

# Minute of the Meeting of Stromness Community Council held in the Town House, Stromness, on Monday, 12 March 2018 at 19:00

## Present:

G Deans, K Bevan, E Knight, J Mowat, W Mackay, P McLaughlin and J Park.

## In Attendance:

- Councillor R Crichton.
- Chief Inspector M Webb, Police Scotland.
- L Miller, Stromness Town Fund.
- B Mowat, Stromness Town Fund.
- One member of the press.
- P Breck, Clerk.

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## **1. Apologies**

Resolved to note that apologies were intimated on behalf of A Esslemont and Councillors Stockan and Thomson.

## **2. Police Matters**

The Chief Inspector gave a brief update on policing matters for the Stromness area, including parking, drugs and crime. He explained that parking at present was a police enforcement matter, however Police Scotland were in dialogue with the Council to have parking decriminalised and for the Council to take on all parking issues. He urged the public to contact the police through the 101 number if they had any issues. He informed members that he would, work commitments allowing, have a Police presence in Stromness on a regular basis, and members welcomed this, especially if they can be seen on foot patrol and not just driving through the town, and it was:

Resolved that the information provided be noted.

## **3. Stromness Town Fund**

Representatives of Stromness Town Fund gave members details of how their group was working to raise funds for good causes in the Stromness area. They explained that they were trying to identify local causes and would donate only if the project could be seen to be going ahead. They asked if members knew of any available storage in the town for them to use, and it was:

Resolved to note that Councillor Crichton would make enquiries about storage facilities.

## **4. Adoption of Minutes**

The Minute of the meeting held on 22 January 2018 was approved, being proposed by G Deans and seconded by P McLaughlin, subject to the following amendment:

Item 6(g) Coat of Arms.

The Coat of Arms was issued by the Lord Lyon to Stromness Community Council in 1985. The Coat of Arms can be used by the Community Council in any way i.e. letterhead, promotion of Community Council. Any use of the Coat of Arms must be with the permission of the Community Council. Groups funded by Community Council can use the Coat of Arms, with permission, and should show the Coat of Arms with Stromness Community Council below. Organisations cannot use it for their personal logo's but could, with the Community Council's permission, use it in conjunction with their own logo. Businesses cannot use it for their own profit, however the Community Council could commission goods and sales would go through the Community Council, it was:

Resolved that this be noted, however K Bevan wished to record his dissent on the restrictive use of the Coat of Arms.

## **5. Matters Arising**

### **A. Parking Consultation**

Councillor Crichton informed members that the consultation had been delayed due to staff sickness, however it was expected to be out by the end of April and the Community Council would be informed when this happened. Councillor Crichton also informed members that the Licensing Committee had rescinded the taxi rank at the Pier Head opposite the Warehouse Buildings at their recent meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **B. Scottish Water – Update**

E Knight informed members that there had been no response from Scottish Water regarding the legacy request. P McLaughlin informed members that concerns had been raised regarding private vehicles parking on the area between Norland and Monivey following Scottish Water's completion of their works at this area. It was understood that 24-hour access was required for this area. Councillor Crichton reported that the area of ground at the South End was being reinstated with hard standing, a kerb, and grass area to the rear, and it was:

Resolved to note that the Chair and Councillor Crichton were attending the Scottish Water function on Friday and hoped to discuss the above parking concerns.

### **C. Public Stage**

The Clerk informed members that the final invoices had now been paid and the cashflow from the Community Council general fund and Sea Haven had been repaid. As previously agreed, the Sea Haven money will now be split equally between the Stromness Museum and Stromness 200 celebrations. As the celebrations had already taken place, discussion was had regarding where this share of the money should go. One proposal was for the money to go towards the Christmas lights. J Park informed members that it had been hoped the Stromness Seal would have been on public display last year, however it required significant restoration. She asked if this would be something that the money could go towards. The Clerk informed members that there was still funding in the stage bank account to be used and, following discussion, it was resolved:

1. That J Park would forward the costing for the restoration of the Seal for members consideration.

2. That the borders at the stage should be covered and chipped so as to reduce upkeep and P McLaughlin would contact a local gardener to see if he can take on this work.

### **D. Entrance onto Market Green from North End Road**

The Clerk circulated a quote received from Education and Leisure for the road materials and hire of plant and labour for the entrance onto the Market Green and, following discussion, it was:

Resolved to write to the Sport and Leisure Service Manager stating that the Community Council had only agreed to pay for the road materials and that his service was to attend to the disbursement of the materials, and on this basis the Community Council will make payment of the £41.10 (previous Minute references to be attached).

## **6. Correspondence**

### **A. Bag the Bruck – April 2018**

Following consideration of correspondence received from Democratic Services regarding the upcoming Bag the Bruck event, it was:

Resolved to note that the Clerk would submit an application to the Community Council Grant Scheme for £300 and members would encourage local organisations to take part.

### **B. NHS Orkney Fundraising Group**

Following consideration of correspondence received from NHS Orkney Fundraising group requesting funding or sponsoring additional items or equipment, planting or furnishings for the new hospital, it was:

Resolved to write to the Fundraising Group stating that the Community Council had very limited funding and, unfortunately at this time, were unable to support the request.

