

Minute of the Meeting of Stromness Community Council held in the John Rae Room, Warehouse Buildings, Stromness, and via Teams, on Wednesday, 21 August 2024 at 19:00

Present:

P McLaughlin, K Bevan, D Fischler, D Harrold (via Teams), W Mackay and C Sinclair (via Team).

In Attendance:

- Councillor J Park.
- S Craigie, Clerk.
- 1 member of the Public.
- 1 member of the Press.

Chair:

- P McLaughlin.

Order of Business

1. Adoption of Minutes	2
2. Matters Arising.....	2
3. Correspondence	3
4. Consultations	4
5. Publication	5
6. Reports from Community Council Representatives	5
7. Financial Statements	6
8. Financial Request.....	6
9. Any Other Competent Business.....	7
10. Date of Next Meeting	8
11. Conclusion of Meeting	8

1. Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2024 were approved, being proposed by K Bevan and seconded by P McLaughlin.

2. Matters Arising

A. Garage Door

Following an update from K Bevan, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the garage door had been installed at the end of June/beginning of July 2024.
2. To note that K Bevan was in possession of a key for the garage door and suggested that a key should also be kept behind the desk at the Warehouse Buildings.
3. To note that the garage door should be oiled once a year.

B. Field Formerly used by Pony Club

Resolved to note no response had been received regarding the query of ownership of the field formerly used by the pony club.

C. Private Matter Raised at Previous Meeting

Following discussion, it was

Resolved to note that as no response had been received regarding the private matter raised at a previous meeting, this item would only be placed back on the agenda once the requested information had been received.

D. PA System

Following an update from K Bevan, it was:

Resolved to note that following guidance received regarding PA systems, K Bevan was seeking the costs involved and would report to a future meeting.

E. Enquiry from Incredible Edible

Following an update from the Chair, it was:

Resolved to note that approval had been granted by the Council to enable Incredible Edible Stromness to use some of their awarded Seed Corn grant to plant trees around the edges of playparks in Stromness.

3. Correspondence

A. SSEN

Following consideration of correspondence received from SSEN, copies of which had been circulated, regarding the applications to Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks New Powering Communities to Net Zero Fund, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the deadline to apply to the fund was 31 August 2024.
2. To note that, as Stromness Community Council did not have a “shovel-ready” project, the deadline was too short to meet the criteria.
3. To note that C Sinclair had suggested that for further rounds of funding, it may something that the Community Council could work with in partnership with EMEC to tap into their expertise of applying for funding.

B. Scottish Resilience Dissertation

Following consideration of correspondence received from H Nicolson, copies of which had been circulated, regarding a survey in connection with her dissertation “Scottish Resilience”, it was:

Resolved to note that two members had completed the survey.

C. Letter of Support – Stromness Community Centre

Following consideration of correspondence received from Stromness Development Trust, copies of which had been previously circulated, regarding a letter of support for Stromness Development Trust’s Scottish Land Fund 2 funding application in connection with Stromness Community Centre, it was:

Resolved to note that the Chair, following consultation with members, had sent a letter of support on behalf of Stromness Community Council to help strengthen Stromness Development Trust’s application prior to the closing date.

D. L Miller – Fountain

Following consideration of correspondence received from L Miller regarding the fountain, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved that Stromness Community Council supported the proposal and would, on delivery of receipts, reimburse the costs, with the funding coming from the General Fund.

E. SCDT – Stromness Place Plan

Following consideration of correspondence received from the Development Officer, Stromness Community Development Trust, copies of which had been circulated, regarding the proposal to set up a small working group with representatives from

Stromness Community Council, Development and Marine Planning and the Development Officer, Stromness Community Development Trust, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. That D Harrold would be Stromness Community Council's representative on the working group.
2. To note that the remit of the working group was to create a brief for updating the Stromness Local Place Plan.

4. Consultations

A. Orkney Islands Council – Water Safety Questionnaire

Following consideration of correspondence received from the Safety and Resilience Officer, Orkney Islands Council, copies of which had been previously circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that no response had been made to the questionnaire prior to the closing date of 11 August 2024.

B. Orkney Islands Regional Marine Plan

Following consideration of correspondence received from Marine Planning, Orkney Islands Council, copies of which had been circulated, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the closing date for responses was 25 October 2024.
2. That the Clerk would recirculate the Marine plan requesting members responses to the consultation prior to the next meeting.
3. That the item be placed on the agenda for the September meeting for further discussion prior to submission.

C. Orkney Islands Marine Region: Finfish Farming Spatial Guidance

Following consideration of correspondence received from Marine Planning, Orkney Islands Council, copies of which had been circulated, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the closing date for responses was 25 October 2024.

