

# Minute of the Meeting of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council held in The Hub, King Street Halls, Kirkwall on Monday, 8 October 2018 at 19:00

## Present:

Tom Rendall, Cathleen A Hourie, David L Flett, Robert F Leslie, Rikki A Lidderdale, Alastair M MacLeod and Steven Metcalf.

## In Attendance:

- Councillor Sandy G Cowie.
- Councillor David Dawson.
- Councillor W Leslie Manson.
- Councillor John T Richards.
- Councillor John A R Scott.
- Councillor Gwenda M Shearer.
- Chief Inspector Matt Webb, Police Scotland.
- Luke Fraser, Team Leader (Policy and Planning), Orkney Islands Council.
- One member of the local press.
- Hazel Flett, Clerk.

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## **1. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Jimmy Currie, Christopher Gee, Christine E Marcus, John R Mowat and Alan Ryrrie and Councillors Norman R Craigie, Andrew Drever, Barbara Foulkes, Steven B Heddle and Steve Sankey.

## **2. Police Matters**

The Chief Inspector gave a short update on various policing matters since the previous meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note the presentation.

## **3. Kirkwall BID**

The Director of Kirkwall Business Improvement District (BID) was unable to attend the meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note that an update would be provided at the next meeting.

## **4. Statistical Orkney**

The Team Leader (Policy and Planning), Orkney Islands Council, gave a short presentation on various demographic statistics for Orkney, and it was:

Resolved to note the presentation.

The Team Leader (Policy and Planning), Orkney Islands Council, left the meeting at this point.

## **5. Adoption of Minutes**

The Minute of the Meeting held on 20 August 2018 was approved, being proposed by Alastair MacLeod and seconded by Rikki Lidderdale.

## **6. Matters Arising**

### **A. Policing at County Show**

Following consideration of correspondence from Chief Inspector Matt Webb, Police Scotland, regarding policing at the County Show, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the public perception of policing within and around the Bignold Park on County Show day, which also coincided with inspections by VOSA, potentially causing confusion with local policing.

The Chief Inspector left the meeting at this point.

### **B. Green Plaques**

Following an update from the Chair regarding the green plaques, it was:

Resolved to note that the plaques had been delivered and arrangements would now be made to get them fixed on the two properties.

### **C. Shrub Bed at Scapa Junction**

Following an update from Cathleen Hourie regarding the shrub bed at the Scapa junction, it was:

Resolved to note that Cathleen Hourie had not been able to contact the Blide Trust and undertook to provide an update at the next meeting.

### **D. Road Safety in vicinity of Scapa Distillery**

No further correspondence had been received from either Orkney Islands Council or the distillery owners regarding road safety in the vicinity of the Scapa Distillery, and it was:

Resolved to note that a potential project to provide a path along the Scapa beach front was being considered as part of the Your Kirkwall initiative.

### **E. Kirkwall Micro Asphalt Footway Treatment**

Following an update from Councillor John Richards on proposed micro asphalt treatment to a footpath on the south side of Clay Loan, Kirkwall, it was:

Resolved to note that micro asphalt treatment was in addition to resurfacing in that it covered the thin top layer which may become exposed leading to potentially more expensive treatment in future, therefore the proposed works on the south side of Clay Loan were preventative.

### **F. Traffic Issues at Watersfield Development**

Following consideration of traffic count statistics at various locations throughout the Watersfield Housing development provided by Orkney Islands Council, together with further correspondence from a resident regarding a petition, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising that the Community Council supported the proposal to “shut off” the through road at counter N, namely at the bottom of Burnett Brae through to the Weyland housing development, and requesting that, if this proposal was not supported, the Team Leader, Roads Support be invited to attend the next meeting to explain why it was not considered possible to close off the through road.

### **G. Scotland’s Tree of the Year – Promotion and Use of Care Grant**

Following an update from the Chair regarding promotion and use of the care grant received in respect of winning Scotland’s Tree of the Year in 2017, it was:

Resolved to note that entries for the short story competition would be judged shortly, with the entries for the school and photograph competitions to be judged in due course, following the closing dates.

