

Minute of the Meeting of Harray and Sandwick Community Council via Zoom at 19:00 on Wednesday, 26 August 2020

Present:

Mr G Brown, Mrs E Grant, Mr D Hamilton, Mr C Kirkness and Mrs K Ritch.

In Attendance:

- Councillor R King.
- Mr A Stanger, Interim Clerk/Community Council Liaison Officer.

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1. Election of Office Bearers

A. Election of Chair

Prior to the meeting members were asked to email Democratic Services with their nomination for the position of Chair. Members were then advised of the result and it was:

Resolved:

1. That Mr D Hamilton had received a majority of the vote.
2. That Mr D Hamilton duly accepted the position of Chair.

B. Election of Vice-Chair

Prior to the meeting members were asked to email Democratic Services with their nomination for the position of Vice-Chair. Members were then advised of the result, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That Mr C Kirkness had received a majority of the vote.
2. That Mr C Kirkness duly accepted the position of Vice-Chair.

C. Election of Planning Representative

Prior to the meeting members were asked to email Democratic Services with their nomination for the position of Planning Representative. Members were then advised of the result and it was resolved:

1. That Mr G Brown had received a majority of the vote.
2. That Mr G Brown duly accepted the position of Planning Representative.

2. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mr K Groundwater, Mr I Flett and Mr G Sinclair, and Councillors H Johnston, O Tierney and D Tullock.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the general meeting held on 4 March 2020 was approved by members, being proposed by Mr C Kirkness and seconded by Mrs E Grant.

4. Matters Arising

A. Kirk Car Park

Following consideration of correspondence from OIC, advising that the reason the Harray Hall received a grit bin and the Milestone Church did not was because OIC were responsible for part of the hall, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. St Peter's Car Park and Kirkyard Gate

Members were advised that several residents had recently raised concerns regarding the state of the car park and gate at St Peter's Kirkyard. These concerns were passed on to OIC and a report was now awaited from the Building Inspector regarding the scope of works, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Milestone Church – Bag the Bruck Event Cancelled

Members were advised that, due to the Bag the Bruck Event being cancelled as a result of Covid-19, the Milestone Church would not be claiming the Community Council Grant Scheme assistance previously awarded, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Northbigging Road Visibility Issues

Following consideration of correspondence from OIC, confirming that the visibility issue would be reviewed again, and action taken if necessary, members agreed that this was a recurring issue which required attention urgently, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would request that OIC take action on this matter as soon as possible.

E. Russland Walkway

Following consideration of correspondence from OIC, confirming that a site visit of the Russland Walkway had been undertaken and some repairs had been instructed, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

F. Water on Appiehouse and Kierfold Roads

Following consideration of correspondence from OIC, confirming that the issue of water on these roads would be investigated once resources were available, it was resolved:

1. To note the contents of the correspondence.
2. To continue to monitor the situation.

G. Climate Change Officer Position

Following consideration of separate correspondence from both Councillor Dawson and Councillor Sankey, as responses to the letter sent by members citing their concerns regarding the proposed Climate Change Officer Position, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

H. VAO Membership Renewal

Following consideration of correspondence from VAO regarding the annual membership renewal, members had previously agreed to proceed with this by email, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

5. Correspondence

A. Annual Grants 2020/2021

Following consideration of correspondence from OIC, confirming the level of Annual Grants awarded for the coming financial year, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. Insurance Renewal 2020/2021

Following consideration of correspondence from OIC, regarding the insurance arrangements for the coming year, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved that members agreed for the premium to be paid from the Community Council Grant Scheme.

C. Annual Accounts 2019/2020

Following consideration of correspondence from OIC, detailing the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

D. 'To Absent Friends'

Following consideration of correspondence from the Burial Grounds Officer, regarding an annual festival being held in November to remember those who had passed away and funding that was being offered for this, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk was to ascertain whether the correspondence had been sent to the various community groups in Harray and Sandwick.

6. Consultations

A. Verge Maintenance Plan and Comments

Following consideration of the Verge Maintenance Plan and the consultation responses from OIC, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. Winter Service Plan

Following consideration of the Winter Service Plan consultation document from OIC, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved that members had no comments to make.

C. HIAL Air Traffic Management Strategy: Impact Assessment

Following consideration of the local consultation on the HIAL Air Traffic Management Strategy, members were advised that the relevant survey could be completed online and that engagement sessions were available to the public, and it was:

Resolved that the deadline for responses was 30 September.

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 that the estimated balance was £7,675.02 as at 10 August 2020.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

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

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for approval in the main capping limit was £3,296.21, and the balance in the additional capping limit was £669.00 as at 10 August 2020.

C. Community Development Fund

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

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for allocation was £9,640 as at 10 August 2020.

D. Seed Corn Fund

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

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for approval was £2,500 as at 10 August 2020.

8. Applications for Financial Assistance

Resolved to note that no financial requests had been received.

9. Publications

The following publications had been received and made available to members via email:

- VAO Newsletter - April to June 2020.
- VAO Training and Funding Update - April to August 2020.

10. Any Other Competent Business

A. Dounby Recycling Centre

The Chair raised the issue of the Dounby Recycling Centre and members agreed that it should be open again as soon as possible. Members also raised concerns regarding OIC's long term plan for the Centre and following further discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would send a letter, approved by the Chair, to OIC asking for an update on when the Centre was to open again and for assurances on its long-term future.

B. Christmas Tree

The Chair queried whether members would be permitted to erect the usual Christmas Tree in Dounby given the ongoing pandemic and, following a brief discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk was to ask OIC if a Christmas Tree could be erected in Dounby as usual.
2. If this was permitted, that the Interim Clerk was to order the same tree as last year.

C. Potholes on Swartland Road

Members were advised that there were potholes on the Swartland Road, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That Mr C Kirkness would report this directly to OIC.
2. That the Interim Clerk would also raise this matter with OIC Roads.

D. Harray Road

Members were advised that part of the Harray Road, from Refuge Corner to the end junction, was becoming unsafe due to the uneven surface and subsequently required attention. Members were also advised that various residents had raised this issue and, following further discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. That C Kirkness would report this directly to OIC.

2. That the Interim Clerk would also raise this matter with OIC Roads.

E. Meeting Packs

Members discussed the issue of online meetings and the method of sending out the relevant information packs and, following a brief discussion, it was:

Resolved that Democratic Services could send the information packs by email or post as requested by members.

F. Facebook Page

Mrs K Ritch advised members that a West Mainland Resilience Group Facebook page was set up at the start of lockdown as a means of sharing information with the community and, following further discussion, it was:

Resolved that Mrs K Ritch would add members contact information to the page and ask for feedback prior to meetings.

11. Date of Future Meeting

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

Resolved that the next two meetings of Harray and Sandwick Community Council would be held either online or in the Milestone Church, Dounby, on Wednesday, 11 November 2020 and Wednesday, 3 February 2021, both commencing at 19:00.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 20:10.