2. That the Clerk would recirculate the Finfish Farming Spatial Guidance requesting members responses to the consultation prior to the next meeting.
3. That the item be placed on the agenda for the September meeting for further discussion prior to submission.

D. National Care Service

Following consideration of correspondence received from Democratic Services, copies of which had been circulated, and following discussion, it was:

1. To note that the closing date for responses was 30 September 2024.
2. That the Clerk would recirculate the correspondence requesting members responses to the consultation prior to the next meeting.
3. That the item be placed on the agenda for the September meeting for further discussion prior to submission.

5. Publication

Resolved to note that no publications had been received.

6. Reports from Community Council Representatives

A. MARS Updates

Following an update from W Mackay, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that W Mackay would contact J Pirie to see if he had any capacity to fix the bench that was situated at the War Memorial.
2. To note that a bench at Stromness Cemetery had been damaged and would need to be repaired.
3. To note that work had started on the barrier at Garson Park.
4. To note that potholes at Springfield Crescent and the bottom of Downie's Lane, near I Taylor's property, had been reported.
5. To note that the wooden table at the Town House Stage area was in poor condition, and W Mackay would contact J Pirie in the first instance to see if they could repair it and failing that would contact the Mens Shed.

B. Stromness Development Trust

Following an update from the Stromness Development Trust representative, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the merger of Stromness Business Forum and Stromness Development Trust was working in the background.

2. To note that the funding application from the Scottish Land Fund Stage 2 to purchase Stromness Community Centre had been submitted.

3. To note that Stromness Development Trust had recently had a push for new membership, which included a stand during Stromness Shopping Week,

7. Financial Statements

A. Community Council General Fund 2024/2025

Following consideration of the General Finance statement as at 13 August 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £18,286.61.

B. Donations Account – 2024/2025

Following consideration of the Donations Account statement as at 13 August 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £1,675.72 of which:

- £1,050.72 was to be solely used for the upkeep and maintenance of the stage area.

C. Community Council Grant Scheme 2024/2025

Following consideration of the 2024/2025 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 13 August 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval was £2,088.49.

D. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 13 August 2024, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £6,524.04.

E. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund Statement as at 13 August 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the Seed Corn Fund had been fully allocated.
2. That although all the funding had been fully allocated, there were still monies that had not yet claimed.

8. Financial Request

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

9. Any Other Competent Business

A. Bonfire Night

Following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. That Stromness Bonfire 2024 should take place on Tuesday, 5 November 2024.
2. That the Clerk should apply to the Community Council Grant Scheme for £1,450 towards the Stromness Bonfire 2024.

B. Defibrillators

Following an update from D Fischler, and after discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that D Fischler had purchased the replacement pads and paddles required for one of the defibrillators in Stromness and would pass the receipts to the Clerk so she could be reimbursed.
2. To note that the cost of the replacement kit for defibrillators was very expensive and if it may be cheaper to purchase the replacement kits if bought in bulk in conjunction with another organisation.
3. To note that D Harrold would take over the checking and maintenance of Stromness Community Council's defibrillators.

C. Gym Opening Times in Stromness

Following a query from a member regarding the opening times of the gyms at Stromness Swimming Pool and Stromness Academy, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved that K Bevan would look into the times for both.

D. Metal Posts

A member queried what the metal posts were that had appeared in various locations, such as the Loons and Outertown, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would seek confirmation of their use from the relevant section of the Council.

E. Islands Games

Following an update from the Chair, it was:

Resolved that representatives of the Islands Games Committee would be invited to the meeting of Stromness Community Council to be held on 30 September.

F. Sailing Club

Following an update from the Chair, it was:

Resolved to note that the Sailing Club had contacted the Chair regarding funding that they could apply for from Stromness Community Council.

G. By-Election

Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that a By-Election should be held on 30 September 2024, prior to the meeting of Stromness Community Council to fill the three vacancies.

H. Stromness Cemetery

A member raised the ongoing issue of rabbits at Stromness Cemetery and the dangerous state of the roof of the Old Gravediggers shed, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would raise the issues again with the relevant section.

I. Stromness Shopping Week

A member congratulated Stromness Shopping Week Committee on a very successful Shopping Week, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

J. D Fischler

Resolved that, as this was her last meeting, the Chair and members thanked D Fischler for all her hard work and contribution towards Stromness Community Council.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Resolved that the next meeting of the Stromness Community Council would be held in the John Rae Room, Warehouse Buildings, on Monday, 30 September 2024 at a time to be confirmed.

11. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:16.