## **H. The Big Tree – Annual Maintenance**

Following an update from Councillor John Richards regarding annual maintenance undertaken by Orkney Islands Council on the Big Tree, it was:

Resolved to note that Orkney Islands Council engaged the services of a specialist tree surgeon to undertake checks of specimen trees, including the Big Tree, and selective branch lopping or crown thinning was undertaken as necessary and the Community Council would be advised when the tree surgeon was next due to visit Orkney.

## **I. Applications for Financial Assistance**

Following consideration of correspondence from A Shearer (YDL Athletics) and E Ballantine (Highland Badminton), copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence thanking the Community Council for financial assistance provided to the various individuals.

## **J. Pidgin Perfect – Kirkwall THI – Kirkwall Markers**

Following consideration of the Stage 1 Artwork Design Study by Pidgin Perfect for the Kirkwall Markers project of the Kirkwall Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI), copies of which had been circulated, it was resolved:

1. To note that the Chair and Vice Chair would be meeting representatives of Pidgin Perfect on 10 October 2018 to present the Community Council's views on the proposals for the Kirkwall Markers.
2. That the Kirkwall THI Manager be invited to a future meeting to provide a general update on the Kirkwall THI project.

## **K. Democracy Matters**

Following consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Government regarding Democracy Matters, a local governance review of how communities could be involved in local decision-making, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the community conversations undertaken by Orkney Islands Council earlier in the year would have been an appropriate time to undertake an event, with the community council conference, which unfortunately had to be cancelled due to weather, being another opportunity to raise the issue.

## **L. Redundant Street Lighting**

The Clerk had received correspondence from Orkney Islands Council in response to concerns raised at the last meeting regarding the removal of redundant street lighting attached to private property and lighting non-adopted roads and/or footpaths, and it was:

Resolved to note the advice from Orkney Islands Council that it was the responsibility of the owners of the lanes or property to light private areas, not the local authority, and that, as stated previously, if requested, the infrastructure would

be left in place if the residents wished to take on the lighting at their own expense, all of whom had been consulted prior to the works commencing.

## **7. Correspondence**

### **A. Bonfire and Fireworks Display – 3 November 2018**

Following consideration of the draft Event Management and Contingency Plan, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing an update from Councillor David Dawson, Safety Officer appointed by the Rotary Club for the event, it was resolved:

1. To approve the Event Management and Contingency Plan, attached as Appendix 1 to this Minute, which had been updated to reflect additional health and safety guidance and advice from Orkney Islands Council.
2. To note that, as the event, which was organised for the Community Council by the Rotary Club, now required a minimum of 30 stewards, the Rotary Club were seeking additional stewards, including Community Councillors.
3. To note that 6 other community councils had provided financial assistance towards the event, for which the Clerk would pass on notes of thanks.

Councillor David Dawson left the meeting at this point.

### **B. Headstone Inspections**

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding an inspection process of headstones in Orkney's cemeteries, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that Orkney Islands Council was nearing completion of a headstone inspection survey to ascertain whether there had been deterioration since the last comprehensive survey undertaken in 2004/2005, with works categorised either to cordon off stones until they could be laid flat or laid down until remedial/repair work was undertaken.

### **C. Scam Mail**

Following consideration of correspondence from the Royal Mail regarding scam mail and how Royal Mail was combatting it, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence.

### **D. 1st Kirkwall Company Boys Brigade**

Following consideration of correspondence from the 1st Kirkwall Company Boys Brigade, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence thanking the Community Council for financial assistance towards their Annual Camp held from 13 to 18 August 2018 in Kinloch Rannoch.

## **E. Orkney Pilgrimage – St Magnus Way**

Following consideration of correspondence from the Orkney Pilgrimage Trustees requesting a letter of support from the Community Council in respect of an application to LEADER for the interpretation boards and stone way markers for the St Magnus Way, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should submit a letter of support on behalf of the Community Council.

