

Minute of the Meeting of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council held in North Walls School, on Friday, 2 November 2018 at 18:45

Present:

Mrs M Groat, Mr C Bates, Mr A Clark, Mr A Sinclair, Mrs R Thomson and Mrs J Traynor.

In Attendance:

- Councillor M Thomson.
- Mrs T Avis, Clerk/Island Link Officer.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been intimated on behalf of Mrs G Robertson and Councillors R Crichton and J Stockan.

2. Minute of the Meeting held on 7 September 2018

The minute of the meeting held on 7 September 2018 was approved, being proposed by Mrs R Thomson and seconded by Mrs J Traynor.

3. Matters Arising

A. Island Link Officer – Update

The Clerk informed members that the office was in Longhope, Lyness and Hoy on a Monday and Wednesday. One visitor had discussed the issues surrounding disabled access on the island and lack of designated car parking spaces at the piers and community centres. It was also reported that adverts for the Islands of Orkney tourist brochure amendments had been distributed, plus requests for aggregate. Additional purchase orders had been placed for the extra Kirkyard cuts in September.

It was also reported that the project to look at recycling on the island had been continuing and Orkney Islands Council waste team were planning to come out to the island in the near future for a public drop in session. The department had also agreed to supply another battery recycling bin to be located at Lyness waiting room. Members discussed the issue surrounding the lack of plastic recycling, and Councillor Thomson reported that the issues raised at the last Community Council meeting regarding the recycling facilities were still being looked into, and it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk should contact Democratic Services with the suggestion that, as plastic recycling was not provided on the islands, the Council should supply facilities at Houton, and ask whether Waste Services could write an article for the Blether.
2. That the Clerk would ask Democratic Services to find out if Harbours would consider designating some disabled parking spaces at the piers.

B. Supply of Aggregate

The Clerk advised members of the amount of aggregate that could be shipped with the grant available, and that there were 15 applicants, and it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk would email members the list of applicants and they would then decide on the allocations.
2. That the Clerk would issue a purchase order for shipping the aggregate.

C. Community Resilience

The Clerk informed members that the quote relating to the 2017 grant for a connection point to be installed at North Walls Community School for a generator had come in way over the amount originally quoted. Members discussed various options to move the project forward. The Clerk also informed members that the

Community Resilience Officer for Orkney Islands Council was trying to negotiate a deal with the satellite phone company as the grant for the 2018 application was less than the project cost, and it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk make enquires for an additional quote for the connection point at North Walls School and to progress the 2018 grant with Orkney Islands Council.
2. That the Clerk would also issue an agenda for the next meeting of the Community Resilience group to take place on Wednesday, 21 November.

D. Headstone Inspection Process – Update

After consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding the headstone inspection process, members discussed this issue, and it was:

Resolved that the situation would be monitored.

E. Moaness Pier

The Clerk read out a letter from Democratic Services regarding the Community Council's request for a handrail at Moaness Pier, which had been approved, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

F. St John's Kirkyard – Gates

The Clerk advised that Democratic Services had written to say that the request to replace the kirkyard gates at St John's would be an additional request to the 5-year burial improvement plan, but that consideration would be given to the request, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

4. Correspondence

A. Armistice Day 2018

After consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council, the Clerk informed members that the wreaths had been ordered and asked which members would lay the wreaths on behalf of the community, and it was resolved that the following lay wreaths on behalf of the community:

M Groat – Longhope Memorial.

A Sinclair – Osmandwall Kirkyard.

R Thomson – Hoy Kirk.

A Clark – Lyness Naval Cemetery.

M Webster – Arctic Convoy Memorial, Lyness (ex-Community Council member).

B. Your Island, Your Choice

After consideration of correspondence from the Orkney Partnership regarding Your Island, Your Choice, the Chair explained that the last round of funding had been on a tight timescale and it had been felt that folk didn't really understand what was being offered. She hoped that the publicity and timescale would be more manageable this time around, and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

C. Scapa Flow Visitor Centre and Museum Redevelopment

After consideration of correspondence from the Scapa Flow Visitor Centre and Museum with an update on the redevelopment programme, members discussed the lack of progress on awarding a contract. Councillor Thomson explained that this work was still ongoing and that one of the issues was that many local firms were still very tied up with work at the new hospital, and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

D. Transmission Asset Development

After consideration of correspondence from SSEN regarding transmission asset development, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

E. Big Bike Revival

After consideration of correspondence from Cycling UK regarding the big bike revival, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would pass the information on to the Development Trust.

