

Minute of the Meeting of Firth and Stenness Community Council held in the Firth Community Centre on Thursday, 14 February 2019 at 19:30

Present:

W Dunnett, A Stevenson, N Macleod and V Muir.

In Attendance:

- Councillor O Tierney.
- Councillor R King.
- Councillor D Tullock.
- Councillor H Johnston.
- Mr I Heggie, Clerk.
- Two members of the public.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that no apologies had been received.

2. Police Scotland Matters

Resolved to note that there were no Police Scotland matters to report.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 8 November 2018 was approved, being proposed by V Muir and seconded by A Stevenson.

4. Matters Arising

A. Stenness Village Septic Tank

After hearing that there was no new information regarding the septic tank in Stenness village, it was:

Resolved to note that this issue may be revisited in the future.

B. Picnic Benches

Members discussed correspondence from Democratic Services, which gave details of the prices quoted for the repair of the benches around Finstown, and it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk ask Democratic Services to assist in having the benches repaired and coated using the Johnsons Microflex.
2. That the Clerk would apply to the CCGS fund to cover the cost of the works to the benches.

C. MARS

The Clerk reported that there was now no need to have a MARS representative for each community council, and it was:

Resolved to note information provided.

D. Christmas Lighting

Members discussed the Christmas tree lighting event and, as the Kirkwall Town Band had been unavailable that evening, it was:

Resolved to grant Firth Church of Scotland a £100 general fund donation.

5. Community Council Members

After discussing the resignation of two members of the Firth and Stenness Community Council, it was:

Resolved that members would seek new recruits and consider holding a public meeting in due course.

6. Correspondence

A. West Mainland Tourist Brochure

Following consideration of correspondence received regarding the cost of printing the West Mainland Tourist Brochure, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved that, as long as figure remained as projected, the printing costs would be approved, and would be taken from CCGS, pending approval.

B. Energy Supply Company - Our Power

Following consideration of correspondence, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was noted the company had since ceased trading. Therefore, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

C. Internet Infrastructure – Liam McArthur MSP

Following consideration of correspondence from Liam McArthur MSP, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding members' concerns about broadband in the local area, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence and to await any further updates.

D. Hall of Clestrain

Following consideration of correspondence from the John Rae Society, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding the restoration of the Hall of Clestrain, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk send a letter of support to the John Rae Society on behalf of Firth and Stenness Community Council.

E. OIC Community Transport Grant

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services, copies of which had previously been circulated, members noted that the submission date had passed but that the Clerk had emailed it prior to the deadline. Therefore, it was:

Resolved to note information provided.

F. Deputy Lieutenant of Orkney

Following consideration of correspondence from the Deputy Lieutenant of Orkney, copies of which had previously been circulated, which provided information on what their role entailed, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

G. Cursiter Quarry Planning Application

At this point in the meeting, the two members of the public present were invited by the Chair to express their concerns regarding the future development of Cursiter quarry. The following is a list of the major concerns raised:

- The distance of the proposed buffer zone being rather limited in size.
- Safety concerns regarding rock debris due to blasting.
- Questioned past and proposed recording techniques.
- Difficulty in attaining access to records of the above point.
- Lack of dust monitoring.
- Blasting times and procedures.
- Length of planning permission given.
- Amount of litter being created during blasting and transportation.
- Lack of current and possible future wetting down techniques to suppress dust.
- Noted that at local presentation of quarry development there was a distinct lack of 'mock up's'.
- Queried need for extension.

After consideration of the points raised, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would pass the above points on to Democratic Services to ensure they were directed to the correct department.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 24 January 2019 and discussion thereof, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £7,770.79

B. Rennibister Wind Turbine Community Fund

After consideration of the Rennibister wind turbine community fund statement as at 24 January 2019, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining was £3,000.

C. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 24 January 2019, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £1,769.60.

D. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 24 January 2019, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £3,534.95.

8. Financial Requests

A. Police Scotland Youth Volunteers - Emergency Services Fun Day

Members considered a letter, copies of which had previously been circulated, advising of the rescheduled date for the Emergency Services Fun Day of 3 March 2019. As the community council had already donated in November 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the communication received.

B. Youth Climbing Series

Following consideration of correspondence received from Rachel Boonzaier, copies of which had previously been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of her child travelling to take part in the youth climbing series in 2019, consisting of three trips, it was:

Resolved that a general fund donation of £25 be granted for each trip, totalling £75.

C. Ms M Flett - Netball Events - November and December 2018

Following consideration of correspondence received from Ms M Flett, copies of which had previously been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of her two daughters attending one netball competition each, it was:

Resolved that a general fund donation of £25 per attendee be granted, totalling £50.

D. Ms M Flett - Netball Events - January 2019

Following consideration of correspondence received from Ms M Flett, copies of which had previously been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of her daughter attending one netball competition in January 2019, it was:

Resolved that a general fund donation of £25 be granted.

E. OASC – Aberdeen - February 2019

Following consideration of correspondence received on behalf of Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, copies of which had previously been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of one swimmer from the local area attending a swimming championship in Aberdeen in February 2019, it was:

Resolved that a general fund donation of £25 be granted to the attendee.

F. Orkney Band Final - Perth - March 2019

Following consideration of correspondence received from the Principal Teacher of Expressive Arts, copies of which had previously been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of five pupils from the Firth and Stenness area attending the Scottish Concert Band National finals in Perth in March 2019, it was:

Resolved that a general fund donation of £25 each be granted to five attendees, totalling £125.

9. Publications

Resolved to note that no publications had been received by the Clerk.

10. Any Other Competent Business

A. Ice on Pavements

After hearing that during a recent icy/wintery spell, members of the public were forced to walk on the roads due to very dangerous pavements, members suggested some suitable locations for salt bins within Finstown village, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would contact Democratic Services regarding availability and placement of salt bins.

B. Unsafe Headstones

After hearing that Orkney Island Council were in the process of altering the way unsafe stones were dealt with, and that the council were implementing a restoration project in graveyards affected, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Stone Shelter – Finstown Shorefront

The Chair presented to members plans of the stone shelter, which was proposed for the shore front in Finstown. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would pass the plans to Democratic Services so that they may be copied and passed to relevant departments in Orkney Island Council for consideration.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of the Firth and Stenness Community Council would be held on Thursday, 2 May 2019 in the Stenness Community School, commencing at 19:30.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

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