

Minute of the Meeting of Shapinsay Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, 26 January 2021 at 19:00

Present:

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

In Attendance:

- Councillor S Clackson.
- Councillor G Sinclair.
- Councillor H Woodbridge.
- Sergeant S Hay, Police Scotland.
- Mrs J McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer.
- Mr R Lawrence, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been intimated on behalf of Mr A Boyd and Mrs E Phillips.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 17 November 2020 was approved, being proposed by Mr C Leslie and seconded by Mr S Garson.

3. Grass Cutting Tenders 2021

Following a discussion around the need to invite tenders for grass cutting, it was:

Resolved that Democratic Services would advertise for grass cutting tenders with a closing date of 8 March 2021.

4. Matters Arising

A. Canons at Pier

It was noted that there had been no further feedback from the North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme regarding the funding application, and it was:

Resolved that Democratic Services would correspond with NILPS to ascertain the status of the funding application.

B. Christmas Lights

Following further discussion around sponsorship from local businesses for next year's Christmas lights, it was:

Resolved that Democratic Services would write to those businesses that had previously been identified as possible sponsors.

C. Scrap Car Scheme

It was reported that members had identified three applicants to the scrap car scheme who had not yet claimed, and it was:

Resolved that Democratic Services would write to those three applicants requesting that they each personally contact the contractor to arrange removal of their vehicle.

D. Gritting of Pavement on Harbour Street

It was noted that there had been no response to the previous query from the Community Council regarding gritting of the pavement on Harbour Street, and it was:

Resolved that the Community Council Liaison Officer would try and elicit a response.

E. Reinstatement/Changes to Recycling Collection

It was noted that no further correspondence had been received to bring clarity as to whether black landfill bags still need to be presented in a 'wheelie bin', given that

OIC didn't want the operative to handle bags due to Covid-19. Members asked, if this was the case, should coloured recycling bags not also be presented in a bin? Following discussion, it was:

Members also raised the dissatisfaction of residents resulting from the frequent break downs of the bin lorries and routes not being completed due to lorries becoming over full. This was resulting in bins being blown over in poor weather, elderly residents having to cart full wheelie bins back and forth to road ends, and uncertainty for those not on Facebook as to when rescheduled collections might occur. Members also reported that the recycling centre at the school was now full to overflowing, and it was:

Resolved the Democratic services would write to the relevant officer regarding bags and bins, raise the issue of uncompleted routes, and request the emptying of the recycling centre

F. Awards for Community-Led Built Environment Projects

As there had been no nominations sent to the Clerk for the Scottish Civic Trust awards, it was:

Resolved that no nominations would be forwarded by Shapinsay Community Council.

G. Path at Shapinsay School Car Park

Members heard that there was no update available regarding the preference for a purpose-built footpath at Shapinsay School, over changes to the direction of parking, to resolve the safety issues for pedestrians that had recently arisen. It was reported that a meeting was due to be scheduled between various parties, and it was:

Resolved that Democratic Services would contact the Education Department regarding this matter.

H. Road Operative

Members had previously requested information regarding whether the part-time Roads Operative position had been filled. The Community Council Liaison Officer reported that the position had been re-advertised, and it was:

Resolved that Democratic Services would report back at the next Community Council meeting.

I. Nurse Interviews

The Chair reported to members that two Community Council members had met virtually with the candidate for the Shapinsay Nurse Practitioner post. It was reported that an appointment had now been made, and it was:

Resolved to note this information.

5. Correspondence

A. Police Scotland

After consideration of correspondence from the Police Scotland representative, copies of which had previously been circulated, introducing himself and his team, the Police Scotland representative in attendance was asked to further expand on his role and take questions from members regarding policing issues.

Following questions around the Shapinsay waiting room and more general vandalism, the Police Scotland representative's clear message was that if members of the public witness anti-social behaviour they are advised not to intervene but to phone the Police on 101. If members of the public felt the need to remain anonymous, they should phone Crimestoppers instead. The Chair advised that all reports of anti-social behaviour and vandalism on social media were responded to giving this advice.

Following further discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the information and advice provided.

B. Fair Start Scotland

Following consideration of correspondence from Fair Start Scotland, copies of which had previously been circulated, offering tailored support to unemployed people, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence and forward it to Shapinsay Development Trust's Wellbeing Officer.

C. Orkney Scam Action Group

Following consideration of correspondence from the School and Community Council Police Contact, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

D. Connecting Scotland

Following consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Government's Connecting Scotland Connecting Scotland programme, that provides iPads, Chromebooks and support to develop digital skills for people who are digitally excluded and on low incomes, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the correspondence.
2. To note that Shapinsay Development Trust had promoted this programme on Shapinsay social media.

