

Minute of the Meeting of Evie and Rendall Community Council held in the Vishall View Community Room, Evie School on Monday 18 November 2019 at 19:30

Present:

E R Marcus, Miss F Georgeson, Ms L Wilson, C Gunn, M J Leitch and J Stevenson.

In Attendance:

- Councillor R King.
- Councillor O Tierney.
- Mrs L Leitch, Clerk.
- S Johnston, Strategic Project Director, Orkney Islands Council.
- Ms K Groundwater, Project Officer (Communication and Engagement), Orkney Islands Council.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Councillor D Tullock and Police Sergeant Morris.

2. Proposed Quanterness Wind Farm discussion with Orkney Islands Council Officers

The Chair introduced two Council Officers who had asked to attend the meeting to discuss the proposed Quanterness Wind Farm, which the Council were in the process of preparing to submit a pre-application notice to the planning department in early 2020. Members were also advised of details for similar projects planned on Faray and Hoy.

Members queried whether or not Orkney Islands Council had any experience in this type of project and noted that it would require a huge amount of work and investment. The Officers advised that a team had been set up to carry the project forward and were also taking advice from specialist consultants.

The meeting also highlighted that fuel poverty issues should be addressed if the project was successful. Concerns were also raised over the logistics at Faray due to no pier on the island which would need major investment prior to project proceeding. Shadow flicker on the main Finstown/Kirkwall road from the Quanterness turbines was also highlighted by members and noted by the Officers.

Two public events were being planned for the coming week where anyone could attend to discuss the project.

The officials also advised members that the substation would be positioned in the middle of the proposed wind farm with the local authority being liable to meet the cost of connecting the development to the Finstown Substation.

The Officers requested that any comments should be forwarded to them for inclusion in the pre-application notice and following discussion on the benefits to Orkney if the project went ahead, it was:

Resolved that any comments on the consultation be submitted individually.

3. Police Scotland Matters

Resolved to note that there were no Police Scotland matters.

4. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 16 September 2019 was approved, being proposed by C Gunn and seconded by M J Leitch.

5. Matters Arising

A. Evie School Football Pitch

Members were advised that M Leitch had contacted Orkney Islands Council for an update on the Grasscutting of the School football pitch and following discussion

thereof, it was agreed that there appeared to be two outstanding issues with the pitch. The school and Community Council were of the opinion that the football pitch was not completed to the standard required when the contractor handed it over in the first instance, and secondly there were issues over the lawnmower, and it was:

Resolved for Councillor King to pursue the matter for clarification.

B. Flooding at Standpretty Road end

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services, which advised that the Roads Support Manager would be carrying out a further inspection of the affected area at the end of the Standpretty road to identify any potential solutions to the flooding, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

6. Correspondence

A. Orkney Health and Care Strategic Plan 2019-2022

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services, which advised that the Orkney Health and Care Strategic Plan 2019-2022 had been published and was available to view online, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. Winter Service Plan Consultation Responses

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services updating members on the responses to the 2018/19 Winter Service Plan Consultation, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

C. Verge Maintenance Plan Consultation Responses

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services updating members on the responses to the 2019 Verge Maintenance consultation, it was resolved:

1. To note the contents of the correspondence.
2. To note that the 360° wheeled excavator used to clear the ditches had done a great job and it was recommended that the same method should be continued in the future.

D. Thank You Letters and Messages

After hearing from the Clerk that thank you letters and messages had been received in respect of financial assistance provided by the Community Council, it was:

Resolved to note that letters of thanks had been received from the Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, with messages of thanks received from J Tams-Gray, Rendall Community Association, Mr and Mrs Orr, R Fraser, Girlguiding Orkney, Miss J

Pickles, C McAllister, L Sharpe, The Barber family, L McManus, F Tams-Gray and Ms H Wailoo.

E. Orkney Housing Association Ltd – Parking Issue

Following consideration of correspondence, which was distributed at the meeting, from the Orkney Housing Association Ltd over concerns of illegal parking by one of their tenants at the Rendall Community Hall, it was:

Resolved for the matter to be dealt with by the Rendall Community Association since they owned the land.

