

Minute of the Meeting of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council held in The Hub, King Street Halls, Kirkwall on Monday, 15 January 2018 at 19:00

Present:

Tom Rendall, Cathleen A Hourie, James Currie, David L Flett, Christopher Gee, Christine E Marcus, Robert F Leslie, Rikki A Lidderdale, Alastair M MacLeod, Steven Metcalf and John R Mowat.

In Attendance:

- Councillor Sandy G Cowie.
- Councillor David Dawson.
- Councillor Steven B Heddle.
- Councillor John T Richards.
- Andrew Richards, Joint Nominee of The Big Tree.
- Chief Inspector Matt Webb, Police Scotland.
- Sergeant Hugh Mooney, Police Scotland.
- Richard Ritch, Kirkwall THI Manager, Orkney Islands Council.
- Andy Golightly, Kirkwall THI Project Officer, Orkney Islands Council.
- Dawn Flett, Kirkwall BID Limited.
- One member of the local press.
- Hazel Flett, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Alan Ryrie and Councillors Norman R Craigie, Andrew Drever, Barbara Foulkes, W Leslie Manson, Steve Sankey, John A R Scott and Gwenda M Shearer.

2. Scotland's Tree of the Year

Following a presentation from the Chair regarding Scotland's Tree of the Year competition, it was resolved:

- A. To note that Tom Rendall had attended a civic reception at the Scottish Parliament on 7 December 2017, at which The Big Tree had been awarded Scotland's Tree of the Year.
- B. To note that the Community Council was eligible for a Tree Care Award to the value of £1,000.
- C. That the Chair should contact local businesses with a view to the Award and the Certificate to be put on display.
- D. That powers be delegated to the Chair and Vice Chair to complete and submit the application form for the £1,000 Tree Care Award, based on suggestions from members.

Andrew Richards left the meeting at this point.

3. Police Matters

Following a presentation from Police Scotland regarding various policing matters including staff changes, ongoing enquiries regarding alleged vandalism on Halloween, the festive drink driving campaign, the youth volunteer programme and the drugs dog, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

Sergeant Hugh Mooney left the meeting at this point.

4. Kirkwall THI - Places and Spaces Project

Following a presentation from Richard Ritch regarding progress with the Kirkwall Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) Places and Spaces project, it was:

Resolved to note that the Places and Spaces project was now included in Orkney Islands Council's capital programme, with the project currently at design stage prior to going out to tender, following which further refinement may be required to elements of the project.

Richard Ritch and Andy Golightly left the meeting at this point.

5. Kirkwall BID

Following a presentation from Dawn Flett regarding activities and projects of Kirkwall Business Improvement District (BID), it was:

Resolved to note that Kirkwall BID Ltd was currently focussing on the rebalot process.

Dawn Flett left the meeting at this point.

6. Adoption of Minutes

The Minute of the Meeting held on 30 October 2017 was approved, being proposed by Alastair MacLeod and seconded by John Mowat.

7. Matters Arising

A. Weeds

Councillor Dawson reported that, since the previous meeting, he had met with Orkney Islands Council and, in light of potential EU prohibitions on the use of glyphosphates, consideration was being given to trialling high pressure water systems, mounted on the rear of pick-ups, as an alternative to weed killer, and it was:

Resolved to note that Councillor Dawson would keep the Community Council updated with any further developments.

B. Applications for Financial Assistance

The Clerk had received correspondence from K Brown, E Poke and E Ballantine thanking the Community Council for financial assistance towards their children's participation in various sporting events and training sessions, and it was:

Resolved that this be noted.

C. Flooding in Kirkwall

Following consideration of correspondence from the Liaison Officer regarding a meeting with representatives of Orkney Islands Council and Scottish Water regarding flooding in Kirkwall, copies of which had been circulated, it was resolved:

1. To note that, as Scottish Water was organising a public meeting for late January/early February 2018, arrangements were being made for the Community Council and Council ward members to meet with Scottish Water separately, prior to the public meeting.
2. That the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council urging that the meeting be held in early February.

8. Correspondence

A. Land Reclamation Project at Scapa Crescent

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Alcohol Counselling and Advisory Service thanking the Community Council for financial assistance towards the land reclamation project at Scapa Crescent, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that this be noted.

B. New Residential Care Facility and Housing Infrastructure at Soulisquoy, Kirkwall

Following consideration of correspondence from the Liaison Officer regarding the new residential care facility and housing infrastructure at Soulisquoy, copies of which had been circulated, it was resolved:

1. To note that a Proposal of Application notice had been submitted to the Planning Authority regarding the replacement care facility for St Rognvald House at Soulisquoy, including infrastructure for a future housing development at the site.
2. To note that a public exhibition and engagement session was to take place in the St Magnus Centre on 23 January 2018.

C. Royal Oak and Scapa Flow Memorial Project

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding a proposal to redevelop the current Royal Oak museum at Scapa, copies of which had been circulated, it was resolved:

1. To note that the Community Council had been requested to be the named applicant on funding applications to the LEADER programme and Orkney Islands Council's Community Development Fund towards commissioning a feasibility study to consider options for the development, funding, management and sustainability of a new memorial.
2. That the Community Council should be the lead named applicant on applications for funding in respect of the feasibility study, subject to the Community Council having no financial liability or any responsibility in connection with any aspect of the study.

D. Harbour Street Paving – Traffic Management Arrangements

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council setting out traffic management arrangements to facilitate repaving works at the entrance to Bridge Street from Harbour Street, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

E. Kirkwall City Ladies Football Club – Request to Use Coat of Arms

Following consideration of correspondence from Kirkwall City Ladies Football Club requesting use of the Community Council's coat of arms, together with advice received from the Lord Lyon's Office in Edinburgh, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that, based on information received from the Lord Lyon, the Clerk should advise Kirkwall City Ladies Football Club that the Community Council was unwilling to allow the club to use the Community Council's coat of arms as its official logo.

