

Minute of the Meeting of Firth and Stenness Community Council held in Firth Community Centre, on Monday, 19 March 2018 at 19:30

Present:

Ms W Dunnet, Mr J Horrocks, Mr N Macleod, Mr V Muir, Ms M Murray and Mrs A Stevenson.

In Attendance:

- Councillor R King.
- Mr I Heggie, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies had been received from Councillors H Johnston, O Tierney and D Tullock.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 24 January 2018 was approved, being proposed by Ms M Murray and seconded by Mrs A Stevenson, subject to the following amendments being made:

Item 3 (E) Christmas Tree Lighting - Should be amended to include that the Stenness Tree lighting was a huge success.

Item 7 Winter Consultation Plan (2) - Should be amended to read Firth Church and not 'joiners'.

3. Matters Arising

A. Repairs to War Memorials

After hearing from the Clerk that the forms for the war memorial repairs grants were now complete and had been sent to the War Memorials Trust for consideration along with three quotes and images Memorial Trust, it was:

Resolved to await the results of the bid sent to the War Memorial Trust and resume consideration at an appropriate time.

B. Orkney Flag

The current stock of flags was presented to members. It was noted that the Orkney Flag in particular had suffered much wear and tear, and it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk should contact Councillor D Tullock to ascertain the address of where a better-quality flag might be purchased (it was noted that some flags had endured better).

2. That the Clerk should contact a local supplier to ascertain the price of a better-quality Orkney flag.

3. That members should resume consideration of this item when further information is available.

C. Dog Fouling

After hearing that Democratic Services had not been able to provide any feedback on the issue of bins and signs for dog fouling, it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

D. Stenness Village Septic Tank

It was reported to the meeting that there had been no correspondence from SEPA or Scottish Water regarding observed activities. Members discussed the issue further and it was noted that a local resident does in fact collect water samples, and it was:

Resolved that Councillor King would try and contact the local resident and report back to the next meeting.

E. Winter Service Plan

After hearing that all the points from various community councils would need to be gathered and collated before a new Winter Plan could be devised, it was:

Resolved that the clerk ask Democratic Services if and when a new draft Winter Service Plan could be viewed by members.

F. Future Donations

Members discussed the issue of future donation amounts and considered that, although funds were currently at a reasonable level, there needs to be prudence shown, and it was:

Resolved that the new level of donations would increase by £25 for UK and £35 for foreign activities.

G. Happy Valley Development

Members heard that a funding bid was currently in progress to develop a path and various stonework. Members were thanked for their support, and it was:

Resolved to acknowledge the feedback given.

4. Correspondence - Bag the Bruck

Following consideration of correspondence received from Democratic Services, advising members of the Bag the Bruck event in April 2018, it was agreed that the Clerk should apply for CCGS funding of £300 and that the amount could then be equally divided in donations to any groups who applied, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would apply for CCGS assistance on the project cost of £300 towards Bag the Bruck 2018.

5. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 12 March 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the estimate balance was £5,133.83.

B. Rennibister Wind Turbine Community Fund

After consideration of the Rennibister Wind Turbine Community Fund statement as at 12 March 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the balance of £3,000.

C. Community Council Grant Scheme

After consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 12 March 2018, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £621.37.

D. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 12 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £3,534.95 was available for allocation.

6. Financial Requests

A. Orkney Folk Festival – 36th Folk Festival

Following consideration of correspondence received from Orkney Folk Festival, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the staging of the festival, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would contact festival administrators and enquire regarding the events planned for the Finstown and Stenness area in 2018. If there are events in the areas, then a donation of £100 per area will be given, totalling £200.

B. 1st Firth Brownies – Bag the Bruck

Following consideration of correspondence received from Miss A Ritch, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting funding for the completion of the Bag the Bruck event, it was:

Resolved that the £300 be divided equally amongst the groups participating in the event.

C. NHS Orkney Fundraising Group – “Give a Little, Help a Lot”

Following consideration of correspondence received from NHS Orkney, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of additional items within the new hospital and healthcare build, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £100 be given, totalling £100.

D. Mrs M Flett Netball Scotland Development Trip - Aberdeen

Following consideration of correspondence received from M Flett, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the travel costs of two participants to Aberdeen to attend a development session, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £25 each be given towards the cost of two participants attending the event in March, totalling £50.

E. Ms R Wishart – Orkney Climbing Group - Inverness

Following consideration of correspondence from Ms R Wishart, copies of which were distributed at the meeting, requesting financial assistance towards travel costs of two participants attending competitions in Inverness, Aberdeen and Kinlochleven. Due to the retrospective nature of the request the members decided to fund only two of the trips - Kinlochleven trip – 2 x £25, totalling £50 and Aberdeen trip – 2 x £25, totalling £50, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk process a donation of £100 in total towards the trips.

7. Publications

Councillor H Johnston joined the meeting at this point.

The Community Planning News January 2018 was made available to members for viewing at the meeting. In considering the Community Planning News, Mr V Muir brought to the attention of members the nature of information made available through Orkney Local Access Forum and Countryside Committee - OLAF. Mr Muir explained that local paths and right of ways could be viewed online, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

8. Any Other Competent Business

A. West Mainland Community Brochure

Mrs A Stevenson sought members' thoughts on the new West Mainland Community Brochure so that she may take members' views to the next meeting of the brochure committee. Members intimated/questioned:

- Whether the brochure was a good idea.
- Where they should be sited.
- Who were the target market.
- Could there be sponsorship.
- Could general layout of images on opposite side from map be improved, and it was:

Resolved that Mrs A Stevenson take the views of members to the next meeting of the brochure committee.

B. Standing Stones of Stenness Car Park

Members discussed the plans to develop a new car park at the Standing Stones of Stenness around May-July 2018. Members discussed where the new car park would actually be sited, and the siting of passing places due to the narrow nature of the approach roads, and it was:

Resolved that members would monitor the situation.

C. Main Finstown to Kirkwall Road

Councillor R King asked for the views of members regarding aspects of the main road between Finstown and Kirkwall, and members intimated that they felt there were issues regarding speeding, overtaking and drainage, and it was:

Resolved that members monitor the issues.

9. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of the Firth and Stenness Community Council would be held on Thursday, 21 June 2018 in the Stenness Community School, commencing at 19:30.

10. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:55.