7. Consultations

A. Review of Electoral Arrangements

Following consideration of correspondence from the Boundary Commission for Scotland, informing members of their current public consultation on its electoral arrangement proposals for Orkney, it was:

Resolved to note the deadline for comments was 2 December 2019 and that no remarks were made at the meeting on the consultation.

B. Historic Marine Protected Areas – Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, Scapa Flow and Queen of Sweden

Following consideration of correspondence from Historic Environment Scotland, informing members of their current public consultation on proposals to designate historic marine protected areas in Scapa Flow and for the wreck known as the Queen of Sweden, Shetland, it was:

Resolved to note the deadline for responses was 27 November 2019 and that no comments were made at the meeting on the consultation.

C. Draft Planning Policy Advice – Amenity and Minimising Obtrusive Lighting

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council informing members of their current public consultation on amenity and minimising obtrusive lighting, it was:

Resolved to note the deadline for responses was 19 December 2019 and that no comments were made at the meeting on the consultation.

D. Orkney Mental Health Strategy 2020-2025

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Health and Care informing members of their current public consultation on draft Orkney Mental Health Strategy 2020-2025, and after hearing that the proposed document did not take into account waiting lists, a major lack of personnel and underfunding, it was:

Resolved to note the deadline for responses was 29 January 2020 and that no comments were made at the meeting on the consultation.

E. Burial Grounds Code of Practice

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services informing members of their current public consultation on the Burial Grounds Code of Practice review and following discussion, it was resolved:

1. To note that the deadline for responses was 15 January 2020.
2. That C Gunn and M Leitch would respond to the consultation collectively.

8. Update on new Evie and Rendall Community Park

Members heard that the Park Committee had met at the beginning of October where arrangements for their bingo night had been finalised. The event, held at the weekend, had raised £980.35 towards the new park.

Disappointment was voiced over the lack of progress and it was also highlighted that the heras fencing had fallen down recently which had been rectified by the contractor, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the report.

9. Finance

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 1 November 2019, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £3,371.31.

B. NPower Fund

After consideration of the NPower Fund statement as at 1 November 2019, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £36,938.77.

C. Burgar Hill Renewables Fund

After consideration of the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund statement as at 1 November 2019, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was resolved:

1. To note that the balance was £3,184.57.
2. To note that the annual Community Benefit Instalment of £6,100 had been received.

D. Hammars Hill Energy Fund

After consideration of the Hammars Hill Energy Fund statement as at 1 November 2019, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £29,861.58.

E. Community Council Grant Scheme

After consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 1 November 2019, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance had been fully allocated.

F. Community Development Fund

After consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 1 November 2019, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £6,480.30 remained available for allocation.

G. Seed Corn Fund

After consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement as at 1 November 2019, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £3,395.00 remained available for allocation.

10. Financial Applications

A. Mrs G Phaithaisong – Gymnastics, Fyrish and Inverness

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mrs G Phaithaisong, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of her daughter competing in two Gymnastics competitions being held in Fyrish and Inverness, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 per event be given towards the costs of the event, giving a total of £150, which should be met from the Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

B. Mrs J Barber, Under 11's Football, Inverness

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mrs J Barber, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of her son representing Orkney in an Under 11's football competition being held in Inverness, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the costs of the event, which should be met from the Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

C. D McGee, Under 11's Football, Inverness

Following consideration of correspondence received from D McGee, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of his son representing Orkney in an Under 11's football competition being held in Inverness, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the costs of the event, which should be met from the Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

D. Ms S Spence, Beauty School Course, Glasgow

Following consideration of correspondence received from Ms S Spence, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of her daughter completing a course at the Beauty School in Glasgow, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the costs of the course, which should be met from the Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

E. Mrs J Barber, Volleyball Festival, Aberdeen

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mrs J Barber, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of her son representing Stromness Academy in a Volleyball competition being held in Aberdeen, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the costs of the event, which should be met from the Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

F. Road Repairs Scheme – Old School, Rendall

After consideration of correspondence which had been received from C McAllister, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of improving his road, it was:

Resolved that a grant of up to a maximum £250 be awarded, subject to the roads scheme criteria.

