

Minute of the Meeting of Shapinsay Community Council held in the Music Room, Shapinsay Community School on Thursday, 27 February 2020 at 18:30

Present:

Mr C Leslie, Mrs L Bews, Mr S Garson, Mr C Muir, Mr D Muir and Mrs E Phillips.

In Attendance:

- Councillor G Sinclair.
- Mrs J Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer.
- Mr R Lawrence, Clerk.

Order of Business

1. Apologies.....	2
2. Adoption of Minute.....	2
3. Adoption of Minute.....	2
4. Matters Arising.....	2
5. The Smithy	4
6. Shapinsay Ferry Service.....	5
7. Correspondence	5
8. Consultation Documents.....	6
9. Financial Statements	7
10. Financial Requests	7
11. Publications	8
12. Any Other Competent Business.....	8
13. Date of Next Meeting	9
14. Conclusion of Meeting	9

1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been intimated on behalf of Mr A Boyd and Councillors S Clackson and K Woodbridge.

2. Adoption of Minute

The minute of the meeting held on 13 November 2019 was approved, being proposed by Mrs E Phillips and seconded by Mrs L Bews.

3. Adoption of Minute

The minute of the special meeting held on 18 December 2019 was approved, being proposed by Mr S Garson and seconded by Mr C Muir.

4. Matters Arising

A. NHS Surgery Times

Following consideration of correspondence from Heilendi Practice regarding the surgery hours and advising that they would not curtail clinics unless absolutely necessary, it was:

Resolved:

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

B. Shapinsay Waiting Room in Kirkwall

Following consideration of correspondence providing an update from Councillor Woodbridge regarding the portacabin in Shapinsay and the waiting room in Kirkwall. Members again discussed the condition of the waiting room in Kirkwall and noted that it had not been refurbished in twenty years, that it was communal meeting place for school kids, particularly on a Friday afternoon, and that the urinal had a serious leak, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To write to Orkney Islands Council again regarding the condition of the waiting room.
2. That Councillor Sinclair would make queries with the relevant department regarding the condition of the waiting room.

C. Cannons at Pier

Mrs L Bews declared an interest in this item and was not present during discussion.

Following consideration of a tender which had been received for the refurbishment of the two cannons at Shapinsay Pier, it was:

Resolved:

1. To forward the quote to the North Isles Landscape Partnership team for their approval.
2. To acknowledge receipt of the tender and advise that further contact would be made once funding was secured.

D. Bins at Benches

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services advising members that the provision of bins was not eligible for North Isles Landscape Partnership funding, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

E. Burroughston Broch

Members were advised that no tenders had been received for the repair of the gate. Following discussion regarding the condition of the safety barrier, grass, path and lying water in the Broch, it was:

Resolved:

1. To contact Orkney Islands Council asking if the path to the Broch was part of the Core Path network and, if so, could arrangements be made for the grass to be cut.
2. To note that S Garson would investigate ownership of the ditch along the Broch in the hope that arrangement could be made for it to be cleaned.
3. That enquires should be made as to who was responsible for the safety railings around the Broch as they were in need of repair.
4. To approach the North Isles Landscape Partnership team to ascertain if the Broch was included in their plan for Shapinsay.

F. Benches

After hearing a report from the Chair advising members that D Swannie had agreed to store and varnish the benches, it was:

Resolved to note that D Swannie had agreed to store and varnish the benches and that the Community Council would fund the cost of any material required.

G. Clerk

The Empowering Communities Liaison Officer advised members that a Clerk had been appointed for Shapinsay Community Council, and it was:

Resolved to note that Mr R Lawrence had been appointed to the post and was subsequently welcomed to the meeting.

H. Surface Dressing

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council advising members that the Roads Support Manager had stated that there were no plans to carry out work on Shapinsay in 2020 however this would be looked at in future years, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the content of the correspondence.
2. To advise Orkney Islands Council that the road below Steaquoy to Howe was standing in water and was beyond patching.
3. To advise Orkney Islands Council that the outlet from the French drain at the beach below Helliard View towards Elwick was blocked.

I. Floodgates at Shapinsay Slip - Kirkwall side

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council and further discussion regarding the operation of the floodgates, members were of the opinion that much improved communications with the island should be made and asked if the passenger gate at the waiting room could be opened when the car gate was opened, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk write Orkney Islands Council asking if communications regarding the closing of the floodgates could be issued earlier in the morning and be publicised more widely including estimated times of closure.

J. Christmas Lights

Following discussion regarding the provision of Christmas lights on the lighting columns in the Village, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the cost for the provision and installation of a Christmas light on a lamp post was estimated at £1,200 plus VAT.
2. To place an advert in the newsletter and the Shapinsay Facebook page inviting sponsorship locally.
3. To write all local businesses inviting sponsorship towards the costs.
4. To submit a funding application to Cook Aquaculture Seafarms.

5. The Smithy

Members discussed the opening of the Smithy Café/Restaurant for the summer months, and it was:

Resolved to seek a tenant for the summer months, to make arrangements for a dishwasher to be installed and equipment to be repaired and inspected.

6. Shapinsay Ferry Service

A. Ferry Service

Mr C Leslie declared an interest in this item.

Following consideration of correspondence from Councillor Woodbridge, members discussed the present ferry service to Shapinsay by the MV Thorsvoe and its unsuitability for serving the island due to the steepness of the ramp. It was hoped that the service would return to normal by the end of March when the refits would be complete, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence and monitor the return of the MV Shapinsay to the island service.

B. Air and Ferry Consultative Forum

Resolved to note that the Transport Representative had been unable to attend the Forum.