E. Police Matters – Shapinsay Waiting Room

This issue had previously been covered by the Police Scotland representative at Item 5A, and it was:

Resolved to note the information and advice provided.

F. Orkney Native Wildlife Project – Bio Security Plan for Shapinsay

Members considered correspondence from Orkney Native Wildlife Project's Biosecurity Officer, copies of which had previously been circulated, proposing a partnership with Shapinsay Community Council in order to create a Biosecurity Plan to mitigate stoat incursion, and it was:

Resolved that members should consider the proposal and let the Community Council Liaison Officer know if they would like to invite the Biosecurity Officer to a future meeting.

6. The Smithy

The Chair advised members that the Development Trust's Wellbeing Coordinator was contemplating whether to contact the North Isles Councillors regarding the 'change of use' issue regarding a pop-up charity shop and the Smithy.

It was also reported that the fence to the rear of the Smithy was rotten and had fallen down, and that there had not yet been any response to the repair requested to the internal lock, which had a key stuck in it.

Following discussion and further input from the North Isles Councillors present, it was:

Resolved:

A. That the Chair would speak to the Trust's Wellbeing Coordinator detailing the outcome of discussions and pass on the Community Councils frustration at being unable to find a solution to issue with use.

B. That the Community Council Liaison Officer would report the fence and lock issues through Customer Services.

7. Consultation Document - Police Scotland – Equality and Diversity Outcomes 2021-2025

Resolved to note that the deadline had already passed for this consultation.

8. Financial Statements

A. General Finance Statement

Following consideration of the General Finance statement, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £5,527.41 in the General Fund and £10,789.64 in the Smithy Fund as at 13 January 2021.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2020/2021 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 13 January 2021 it was resolved:

To note that the balance remaining for approval in the main capping limit was £1,565.61, £669.00 remained in the additional capping limit, and £471.83 remained in the island capping limit.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund, it was:

Resolved to note that £6,315.53 remained available for allocation as at 13 January 2021.

D. Seedcorn Fund

Following consideration of the Seedcorn Fund, it was:

Resolved to note that £3,400 remained available for allocation as at 13 January 2021.

9. Financial Request - Replacement Tree Lights

As previously agreed by members via email, it was:

Resolved to reimburse Mr S Garson the sum of £145.06 from the Community Council Grant Scheme for the purchase of two sets of Christmas Tree Lights.

10. Reports from Representatives

A. Planning

Resolved to note that there was nothing to report at this time.

B. Transport

As the Transport Representative had tendered his apologies there was no Transport update, other than to note that the Ferry Service Consultative Forum meeting was due to be held on 10 February.

C. Shapinsay Development Trust

Following consideration of a written statement received via email from Shapinsay Development Trust updating members on current Development Trust projects (the Smithy, Housing, Electric Bikes, the Kickstart programme, the Shapinsay Website, Wellbeing and the Piece Place, the pop-up charity shop and the on-line AGM) it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the statement.

11. Publications

The following publications had been circulated and were noted by members:

- Orkney Ferries Statistics – August, September and October 2020.
- Letter from School Place – November and December 2020.

12. Any Other Competent Business

A. Roads in Shapinsay

Members reported that there was an issue with a lack of road dressing on some of the roads in Shapinsay leading to surface water and an instance of aquaplaning, and concomitant black ice when frozen.

Members also reported that vehicles had been cutting the corner at the top of Helliars Brae, leading to the subsidence of a BT box in the verge. It was also noted that there were water valves close by in the verge, and it was:

Resolved that the Chair would send photographs to the Community Council Liaison Officer so that these issues could be reported to the relevant department.

B. Aggregate Road Scheme

After discussion around the need for another round of the Road Aggregate Scheme, it was:

Resolved to include this as an agenda item at the next meeting.

C. Burroughston Broch Sign

It was reported that the sign directing to Burroughston Broch had broken and needed to be fastened back in place, and it was:

Resolved that the Community Council Liaison Officer would report this to the relevant officer.

D. Works at the Peedie Pier

It was reported that there was subsidence at the “peedie pier” that could possibly need shoring up, and also that members were unsure if the work on the steps and the railings had been finished, as there appeared to be railings left behind. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Community Council Liaison Officer would report the issues to Marine Services.

E. Street Lighting at Millbank

It was reported that the recent power outage had affected the timing of the street lighting at Millbank again, and that this had happened before, following previous power cuts, and it was:

Resolved that the Community Council Liaison Officer would report this to Orkney Housing Association and the relevant Council department.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Following discussion of possible dates for the next meeting, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Shapinsay Community Council would take place via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, 16 March 2021 at 19:00.

14. Conclusion of Meeting

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