

Minute of the Meeting of Westray Community Council held in the Upstairs Room, Old Kirk, Westray, on Monday, 20 January 2020 at 19:00

Present:

Mrs E Drever, Miss J Holland, Mr C Kirkness, Mr D Seatter and Mr A Scott.

In Attendance:

- Councillor K Woodbridge.
- Mrs M Spence, Democratic Services Manager/Interim Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mr A Baird and Mr D Hutchison and Councillors S Clackson and G Sinclair.

2. Minutes of General Meeting held on 4 November 2019

The minute of the meeting of Westray Community Council held on 4 November 2019 was approved, being proposed by Mrs L Drever and seconded by Mr C Kirkness.

3. Matters Arising

A. Village Path

An update on the Village Path project had been expected from Mr A Baird, and it was:

Resolved that members would request an update on this matter at the next meeting.

B. Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony 2019

Members discussed the Tree Lighting Ceremony which had gone well, however, although the artificial Christmas Tree and Lights had been lovely at first, several of the lights had quickly stopped working, and it was:

Resolved that Mr C Kirkness, as the Community Council representative, would raise this with the Friends of Kalisgarth to ensure that replacement lights were obtained within the warranty period.

C. Christmas Lights on Lamp Posts

Members resumed discussion of the Christmas lights on lamp posts, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would ascertain where the lights in the Back Road, Kirkwall had been purchased and provide details at the next meeting.

D. Clerk's Post

The Interim Clerk informed members that there had been no interest in the post so far, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk's post would be re-advertised locally.

4. Correspondence

A. Inter-Isles Air and Ferry Services Consultative Forum

Members commented that on the summer timetable, it was not possible to fly from Westray to Aberdeen on a Sunday, so to be in Aberdeen for start of business on Monday morning would mean leaving Westray some thirty-six hours beforehand because the Sunday flight from Westray arrives into Kirkwall just twenty minutes too late to connect with the Aberdeen flight, and it was:

Resolved to raise this issue again during the review of summer air services timetables.

B. Westray Development Trust – Library Van – Project Collaboration request December 2019

Correspondence had been received from Westray Development Trust proposing a collaborative project to bring the Library Van out for four extra visits in 2020. It was advised that the current Orkney Library timetable indicated that there would be six library van visits to Westray in 2020. Members were also advised that Westray Development Trust was seeking funding from Westray Community Council for the Westray hall, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would ask what the criteria was for library van visits as it was not the same as the number of visits made to Hoy or Sanday.
2. That the Interim Clerk would inform Westray Development Trust that Westray Community Council was looking into criteria and funding options and asking for clarification on whether the request had been initiated by someone from the community or from within Westray Development Trust.

C. Burial Grounds Code of Practice – November 2019

Correspondence had been emailed to members regarding review and updating of the operational practices of the burial grounds, and it was:

Resolved to note that any comments were to be returned to the Interim Clerk by 15 January 2020.

5. Financial Statements

A. General Finance Statement

Following consideration of the General Finance statement as at 10 January 2020, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £20,577.10.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme (CCGS)

Following consideration of the CCGS statement as at 10 January 2020, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was resolved:

1. To note that the main capping limit was over allocated by £641.81; £662.00 remained within the additional limit; and £642 remained within the island limit.
2. That the Clerk would chase up any outstanding CCGS claims.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund as at 10 January 2020, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note a total remaining available for allocation of £5,000.

6. Financial Requests

Resolved to note that no financial requests had been received.

7. Consultation - Draft Orkney Mental Health Strategy 2020-2025

Correspondence had been received from Orkney Health and Care informing members of the Orkney Mental Health Strategy 2020-2025 consultation that was available to view on-line, and it was:

Resolved to note that any comments should be returned to the Interim Clerk before the deadline of 29 January 2020.

8. Publications

The following publications were made available and were noted:

- Orkney Ferries Statistics – October and November 2019.
- Loganair – Year to date Statistics.
- VAO Newsletter – December 2019.
- VAO Training and Funding Update – December 2019.
- S Clackson's Letter from School Place – November 2019.
- THAW Impact Report – November 2019.

9. Any Other Competent Business

A. Westray Development Trust

Resolved to note that members were advised that the application for funding towards Salvation Army travel and accommodation would be assessed at the Westray Development Trust meeting scheduled for 6 February 2020.

B. Maintenance of Ditches

Correspondence had been received regarding water not being able to run off the road as offlets had not been cut, causing serious issues with flooding of public roads in several areas of Westray, and it was:

Resolved to ask Roads Services what the proposals and timescales were for ditch maintenance in Westray.

C. Bisgeos Run

Members were informed that there would be a Bisgeos Run in 2020 and that the organisers would be seeking funding, and it was:

Resolved to note that funding would be sought from Westray Development Trust for this event.

D. Mobile Phone Signal

Members discussed the lack of mobile phone signal and, in particular, that there had been no emergency signal since Wednesday, 15 January 2020 for either Vodafone or O2, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would submit a complaint to Vodafone and O2, with copies to Alistair Carmichael MP and Liam McArthur MSP, and ask all other Community Councils to do the same.

2. That the Interim Clerk would ask the Strategic Advisor, Renewables and Connectivity for an update on 5G, as Westray still did not have the 4G that was due to be in place by September 2019.

E. M.V Earl Thorfinn

Members commented that there were ongoing breakdowns and issues with the M.V. Earl Thorfinn, and it was:

Resolved to note that members were very unhappy about this unsatisfactory situation.

10. Date of Next Meeting

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

Resolved that the next meeting of the Westray Community Council would be held on Monday, 9 March 2020, subject to confirmation by Mr A Scott.

11. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:40.