

Minute of the Meeting of Holm Community Council held in the Games Room, Holm Community Centre and via Teams on Tuesday, 25 June 2024 at 19:30

Present:

Erland Drever, Martin Lee (via Teams), Christine Muir, Bill Robertson, Alan Scott and Richard Shearer.

In Attendance:

- Councillor James R Moar.
- Councillor Gillian Skuse.
- Hazel Flett, Clerk.

Chair:

- Hazel Flett, Clerk – for Items 1 and 2.
- Alan Scott – for Items 3 to 17.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Raymie Peace.

2. Appointment of Chair

The Clerk advised of the options available for the appointment of Chair, and it was:

Resolved that Alan Scott be reappointed Chair of Holm Community Council.

Alan Scott took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

3. Appointment of Vice Chair

Resolved that Martin Lee be reappointed Vice Chair of Holm Community Council.

4. Appointment of Planning Representative

Resolved that the Clerk should be appointed as the Planning Representative for Holm Community Council.

5. Adoption of Minute

The Minute of the Meeting held on 27 March 2024 was approved, being proposed by Bill Robertson and seconded by Christine Muir.

6. Matters Arising

A. Various Roads Matters

Martin Lee advised that he had not yet reported all the roads matters on Orkney Islands Council's "report it" system and undertook to do this shortly. The Clerk advised that the Head of Neighbourhood Services and the Road Support Officer, Orkney Islands Council, would be attending the next meeting to provide an update on the various roads matters, and it was:

Resolved to note the position.

B. Proposal for Living Christmas Tree

The Chair advised that E Mackenzie had now moved to Holm and was keen to assist with the community Christmas tree project, and it was:

Resolved to note the position.

C. Holm Community Association – 100 years

The Clerk advised that Holm Community Association had decided against purchasing display boards for the 100 years exhibition, given the cost, but had indicated other expenses would be incurred and queried whether the Community Council would be willing to provide a contribution, and it was:

Resolved to make a donation of £200 towards costs associated with the 100 years exhibition.

D. Request for Dog Waste Bin

The Clerk advised that no response had yet been received from Orkney Islands Council regarding the request for a dog waste bin near the bus shelter at the end of the Biggings loan, and it was:

Resolved to note the current position.

E. Bus Shelters in Holm Village

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council in response to the request for bus shelters in St Mary's, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the request would be considered, subject to budget availability from the Sustainable and Green Transport Fund.
2. To note that the Community Council would be expected to match fund any projects.
3. That the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council to ascertain the cost of a bus shelter.

7. Correspondence

A. Local Place Plans

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding an invitation to create Local Place Plans, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council requesting that a representative from the Development and Marine Planning team attend the next meeting.

B. East Mainland Show Pavilion

Following consideration of correspondence from the President of the East Mainland Agricultural Society requesting a letter of support for a project to provide a pavilion in the show park at Toab, as well as financial assistance towards the cost of the project, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that approval via email had been given to enable the Clerk to write a letter of support for the project.
2. To note that a donation of £1,000 towards the project, subject to funding from the Community Development Fund allocation being approved, had also been approved via email.

C. Cross-Party Group on Islands and NIP Review Consultation Analysis

Following consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Islands Federation advising of a meeting of the Cross-Party Group on Islands which took place on 22 May 2024, as well as a link to the analysis of the National Islands Plan review, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

D. Annual Grants

Following consideration of correspondence from the Community Council Liaison Officer advising of the annual grants to community councils for 2024/2025, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the annual grant to Holm Community Council for financial year 2024/2025 was £3,962.11.

2. To note that the capping limit for the Community Council Grant Scheme for financial year 2024/2025 was £3,837, with an additional capping limit of £765 in respect of costs associated with halls or community centres not in Council ownership.

E. Digital Voice Roadshow

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding drop-in sessions hosted by BT relating to the change from analogue to digital phone services that was scheduled for completion in January 2027, to be held at the Orkney Library on 23 and 24 July 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

8. Community Council Accounts

Following consideration of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024.

9. Financial Statements 2023/2024

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 31 March 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 31 March 2024 of £14,094.68.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2023/2024 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 31 March 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that, as at 31 March 2024, projects to the value of £5,056 had been approved, of which £4,105.60 had been claimed.
2. To note the balance remaining for approval within the main capping limit of £632.40.
3. To note the balance remaining for approval within the additional capping limit of £743.

