

Minute of the meeting of Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Saturday, 23 January 2021 at 10:15

Present:

Mr Angus Firth, Mrs Christina Cox, Mr Robert Friel and Mr John Garson.

In Attendance:

- Councillor Stephen Clackson.
- Councillor Graham Sinclair.
- Councillor Heather Woodbridge.
- Mrs Maureen Spence, Democratic Services Manager.
- Mrs Jenny McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer/Interim Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mrs Zoe Flaws and Mrs Carole Maguire.

2. Adoption of Minute

The Minute of the meeting held on 31 October 2020 was approved, being proposed by Mr John Garson and seconded by Mrs Christina Cox.

3. Grass Cutting Tenders

Members had previously agreed, via email, to advertise the grass cutting tenders for Brinian, Glebe, Westside, Scockness, St Magnus, St Mary's and Wasbister Kirkyards, and the memorials on Rousay and Egilsay, for a one-year period. The Interim Clerk advised that two tenders had been received and, following analysis of the tender details, it was:

Resolved:

- A. To award the tenders for grass cutting for the 2021 season to Mr Denis Soames.
- B. That the Interim Clerk would advise both applicants of the outcome accordingly.

4. Matters Arising

A. Inter-Island Ferry Tickets

The Interim Clerk advised that, again, no claims had been made since the last meeting. The Chair noted that people had not been travelling so much recently and recommended the fund be left open meantime, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Scrap Car Scheme

Members discussed the scrap car scheme, and also an email from a Rousay resident querying whether there was still CC assistance available for removing redundant vehicles.

The Interim Clerk advised that information was still being gathered regarding how much was left in the fund, but that Orkney Aggregates were now paying for scrap. Members agreed that the fund should still be made available to those who wished to use it meantime, and it was:

Resolved:

- 1. To keep the fund open for applications.
- 2. That the Interim Clerk would respond to the correspondence.

C. Notice Boards

Members were advised by the Chair that the boards were still being stored at his property and that he would make arrangements for them being erected. Mr Robert Friel offered to arrange clearance for the notice board to be placed at the school, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Kirkyard Matting

As Mrs Carole Maguire was not present at the meeting, it was:

Resolved to keep this item on the agenda for the next meeting.

E. Memorial/Path at Rousay Kirkyard

As Mrs Zoe Flaws was not present at the meeting, it was:

Resolved to keep this item on the agenda for the next meeting.

5. Correspondence

A. Scottish Civic Trust – MyPlace Awards 2021

After consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Civic Trust, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding the MyPlace Awards, which celebrate community-led build environment projects that have transformed their locality, it was:

Resolved that members did not wish to make any nominations.

B. Stronsay Waste Matters – North Isles Waste Management Initiative

Members considered correspondence from the Waste Management Officer, Stronsay Waste Matters, copies of which had previously been circulated, inviting the Community Council to register interest in becoming a member of a North Isles waste management initiative. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would respond to Stronsay Waste Matters to register interest in the project.
2. That the Interim Clerk would send the information on to REW Development Trust for their information.

C. Democratic Services - Roads Repairs and Reporting of Issues

The Interim Clerk referred to emails that had been sent on 8 December 2020 regarding roads repairs and asking for details of any roads issues so that these could be reported. It was advised that the Chair had responded with a comprehensive list of issues, and that this had been forwarded to the relevant officers.

The Democratic Services Manager advised that she hoped to have a roads update to take to the next Island Community Resilience Meeting and that OIC Councillors were going through the budget setting process at present which could have an additional impact on this service.

It was further reported that roads were starting to flood badly because the culverts were not being cut. Members felt that this was dangerous and would cause an accident if something was not done about it soon, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information provided.
2. That the Interim Clerk would report the issues regarding flooding/standing water to the relevant department.

D. Connecting Scotland - Phase 2, Round 2

Members considered information from the Community Learning and Development Officer, Orkney Islands Council, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding the Scottish Government's Connecting Scotland Phase 2 programme. Mrs Christina Cox advised that a number of households within the CC area had made use of this initiative, and it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence and information provided.

E. Orkney Scam Action Group

Members considered correspondence from Police Sergeant Simon Hay, copies of which had previously been circulated, which provided information on the recent setting up of a local multiagency group to tackle scams, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information provided.
2. That the Interim Clerk would pass the information on to the editor of the Review for inclusion.

F. REW Development Trust – Rat Eradication Funding

Correspondence from the Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre Development Trust had previously been circulated to members, regarding an underspend of £986.95 of rat eradication funding which was being offered to the Community Council to supplement their vermin eradication scheme. Members agreed that they could make good use of this, and that they could increase the maximum amount provided to applicants to £100, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would respond to the REW Development Trust thanking them for the opportunity and advising that it would be much appreciated if the full amount of the underspend could be transferred to the Community Council's account.