G. C Ridland, Young Farmers Sheep Dressing Competition, Huntly

Miss F Georgeson declared an interest in this application and did not take part in the discussion thereof.

Following consideration of correspondence received from C Ridland, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of competing in the North Region Young Farmers Sheep Dressing finals being held in Huntly, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the costs of the event, which should be met from the Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

H. Ms L Wilson, Volleyball Festival, Aberdeen

Ms L Wilson declared an interest in this application and did not take part in the discussion thereof.

Following consideration of correspondence received from Ms L Wilson, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of her daughter representing Stromness Academy in a Volleyball competition being held in Aberdeen, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the costs of the event, which should be met from the Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

I. Miss M Tams-Gray, Project Trust Charity Trip to India

Following consideration of correspondence received from Miss M Tams-Gray, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of travelling to India next year to volunteer as a teacher through the Project Trust Charity it was:

Resolved that a donation of £150 be given towards the costs of the trip, which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

J. Mrs J Pickles, Netball Senior Scottish Cup Competition, Edinburgh

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mrs J Pickles, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of competing in the Senior Scottish Cup Competition for Netball being held in Edinburgh, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the costs of the competition, which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

K. Evie School Parent Council – Football Goal Posts

Following consideration of correspondence received from the Evie School Parent Council, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of purchasing football goal posts for the new football pitch, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £295.12 be given to cover the shortfall to purchase the goal posts, which should be met from the NPower Fund.

L. Miss C Wood, Under 17's Netball, Edinburgh

Following consideration of correspondence received from Miss C Wood, copies of which were distributed at the meeting, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of competing in an Under 17's Netball competition being held in Edinburgh, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the costs of the event, which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

M. Road Repairs Scheme – North Aittit, Rendall

After consideration of correspondence which had been received from Miss J Pickles, copies of which were distributed at the meeting, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of improving their driveway, it was:

Resolved that a grant of up to a maximum £250 be awarded, subject to the roads scheme criteria.

N. C McAllister, North District Age Group Swimming, Inverness

Following consideration of correspondence received from C McAllister, copies of which were distributed at the meeting, applying for financial assistance towards the

cost of his daughter competing in the North District Age Group Swimming competition being held in Inverness, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the costs of the event, which should be met from the Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

O. Harray Young Farmers Club – Junior Speechmaking, Nairn

Miss F Georgeson declared an interest in this application and did not take part in the discussion thereof.

Following consideration of correspondence received from four members of Harray Young Farmers Club resident to the parishes of Evie and Rendall, copies of which were distributed at the meeting, applying for financial assistance towards the costs of competing in the North Region finals of the Junior Speechmaking competition being held in Nairn, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 per member be given towards the costs of the event, giving a total of £300, which should be met from the Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

P. Evie School – Christmas Tree

Following consideration of correspondence received from Evie School, copies of which were distributed at the meeting, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of purchasing an indoor Christmas tree, it was:

Resolved that the full cost of the Christmas tree would be met from the NPower Fund.

11. Publications

The October 2019 newsletter from the Scottish Health Council was made available to members and noted at the meeting.

12. Any Other Competent Business

A. Heating in the Evie School Hall

Members noted that the heating within the Evie School Hall was completely out of the control of hall users, which was most inconvenient, and it was:

Resolved for the issue to be included in the business letter to Democratic Services.

B. Police Attendance

Members noted that attendance to Community Council meetings by the Police had decreased, and whilst members felt their presence at meeting was useful and informative, it was appreciated that manning levels probably curtailed their turnout and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the discussion.

C. Rousay Community Council

Members felt it important to show their support to the Rousay Community Council in light of the recent issues over the MV Eynhallow and the transportation of high sided vehicles. Councillor Tierney informed the meeting that efforts were being made in the interim by the Council to alleviate the problem and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the discussion.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of the Evie and Rendall Community Council would be held on Monday 27 January 2020 in the Vishall View Community Room of Evie School commencing at 19:30.

14. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:14.