

Minute of the Meeting of Flotta Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Thursday, 11 February 2021 at 19:30

Present:

Mr N Cheeseman, Mrs P Gee, Mrs H Howe, Mr M Howe, Mr C Mullins and Mrs I Smith.

In Attendance:

- Councillor R Crichton.
- Councillor J Stockan.
- Councillor M Thomson.
- Mr C Bell, Biosecurity Officer, RSPB/Orkney Native Wildlife Project.
- Mrs M Spence, Democratic Services Manager.
- Mrs J McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer/Interim Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that no apologies for absence had been received.

2. Election of Office Bearers

Resolved to delay the Election of Office Bearers until a physical meeting could be held.

Mrs H Howe, Vice Chair, agreed to Chair the meeting.

3. Presentation by Biosecurity Officer

The Chair welcomed the Biosecurity Officer, Orkney Native Wildlife Project (ONWP), to the meeting. He provided information and updates regarding the aims, objectives and progress of the ONWP in relation to having strategy and biosecurity in place to protect from stoats in the outer isles. He advised that there was currently no evidence of stoats on Flotta, and asked if the Community Council would consider partnering him on drawing up a plan for the island, and what level of involvement they would want in the project going forward. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the presentation.

The Biosecurity Officer left the meeting at this point.

4. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of Meeting held on 24 November 2020 was approved, being proposed by Mr C Mullins and seconded by Mrs H Howe.

5. Kirkyard Grass Cutting Tender 2021

The Interim Clerk advised that one tender had been received. Members discussed the tender, and it was:

Resolved to award the 2021 kirkyard grass cutting tender to Mr G Goddard.

6. Matters Arising

A. Community Asset Transfer – Area of Land

Information had previously been circulated around members regarding the land purchase. The Estates Manager had advised that the area of land had not been identified as surplus to requirement by OIC, therefore the relevant department would have to be consulted. He has also asked if the CC could identify what the plans were for the area of land, and what the benefits to the community would be. The Democratic Services Manager reiterated the need to outline the community benefit and the justification for wanting the land, as this would be key to any decision made, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided and that this item would be discussed again at the next meeting.

B. Toilets at Flotta Pier

Councillor R Crichton informed members that no works were proposed at the toilets at Flotta Pier as the new building was going to be started soon. One tender had been accepted for the works and planning permission had been applied for, and it was hoped that the works would be completed by the end of the year, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Island Emergency – COMAH Plan

The Chair advised that she had been speaking to the HSE advisor at Flotta Terminal, but all efforts were still firmly focussed on Covid, and it was:

Resolved to discuss this item again at a future meeting.

D. Ditches and Offlets

The Interim Clerk reported that issues had been reported, but that there was still a backlog of work due to the staffing/budget issues relating to the pandemic, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

E. Repsol Sinopec – Play Park Equipment

It was again reported that the weather and the ongoing pandemic had put a delay to plans, but that it would hopefully be attended to in due course, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

F. Putting Green

No update was available on this matter, and it was:

Resolved to discuss again at the next meeting.

G. Pier Issues

Members reported that there were still safety concerns at the pier, including the damaged grating at the top of the pier. Councillor R Crichton offered to chase this up with Marine Services, and it was:

Resolved that Councillor R Crichton would contact Marine Services and ask that works to remedy these issues be carried out as soon as possible.

H. 13 and 14 Burnside

The Interim Clerk advised that she had spoken to the contractor and that, unfortunately, work had been delayed due to staffing issues, but he was hoping to have completed the job by the end of February. Members reported that a lot of progress had been made in recent weeks, but agreed that one of the members should meet with the contractor to discuss the agreement previously made, and it was:

Resolved that Mr C Mullins would contact the contractor and arrange to meet him on site to discuss issues and expected completion date.

7. Correspondence

A. Roads Repairs and Reporting of Issues

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding what repairs were currently being carried out, and how to report issues, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided and that this had been discussed at item 6D above.