10. Financial Statements 2024/2025

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 10 June 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 10 June 2024 of £17,306.57.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2024/25 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 10 June 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that, as at 10 June 2024, projects to the value of £2,315.40 had been approved, of which £nil had been claimed.
2. To note the balance remaining for approval within the main capping limit of £2,987.76.
3. To note the balance remaining for approval within the additional capping limit of £90.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 10 June 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £4,000.

D. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement as at 10 June 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £3,093.33.

11. Financial Requests

A. Holm Community Association

Following consideration of correspondence from Holm Community Association requesting assistance towards costs incurred as part of the Holm Gala, which was due to take place on 6 July 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £500 be awarded, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being awarded, failing which or if receipts could not be provided for the full amount, a donation from the General Fund, making a total contribution of £500.

B. KGS Football

Following consideration of an application from Y Rendall requesting financial assistance towards her son participating as part of the KGS S2 football team in Aberdeen between 27 and 30 May 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £40 be provided, subject to participation.

C. Holm Community Heritage at St Nicholas Kirk

Following consideration of correspondence from Holm Community Heritage at St Nicholas Kirk requesting assistance towards legal costs associated with the purchase of the grave digger's hut, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £500 be awarded towards the purchase cost of the grave digger's hut, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved.

D. Gymnastics competition

Following consideration of an application from S Brown requesting financial assistance towards her daughters participating in a gymnastics trip to Motherwell from 24 to 26 May 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £40 should be given in respect of each gymnast participating in the event.

E. St Andrews Primary School

The Clerk had received an application from St Andrews Primary School requesting financial assistance towards the purchase of construction toys for Primary 2, and it was:

Resolved that a grant of £200 be awarded, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved.

12. Consultations

A. SEPA – Review of areas most at risk of flooding across Scotland

Following consideration of correspondence from SEPA regarding a review of areas most at risk of flooding across Scotland, for which responses were due by 24 June 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

B. Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service regarding a consultation on the future of the SFRS, Shaping Our Future Service: Your Say, for which responses were due by 30 June 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

C. Review of Orkney Local Development Plan

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding surveys and a call for ideas which would feed into the review of the Local Development Plan, for which responses were due by 30 September 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council asking that a member of the Development and Marine Planning team attend the next meeting.

D. Orkney Matters 2

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding the current run of Orkney Matters meetings, with the Holm event held on 3 June 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note M Lee had attended the event.

E. Orkney Islands Area Licensing Board – Review of Gambling Policy

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding the Orkney Islands Area Licensing Board's review of its Gambling Policy, for which responses were due by 28 June 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to make no comment.

13. Meetings Attended by Members

A. NHS Healthcare Improvement Scotland

Following consideration of correspondence from NHS Healthcare Improvement Scotland regarding a webinar on designing homes for cognitive ageing held on 17 April 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the Community Council had not been represented at the webinar.

B. Islands Connectivity Plan

Martin Lee advised that he had attended a Transport Scotland event in Stromness on 29 April 2024 regarding the Islands Connectivity Plan, and it was:

Resolved to note that discussion had focused on west coast ferry provision, as well as the lack of a bus service between Scrabster and Thurso.

C. Scottish Islands Federation

Following consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Islands Federation advising of an online meeting held on 5 June 2024 regarding the Addressing Depopulation Action Plan and the role of the National Islands Plan, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

14. Publications

The following publications had been sent to the Clerk and were forwarded to members via email:

- VAO Newsletters – March, April and May 2024.
- VAO – Training and Funding Updates – April, May and June 2024.
- Review of Orkney Local Development Plan – June 2024 Newsletter.
- ORSAS – Quarterly Newsletter – June 2024.

15. Any Other Competent Business

A. 20mph Engagement with Community Councils

The Clerk had received correspondence from Orkney Islands Council seeking views by 16 July 2024 on proposals to implement 20mph speed limits on various roads in St Mary's, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising that there was general agreement to retain the 30mph on the main road through St Mary's but that all the side roads into residential areas should be reduced to 20mph, and that consideration should also be given to visual aides to reduce the speed of traffic through the village, as had been done in Finstown.

16. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved:

A. That the next meeting of Holm Community Council should be held on Wednesday, 4 September 2024 in the Holm Community Centre, commencing at 19:30.

B. That, as representatives from the Development and Marine Planning team were to be invited to the next meeting, the autumn meeting with the roads representatives should be delayed until the meeting scheduled for 4 November 2024.

17. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:36.