F. Surplus Property Consultation

Following consideration of a surplus property consultation from Orkney Islands Council regarding a store at West Tankerness Lane, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

9. Removal of Shore Street Tanks

Following representations from Alastair MacLeod regarding removal of the Shore Street tanks, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

10. Financial Statements

A. General – 1 April 2017 to 8 January 2018

Following consideration of a financial statement for the period 1 April 2017 to 8 January 2018 in respect of the Community Council's General Fund, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 8 January 2018 of £7,715.51.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of a financial statement in respect of the Community Council Grant Scheme for 2017 to 2018, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the financial statement.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of a financial statement in respect of the Community Development Fund, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the financial statement.

11. Applications for Financial Assistance

A. Glaitness School

Following consideration of correspondence from Glaitness School requesting financial assistance towards the P7 trip to the Nethybridge Centre, Inverness-shire, from 14 to 18 May 2018, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £400 be provided.

B. Scotland Under 16 Hockey Squad

Following consideration of correspondence from L Sinclair requesting financial assistance towards her son's participation in the Under 16 Scotland hockey squad training programme, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £10 per trip be awarded, subject to confirmation of attendance.

C. Football Competition, Manchester, May 2018

The Clerk had received correspondence from S Harcus requesting financial assistance towards her son's participation in a football competition to be held in Manchester during May 2018, as part of a team from Kirkwall Grammar School, and it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be awarded, subject to confirmation of attendance.

D. Kirkwall Squash and Racketball Club

The Clerk had received correspondence from Kirkwall Squash and Racketball Club requesting financial assistance towards junior members participating in the Scottish Junior Nationals to be held in Aberdeen on 3 February 2018, and it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 for each participant be awarded, subject to confirmation of attendance.

12. Hanging Baskets

Following consideration of correspondence from the Liaison Officer regarding testing the hanging basket brackets, copies of which had been circulated, it was resolved:

A. To note the advice from Orkney Islands Council that the baskets and brackets were the responsibility of the Community Council.

B. To note that, although the brackets had previously been tested by Orkney Islands Council, due to a number of changes, the load testing had not been carried out and it was now suggested that the Community Council look to employ someone to undertake the tests, noting that staff from D & H Glue had been very diligent in testing that the brackets were secure.

C. That consideration of providing floral hanging baskets in the town centre during 2018 be deferred, to the next meeting, to enable the Clerk to obtain further

information from Orkney Islands Council, including insurance cover for the brackets and hanging baskets, who had undertaken the load testing previously and an estimated cost for the testing.

13. Shrub Bed at Scapa Junction

After hearing a report from the Clerk regarding maintenance of the shrub bed at the Scapa junction, it was resolved:

A. That a grant of £350 be awarded towards maintenance of the flower/shrub bed at the Scapa junction, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved.

B. That the Clerk should contact Landseer Nurseries to ascertain whether they would be willing to continue maintenance of the shrub bed during 2018.

14. Flower Tubs at War Memorial

After hearing a report from the Clerk regarding the provision of flower tubs at the Kirkwall and St Ola War Memorial, it was resolved:

A. That the Community Council should provide flower tubs at the Kirkwall and St Ola War Memorial containing Royal British Legion colours.

B. That a grant of £100 be awarded towards provision of the flower tubs, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved.

15. Consultation Documents

A. Burial Grounds – Code of Practice

Following consideration of correspondence from the Empowering Communities Liaison Officer regarding the Code of Practice for the Management of Burial Grounds, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the Community Council had no representations to make.

B. Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks – Submarine Electricity Cables

Following consideration of correspondence from Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks regarding a review of the approach taken to submarine electricity cables engineering decisions, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the Community Council had no representations to make.

16. Meetings Attended by Members

A. Your Kirkwall – Community Events

Your Kirkwall had arranged a series of community events in the Kirkwall and St Ola Community Centre on 22 and 23 November 2017, and it was:

Resolved to note that Cathleen Hourie had attended the community events, which had been well attended and interesting proposals put forward.

B. Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks – Public Consultation Events

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks had held public consultation events on the Transmission Connection from Orkney to the Scottish Mainland, with one of the events held in the Kirkwall and St Ola Community Centre on 24 November 2017, and it was:

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

C. Wellbeing Orkney Advisory Group

A meeting of the Wellbeing Orkney Advisory Group was held in the Conference Room at Orkney Housing Association Limited on 28 November 2017, and it was:

Resolved to note that Rikki Lidderdale had attended part of the meeting.

D. Historic Environment Scotland – Recognising the Marine Heritage of Scapa Flow

Historic Environment Scotland had held a drop-in event regarding the marine heritage of Scapa Flow in the Pickaquoy Centre on 5 December 2017, and it was:

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

E. Kirkwall THI – Places and Spaces Project

The Places and Spaces Sub-group had met with Kirkwall Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) representatives on 8 January 2018, and it was:

Resolved to note that the Places and Spaces project had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

17. Any Other Competent Business

A. Draft Minutes

Following representations from a member, it was:

Resolved that, once approved by the Chair, the Clerk should circulate the draft minutes in advance of the next meeting, to allow members to follow up any actions assigned to them.

B. Defibrillators

Following representations from a member regarding the location of defibrillators, it was:

Resolved that the Chair should contact Orkney Heart Support Group regarding the possibility of co-ordinating and publicising a list of all defibrillators in Orkney and their locations.

18. Date of Next Meeting

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

Resolved that the next meeting should be held on Monday, 12 March 2018.

19. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 21:15.