7. Correspondence

A. Shapinsay Surgery

Following consideration of correspondence from the Shapinsay Advanced Practitioner requesting permission from the community to utilise patient comfort funds for improving the interior of the surgery, it was:

Resolved:

1. That confirmation on who was responsible for the upkeep of the building should be ascertained.
2. That should NHS Orkney be responsible for the upkeep, in particular due to infection control, they should be asked to fund the cost.
3. That if NHS Orkney could not fund the cost the Shapinsay Medical Fund should be used.
4. That a professional decorator should be employed to undertake the work.

B. Scrap Car Scheme

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services advising members that Orkney Aggregates had applied a £30 gate fee on all scrap cars, and it was:

Resolved to ascertain what cars remained on the list that required to be moved from the island and what funds would be remaining and to discuss this item at a future meeting.

C. Peedie Breeks Nursery

Following consideration of correspondence from O Robinson asking for support on his request to Orkney Islands Council to provide a similar flexible childcare provision when Peedie Breeks Nursery closed, it was:

Resolved to provide a letter of support.

D. Orkney Islands Regional Marine Plan

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding the preparation of the Orkney Islands Regional Marine Plan, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

E. Bag the Bruck 2020

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding the annual Bag the Bruck 2020, it was:

Resolved:

1. To advertise the annual Bag the Bruck locally.
2. To invite applications from groups with the deadline being prior to the next meeting.
3. To apply for Community Council Grant Scheme assistance on a project cost of £300.

F. O2 and Vodaphone

Following consideration of correspondence from Westray Community Council asking for support with recent lack of mobile signal in the island, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence as Shapinsay Community Council were not aware of any complaints regarding the services in Shapinsay.

8. Consultation Documents

A. Review of Polling Stations

The Review of Polling Stations consultation document had been emailed round members due to the deadline for responses, and it was:

Resolved to note that no comments had been received for forwarding.

B. Verge Maintenance Plan 2019

Following consideration of correspondence relating to the Verge Maintenance Plan 2019, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information provided.
2. To request that the two cuts were undertaken earlier than they had been in 2019 as they were too late.

9. Financial Statements

A. General Finance Statement

Following consideration of the General Finance statement, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £2338.49 in the General Fund and £265.18 in the Smithy Fund as at 31 January 2020.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2019/2020 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 31 January 2020, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the balance remaining for approval in the main capping limit was £280.08, £488.68 remained in the additional capping limit, and £42.00 remained in the island capping limit.
2. To contact groups with unpaid grants asking them to forward their claims.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that £6,315.53 remained available for allocation as at 31 January 2020.
2. That the remaining sum in CDF7 should be cancelled.

D. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund, it was:

Resolved to note that £3,400 remained available for allocation as at 31 January 2020.

10. Financial Requests

A. Shapinsay Lifeboat Guild

Following consideration of correspondence received from Shapinsay Lifeboat Guild requesting assistance towards travel costs for the ceilidh on 1 February, and a further letter advising that the grant was no longer required, it was:

Resolved to note that assistance was no longer required.

B. Scrap Cars Scheme

Following consideration of correspondence received from a resident, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting assistance towards the removal of a scrap car, it was:

Resolved to contact the applicant advising of the recently applied gate fee and once the present scheme was completed the community council would get back in touch.

C. Shapinsay Community School – Lagganlia and Hoy Trip

Following consideration of correspondence from Shapinsay Community School, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting financial assistance towards travel expenses for six children attending a trip to Lagganlia and seven children going to Hoy, it was:

Resolved:

1. To award a donation of £50 each of the six pupils going to Lagganlia, making a total grant of £300.
2. To award a grant of £30 each of the seven pupils going to Hoy and to apply for Community Council Grant Scheme assistance on the total cost of £210.

11. Publications

The following publications were noted by the Community Council:

- Stephen Clackson's Letters from School Place - November 2019 and January 2020.
- VAO Newsletter - January 2020.
- VAO Training and Funding Updates – December 2019, January and February 2020.
- Orkney Ferries Statistics - October, November and December 2019.
- VE Day 75 Celebrations.

12. Any Other Competent Business

A. Roads Operative

Members noted that the resident roads operative was soon to leave the island therefore leaving the post vacant. Members raised concerns regarding the post as to whether it would be advertised or not and the impact it could have on the island in the event that the post was not advertised. Members also were of the opinion that there was adequate work in the island, in particular road offlets were needing to be attended to, and it was:

Resolved to ask Orkney Islands Council if the post was going to be re-advertised.

B. Broch of Burroughston Road Sign

Members were advised that the signage for Broch of Burroughston required to be re-erected, and it was:

Resolved to contact Orkney Islands Council asking if the sign could be re-erected.

C. Rock Armouring

A member advised that the rock armouring at Elwick Bay below Helliar View had moved and may require to be investigated, and it was:

Resolved to advise Orkney Islands Council that the rock armouring had moved.

D. Gritting of Pavements

Members raised concerns regarding the lack of grit on the pavements between the Old Man's Hut and the zebra crossings on Harbour Street and Back Road, Kirkwall, in the recent icy weather which meant that the pavements were treacherous, and it was:

Resolved forward the concerns to Orkney Islands Council.

E. Island Gritting

Members queried why there was no gritting undertaken on the island late afternoon or evening as was done on the Mainland, and it was:

Resolved to ask Orkney Islands Council why gritting was not undertaken on the islands as on the mainland.

F. Kirkyard Grass Cutting

Members discussed the annual grass cutting tenders for the kirkyard, community areas and the Broch of Burroughston, and it was:

Resolved to advertise grass cutting tenders with a closing date of end March.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Members discussed dates for the next meeting, and it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of the Shapinsay Community Council would be held on Thursday, 23 April 2020, commencing at 18:30 in the Club Rooms, Shapinsay Community School.

14. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 21:20.