houses in the parish than previously indicated.
2. That the Mums and Toddlers Group would distribute the next edition of the newsletter.

E. Headstone Inspections

The Interim Clerk informed members that numbers were required of headstones to be repaired and fallen headstones to be turned over in order to obtain a quote, and it was resolved:

1. That the Chair would provide the Interim Clerk with the numbers of headstones needing attention.
2. That, once provided with the numbers, the Interim Clerk would obtain a quote for the repair of headstones in the new Kirkyard and for fallen stones to be turned over.

F. Grass Cutting at Birsay Play Area

Members were informed that grass cutting at the Birsay Community Hall cost £200 per month for five months and that the play area was 65% of the total area of grass, and, after discussion, it was:

Resolved that a grant award of £675 be given towards the cost of grass cutting at the Birsay Play Area and that application should be made for assistance through the Community Council Grant Scheme on a project cost of £675.

5. Correspondence

A. Room in Roof Insulation

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services regarding Room in Roof Insulation grants, it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would email a pdf of the email to the Chair for inclusion in the newsletter.

B. SSE – Response to Orkney Transmission Connection Consultation

Following consideration of correspondence from Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks regarding the Transmission Connection project, it was:

Resolved to note that a Public Meeting relating to the proposed development in Firth would be held in February 2019.

C. OIC Community Transport Grant

Correspondence had been received from Democratic Services regarding the Orkney Islands Council Community Transport Grant scheme. The Chair informed members that, as the Dounby Centre minibus had been advertised for sale, he had contacted the Dounby Centre to request return of the £1,000 contribution that had been given towards the repair of the bus, should the sale of the vehicle be successful, and it was resolved:

1. To note the information and the closing date for Community Transport Grant scheme applications of 1 February 2019.

2. That the Chair would forward the correspondence to the Dounby Centre.

D. Police Scotland Youth Volunteers - Emergency Services Fun Day

Correspondence had been received from the Police Scotland Youth Volunteers informing members that the Emergency Services Fun Day would now be held on 3 March 2019, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

E. Letters of Thanks

Members heard that letters of thanks had been received from Mrs P Spence for the donation given to her child for travel to the final of the Scottish Athletics Youth Development League, from the Year of Young People Ambassadors 2018 for the donation towards the Orkney's Got Young Talent show, and from Orkney Pilgrimage Trustees for the letter of support for the St Magnus Way, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

6. Consultation Document - Energy Supply Company, Our Power

Following consideration of the Consultation Document regarding the Energy Supply Company, Our Power, it was:

Resolved to note that members agreed to accept the offer to participate.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Fund

Following consideration of the General Fund statement, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note a potential overspend of £587.05 as at 8 January 2019.

B. Birsay Energy Fund

Following consideration of the Birsay Energy Fund statement, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £16,643.42 as at 8 January 2019.

C. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the financial statement for the Community Council Grant Scheme, it was resolved:

1. To note that funding under the main capping limit had been fully allocated and that £662 remained available for approval under the additional capping limit as at 8 January 2019.

2. That the Interim Clerk would chase the outstanding claims.

D. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the financial statement for the Community Development Fund, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £8,183.37 as at 8 January 2019.

E. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the financial statement for the Seed Corn Fund, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for allocation of £21.64 as at 8 January 2019.

8. Financial Requests

A. Dounby Community School – Lagganlia, June 2019

Correspondence had been received from Dounby Community School requesting funding towards the cost of taking nine Primary 7 pupils from the Birsay area on an outdoor education excursion to Lagganlia Outdoor Centre in June 2019. After discussion, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £50 for each of the nine Birsay pupils, being £450 in total, be given towards the cost of the trip, to be met from the General Fund.

B. West Mainland Tourist Brochure

Correspondence had been received from the West Mainland Tourist Brochure Sub Committee informing members of the proposals for the printing of 25,000 brochures in March 2019, with funding to be met from the Community Council Grant Scheme in the new financial year, and it was:

Resolved to note the information and that J Grieve had kindly agreed to continue provide storage facilities for the brochures.

C. Birsay Kids Club Christmas Party

Correspondence had previously been received and distributed to members by email for consideration and approval, requesting financial assistance towards the Birsay Kids Club Christmas party, and it was resolved:

1. That members had approved a donation of £300 towards the Christmas party, to be met from the General Fund.

2. That a thank you card had been received from Birsay Kids Club.

9. Publications

The following publication was noted by the Community Council:

- Glasdon - Focus on Local Councils and Village Gateways.

10. Any Other Competent Business

A. Birsay Kirkyard Water Butt

Members were informed that Mr M Hay had obtained a price of £44.50 for the supply of a water butt for the Birsay Kirkyard, and it was:

Resolved that Mr M Hay would order the water butt for the Birsay Kirkyard and that an application should be made to Orkney Islands Council for assistance through the Community Council Grant Scheme on a project cost of £44.50.

B. Marwick Road

Members were informed that Marwick Road was in the process of being repaired and that a new brig was being created as part of the repair, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

C. Ditch Maintenance

Members referred to the ditch maintenance and cleaning of water outlets currently being undertaken using specialist equipment on the Kirkwall to Finstown road and asked if the same could be done in Birsay at Sabiston Mill, on Hillside Road, particularly at the war-time building, and at Lower Stanger, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would write to Roads Services to request the ditch and water outlets at the specified locations and Birsay be undertaken to the same standard as the Kirkwall to Finstown public road.

D. Winter Maintenance

Members were informed that the buses taking children to the Dounby Primary School needed assistance in poor weather, particularly from the Twatt Kirk to Marwick and on the Loons Road, which never seemed to be gritted, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would write to Roads Services to request that the roads in Twatt and Marwick be added to the winter maintenance programme so that these routes were gritted in advance of the primary school bus travelling along it.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Following a discussion regarding possible dates for the next meeting, it was:

Resolved that the next meetings of Birsay Community Council would be held on Thursdays 28 March and 20 June 2019 at 19:30.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 20:35.