2. That the terms of the CC's vermin eradication scheme would be amended so that 50% of the cost of equipment/poison would be covered, up to a maximum of £100.

G. Fair Start Scotland

Members considered correspondence from the Fair Start Scotland Delivery Manager, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding a service aimed at helping people who find themselves unemployed and looking for work. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would forward the information for inclusion in the Review.

H. Liam McArthur MSP – R100 Roundtable

Following consideration of correspondence from Liam McArthur MSP, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding an event to discuss the rollout of the Scottish Government's R100 programme and wider broadband deployment, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that any member wishing to attend should register their interest.
2. To forward the information for inclusion in the Review.

I. Scottish Water – Annual Consultative Meeting

Following consideration of correspondence from the Corporate Affairs Manager (North), Scottish Water, regarding their annual Consultative Meeting, copies of which had been previously circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

J. Robert Leslie, SNP – Orkney Ferries Replacement

It was noted that correspondence from Robert Leslie, SNP Candidate for the 2021 Scottish Parliament elections, had been circulated to members for their reference. It contained a presentation on ferry replacement which outlined the case for catamarans versus monohulls and included a mix of potential financial models. It was confirmed that Transport Representatives would be provided with an update on the Outline Business Case work at the next Air and Ferry Consultative Forum Meetings, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

K. Scottish Government – Clear Your Head Campaign

It was noted that correspondence from the Engagement Officer, NHS Orkney, had been forwarded regarding the Scottish Government's Clear Your Head Campaign, and it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence.

L. Thank You Letter

Members were advised that a letter of thanks had been received from Major B Friel, for the Community Council's continued support of the annual Act of Remembrance by providing the monies to purchase the wreaths and crosses, and it was:

Resolved to note the thank you letter.

6. Financial Statements

A. General Account

Following consideration of the General Finance statement as at 8 January 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £21,613.04.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 8 January 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval in the main capping limit was £2,455.16, the balance remaining in the additional capping limit was £669, and the Island capping limit balance remaining was £648.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of a statement for the Community Development Fund as at 8 January 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £5,427.80.

D. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of a statement for the Seed Corn Fund as at 8 January 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that £9,035 remained available for allocation.

7. Financial Requests

Resolved to note that no requests for financial assistance had been received.

8. Consultation - Police Scotland – Equality Outcomes 2021-2025

Members had previously been emailed the consultation document from Police Scotland relating to their Equality Outcomes for the period 2021 to 2025. Members noted that the deadline had now passed, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the consultation document.

9. Reports from Representatives

A. Planning

The Planning Representative advised that there were four applications on the extant list relating to this Community Council area, and no new applications. He also reported that he had received one complaint, which he had passed to Planning to investigate, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Transport

Members were advised by the Transport representative that the Ferry Service Consultative Forum meeting was due to take place on 10 February and that if anyone had any issues they wished her to take to the meeting, they should let her know beforehand.

The Chair voiced concerns regarding Orkney Ferries' current stipulation of booking a minimum of one hour before a ferry sailing, especially in relation to agriculture and those wishing to travel for hospital or vaccine appointments. He asked if it would be possible for Orkney Ferries to provide a bit of leeway on this to allow for emergency, last minute travel, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information provided.
2. That the Democratic Services Manager would discuss the emergency bookings issue with the Ferry Services Manager.

10. Publications

The following publications had been previously emailed to members, and were noted:

- VAO Newsletter – November and December 2020.
- VAO Training and Funding Update – November 2020.
- Letter from School Place – November and December 2020.
- Orkney Ferries – Statistics – August, September and October 2020.

11. Any Other Competent Business – Bag the Bruck

A member queried whether any Bag the Bruck events would be organised this year, as she was concerned about the amount of debris being washed up on the shore around the islands. The Democratic Services Manager advised that she was not aware of any plans at present, due to current restrictions relating to the pandemic, however there would be nothing to stop the Community Council dealing with this issue and using CCGS to purchase the bags and gloves and pay for collections. It was also suggested that the CC write to the managers of the nearby fish farm sites, asking them to do their bit in terms of the environment and to make sure no waste

was thrown overboard from their boats or farm sites. Following further discussion, it was:

A. To note that no Bag the Bruck events were planned for 2021 but that the CC could arrange something should they wish.

B. That the Interim Clerk would send a letter to the company responsible for the nearby fish farm sites asking them to be mindful of the issue of debris being thrown into the sea and littering the shores.

12. Date of Next Meeting

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

Resolved that the next meeting of Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council would be held on Saturday, 13 March 2021, at 10:15 via Microsoft Teams.

13. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 11:05.