B. Connecting Scotland and Orkney Kickstart

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding current projects to provide internet connectivity and support to develop digital skills, and assist young people into employment, it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence.

C. Orkney Scam Action Group

Following consideration of correspondence from Sergeant S Hay, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding a new local multi-agency group which had been formed to tackle scamming, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Fair Start Scotland

Members considered correspondence from the Fair Start Scotland Delivery Manager, copies of which had previously been circulated, advising of the project which aimed to provide help to people who found themselves unemployed and looking for work, and it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence.

E. R100 Roundtable Event

Consideration was given to correspondence from Liam McArthur MSP, copies of which had previously been circulated, relating to a workshop and discussion on the Scottish Government's R100 rollout in Orkney now that the R100 North Lot had been signed, and it was:

Resolved to note that Mr C Mullins had attended the event on 5 February.

F. Orkney Ferries Replacement

Members considered correspondence from Robert Leslie, copies of which had been previously circulated, providing information on possible solutions for the replacement of the outer isles ferries in Orkney, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

G. Clear Your Head Campaign

Members considered correspondence from the Scottish Government, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding their Clear Your Head campaign, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

H. Covid 19 Marketing Campaign

Following consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Government, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding their Covid-19 marketing campaign, it was:

Resolved to note the information contained in the correspondence.

I. 5G New Thinking Project Workshop

Members noted that another workshop on 5G would be taking place on 25 February and it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence.

8. Consultations

A. VAO – Strengthening Scottish Charity Law

Members considered information received from VAO on the survey on Scottish Charity Law, which had previously been circulated via email, and it was:

Resolved to note that the survey was due to close on 19 February 2021.

B. Improvements to Animal Welfare in Transport

Members discussed information, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding two consultations being carried out by DEFRA and the Scottish Government, and it was:

Resolved to note that the consultations were due to close on 25 and 26 February 2021 respectively.

C. Verge Maintenance Plan

Members had been forwarded a copy of the current Verge Maintenance Plan and were asked to forward any comments to inform the new plan, and it was:

Resolved that comments should be with the Interim Clerk no later than 31 March 2021.

9. Financial Statements

A. General Fund

After consideration of the General Fund statement as at 29 January 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £44,574.94

B. Burnside Account

After consideration of the Burnside statement as at 29 January 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £14,411.03.

C. Wind Power Fund

After consideration of the Wind Power Fund statement as at 29 January 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £7,101.77.

D. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 29 January 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that there was £1,121.60, £669 and £648 remaining in the main, additional and island capping limits respectively.

E. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 29 January 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that £5,980.51 remained available for allocation.

F. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement as at 29 January 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that £3,161 remained available for allocation.

10. Financial Request – Flotta Play Park Seats

Resolved to note that it had previously been agreed to provide funding of £212.51 from Community Council Grant Scheme to replace the seats on the roundabout at Flotta Play Park.

11. Publications

Resolved to note that the following publications had been circulated to members:

- Orkney Ferries Statistics – September, October and November 2020.
- VAO – Training and Funding Update – January 2021.
- VAO – Newsletter – November, December and January 2021.

12. Reports from Representatives

A. Transport

It was reported by Councillor J Stockan that a Sunday service for Flotta had been secured with new funding from the Scottish Government in the pipeline. This would hopefully be organised and timetabled for Winter 2021. He explained that the Council had a duty to consult and that Flotta needed to have their voice heard. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

Mrs I Smith left the meeting at this point.

B. Planning

Resolved to note that there were no issues to report in relation to planning matters.

13. Any Other Competent Business – Resilience Meetings

Members discussed the regular resilience meetings and it was agreed that these had been a great route for getting things done and seen to during the pandemic. The return to physical meetings was also discussed and members agreed that they would like to return to these as soon as possible. The Democratic Services Manager advised that they would not be in that position for some time yet, but that it would be discussed again when restrictions were eased further, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the discussion.

14. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of a date for the next meeting, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Flotta Community Council would take place on Thursday, 22 April 2021 at 19:30, either online or in Flotta Community Centre.

15. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:05.