F. Orkney Heritage Society

After consideration of correspondence from Orkney Heritage Society regarding the current SSEN proposals for upgrades to the transmission network in Orkney, the Clerk told members that a letter had been sent to SSEN as per the email decision made by members last week, and members agreed that they would favour a less intrusive option in relation to the power lines on Hoy, i.e. consider underground cables rather than overhead lines. This was due to the fact that the proposed route runs very close to several houses and also is on the boundary of International and Nation designated sites i.e. Special Protection Areas, Special Areas Conservation and Sites of Special Scientific Interest for birds and habitat.

G. Heimatmann Theatre production

The Chair reported that this correspondence had been passed to the Gable End Theatre for consideration, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

H. Big Lottery Funding

After consideration of correspondence from the Big Lottery Fund regarding funding it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

I. Wellbeing Orkney

After consideration of correspondence from THAW Orkney regarding Wellbeing Orkney, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

J. Lower Speeds Communities

After consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services regarding the Lower Speed Communities workshop, it was:

Resolved that the Chair would attend on behalf of the Community Council.

K. Isles Operations, Review of Systems of Work and Training

After consideration of correspondence received from Orkney Islands Council regarding the review of systems of work and training, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

L. Islands of Orkney Tourist Brochure 2019

After consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding the Islands of Orkney Tourist Brochure 2019, the Clerk informed members that the advertisement had been circulated for amendments, additions and deletions, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

5. Consultation Documents

A. Verge Maintenance Plan 2019

Following consideration of the consultation document on the Verge Maintenance Plan for 2019, it was:

Resolved to request that the first cut is made earlier in the season.

B. Gambling Act 2005: Review of Gambling Policy

Following consideration of the consultation document on the Review of Gambling policy, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the Consultation Document.

6. Finance

A. General Fund

Following consideration of the Community Council's general financial statement, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £11,520.07, as at 15 October 2018, and that the grant for Islands Tourist Brochure had been deducted from general funds when it was eligible for Community Council Grant Scheme.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

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

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £630.40, as at 15 October 2018.

C. Community Development Fund

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

Resolved to note the balance remaining for allocation of £4,925.03, as at 15 October 2018.

D. Seed Corn Fund

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

Resolved to note the funds remaining for approval of £3,658.47, as at 15 October 2018.

7. Publications

Members were provided with copies of the following publications:

- Scottish Water news.
- Scottish Health Council newsletter.
- Flood line leaflet.
- Orkney Ferries statistics for June, July and August 2018.

8. Any Other Competent Business

A. Sandside, Graemsay

The Clerk read out an email regarding the road at Sandside, Graemsay, which had been inspected, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. Community Council Conference

The Chair reported that she would be attending this conference. There was a discussion regarding the Empowering Communities project and how it could benefit the island. It was also reported that a member of the community had approached the Community Council regarding PAT testing and members asked if this was the sort of work that could be done within the remit of the project, and it was resolved:

1. That the Chair would report details of the conference at the next meeting.
2. That the Clerk would include the query about PAT testing in the business letter.

C. MV Graemsay

The Clerk informed members that a member of the public had approached Orkney Ferries regarding a proposed change to the schedule of the MV Graemsay and that Orkney Ferries had subsequently informed them to approach the Community Council. Members discussed how any change to schedule has knock on effects, and it was:

Resolved to inform the member of the public to put their proposal in writing to the Community Council, using a Special Event Request Form if necessary.

D. Inter Isle Transport Forum

The Chair informed members that she had attended this meeting and that the consultants had explained the next steps being taken in the STAG process to replace the ferry fleet. They were also putting the case together, which would be submitted to the Scottish Government, based on the results of the consultation, and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

E. Roads

Members discussed a few areas where roads were either considered dangerous or in need of repair, and it was:

Resolved the Clerk would include the details in the Business Letter to Democratic Services.

F. Longhope Pier

Members noted that they had asked in the past if Orkney Islands Council would consider installing pontoons at Longhope Pier for visiting boats, and agreed that they would like to revisit this idea, and it was:

Resolved to include in the business letter and ask if the Head of Marine Services would be willing to come to a future Community Council meeting to discuss the proposal.

G. Ambulance Availability on Mainland Orkney

Members discussed a recent ambulance run where there was no ambulance available to meet the island ambulance at Houton, therefore the ferry and crew, plus the local GP and ambulance, were kept waiting for the transfer, and it was:

Resolved that Councillor Thomson would make enquiries.

H. Lyness Development

Councillor Thomson informed members that options for the use of the land at Lyness were still being pursued by Orkney Islands Council, and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

9. Date of Next Meeting

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

Resolved that the next meeting of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council would take place on Friday, 18 January 2019 at 18:45.

10. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting concluded at 21:45.