## **7. Consultations**

### **A. Winter Service Plan 2017/2018**

Following consideration of the above consultation document, it was:

Resolved to forward the following comments to Democratic Services: members feel that the road network needs to be updated. Members would like to see the Garson Road/Copland's Dock road increased to priority 1 (including the area into J and V Coaches and C Omand's garage) - it is currently a priority 3 but given that there is a new housing scheme and a route to school, the priority should be increased.

### **B. Verge Maintenance Plan**

Following consideration of the above consultation document, it was:

Resolved to forward the following comment to Democratic Services: members request that the Howe Junction be identified as requiring a safety cut as far back as possible on both sides of the junction and the Sandwich junction opposite "Rosgar" also be identified as requiring cut further back than normal. These requests have been submitted by the Community Council in previous years but do not seem to have been included in the schedule.

## **C. Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Overprovision**

Following consideration of correspondence received from Democratic Services regarding the Licensing Board's review on whether there is overprovision of licensed premises in the Stromness area, it was:

Resolved that members have no concerns regarding overprovision of licensed premises in the Stromness area.

## **8. Reports from Community Council Representatives**

### **A. MARS**

The MARS representative informed members that there were ongoing issues with the flag stones along the street, particularly between the Pier Head and Church Road, where the sealing between the slabs was giving way. Councillor Crichton informed members that Road Services were aware of this problem and awaiting better weather to deal with issues, however he would make enquires as to when this was likely to be carried out and what action is being taken to solve this issue, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **B. Stromness Community Business Forum**

The Business Forum representative informed members that the AGM was held on 15 February. The Forum were in the process of organising an Easter Egg Hunt which was due to take place between 29 March and 5 April, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **C. Stromness Development Trust**

The Development Trust representative informed members that there was a meeting scheduled for 21 March. The playpark and Christmas lights projects were ongoing, and a Yule Log committee had been formed to take the event forward, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **D. Playpark Sub-committee**

Members heard that there had been no response as yet from Scottish Water regarding the legacy request, but that there should hopefully be a draft plan in the near future, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **9. Financial Statements**

### **A. Community Council General Account**

After consideration of the Community Council's General Finance Statement as at 12 March 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £2,153.66.

### **B. Sea Haven Account**

After consideration of the Sea Haven Account statement as at 12 March 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the balance of £7,215.80.

### **C. Community Council Grant Scheme Statement**

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

Resolved to note that the grant scheme was fully allocated.

### **D. Community Development Fund**

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

Resolved to note the total remaining for allocation of £4,844.51.

### **E. Seed Corn**

After consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement as at 12 March 2018, it was:

Resolved to note that £3,263.78 remained available for approval.

## **10. Requests for Financial Assistance**

### **A. Orkney Folk Festival**

Following consideration of an application received from Orkney Folk Festival for financial assistance towards travel during the 2018 event, it was:

Resolved to grant £750 to Orkney Folk Festival for assistance with travel, subject to approval from the Community Council Grant Scheme.

### **B. Stromness Primary School – P7 Trip to Lagganlia**

Following consideration of an application received from Stromness Primary School for financial assistance towards 22 pupils taking part in the P7 trip to Lagganlia, it was:

Resolved to grant £13 each of the 22 pupils taking part in the P7 trip to Lagganlia.

## **11. Publications**

The Orkney Partnership – Community Planning News – January 2018 was made available for members to view.

## **12. Any Other Competent Business**

### **A. GMB Garden – Grasscutting**

The Clerk informed members that two quotes had been received for the grass cutting and, following discussion, it was:

Resolved to accept the generous offer of grass cutting free of charge.

### **B. Refurbishment of Heritage Plaques**

W Mackay informed members that a number of the heritage plaques were in need of refurbishment and, following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note that W Mackay would take down the plaques requiring refurbishment and the Clerk would submit an application to the CCGS for assistance with this.

### **C. Bonfire Fireworks**

The Chair informed members that he had spoken to the former SCC Chair regarding the bonfire fireworks which needed to be ordered in the near future, and it was:

Resolved to note that members agreed to order £1,200 worth, and the Clerk would submit an application to the Community Council Grant Scheme.

### **D. Campsite**

Following consideration of correspondence received from the Sport and Leisure Service Manager asking members if there is any reason why the mound is in the turning area at the camp site, members raised concerns about what works were to be done at the camp site and why the question of the “mound” had been raised. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note that Councillor Crichton would speak with the Sport and Leisure Service Manager regarding members’ concerns.

### **E. Serco Northlink**

K Bevan and W Mackay declared an interest in this item and did not take part in discussion thereof.

The Chair raised concerns about the ferry provision while the Hamnavoe was on refit, and declared the Community Council’s support to the local MSP in dealing with this matter, and it was:

Resolved to note that the Community Council would write to the Transport Minister with their concerns about the replacement vessel.

### **F. Market Green**

K Bevan raised concerns about the flooding at the bottom corner of the Market Green, along the back of Argo’s to the Squash Courts, and it was:

Resolved that Councillor Crichton would look into this matter.

### **G. Core Path Consultation**

J Mowat raised concerns about the path at the top of Hoymansquoy leading to the Gun. Councillor Crichton informed members that a Core Path consultation was due to start on 15 March, and this would be the ideal starting point for raising such issues, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **13. Date of Next Meeting**

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

Resolved that the next meeting would be held on Monday, 30 April at 19:00 in the Town House, Stromness.

### **14. Conclusion of Meeting**

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