## **8. Financial Statements**

### **A. General – 1 April to 26 September 2018**

Following consideration of a financial statement for the period 1 April to 26 September 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 26 September 2018 of £8,761.80.

### **B. Community Council Grant Scheme 2018-2019**

Following consideration of a financial statement in respect of the Community Council Grant Scheme for 2018-2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval as at 26 September 2018 of £235.19.

### **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 balance remaining for allocation as at 26 September 2018 of £3,688.42.

## **9. Applications for Financial Assistance**

### **A. Orkney Gymnastics Club**

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Gymnastics Club requesting financial assistance towards three competitions, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the following awards of grant be made, subject to confirmation of attendance:

1. Invitational 2-piece competition, Alvah, Banff – 23 September 2018 – 13 gymnasts – grant of £80 (capped making a total of £400).
2. 2-piece competition, Fyrish, Alness – 6 October 2018 – 15 gymnasts – no assistance, as capping level reached.

3. Highland 2-piece competition, Inverness – 4 November 2018 – 16 gymnasts – no assistance, as capping level reached.

## **B. Police Scotland Youth Volunteers**

Following consideration of correspondence from Police Scotland Youth Volunteers requesting financial assistance towards an Emergency Services Fun Day on 7 October 2018, to help raise funds towards their pledge to raise £10,000 for Orkney Drugs Dog Charity, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that, although the event had been postponed, a donation of £100 be given towards the Orkney Drugs Dog Charity, regardless of whether the event was rescheduled.

## **10. Consultation - Verge Maintenance Plan**

Following consideration of a consultation document in respect of the verge maintenance plan for 2018, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that, as the closing date for submissions was 15 March 2019, to defer consideration of a response until early 2019.

## **11. Meetings Attended by Members**

### **A. SEPA – Orkney’s New Coastal Flood Warning System**

SEPA had launched its new coastal flood warning system for Orkney at the Kirkwall Town Hall on 18 September 2018, and it was:

Resolved to note that Jimmy Currie and Alastair MacLeod had attended the event which explained the app which could be downloaded to smartphones and provided an alert to potential flooding incidents.

### **B. OHAL**

Orkney Housing Association Limited's (OHAL) 33rd AGM was held at Orkney College on 19 September 2018, and it was:

Resolved to note that Robert Leslie had attended the event.

### **C. Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks**

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks had arranged a series of consultation events in respect of the Orkney Transmission Connection and Infrastructure Project, with one event held in the Ayre Hotel, Kirkwall, on 28 September 2018, and it was:

Resolved to note that Robert Leslie had attended the event, where attendees were given an opportunity to view a fly through of the poles across various locations, including the Scapa valley, which, in his opinion was acceptable, given that nothing broke the skyline, noting however that the recent developments with the Costa and Hesta Head windfarms could significantly alter the project.

## **D. Wellbeing Advisory Group**

Rikki Lidderdale reported that he had attended a recent meeting of the Wellbeing Advisory Group, and it was:

Resolved to note that Wellbeing Advisory Group passed its thanks to the Community Council for financial assistance provided.

## **12. Any Other Competent Business**

### **A. New Post Office Facility**

The Clerk had received correspondence from the Post Office advising of a new Post Office at Papdale Stores, Kirkwall, opening on 6 November 2018, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to the owners of Papdale Shop expressing the Community Council's support for the new development which would bring many welcome benefits to the community.

### **B. Arcadia Park**

The Clerk had received correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding an update on progress made on plans for improvements to Arcadia Park, the Scapa Crescent open space, and it was:

Resolved to note the considerable public support for the project, which was included in the Your Kirkwall plan, and which had now been put forward for a funding application, with approval granted to carry out more detailed design works, a local designer appointed to develop the design works with Orkney Alcohol Counselling and Advisory Service, the Council and other key stakeholders, with potential construction works commencing later in the financial year.

## **13. 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, 26 November 2018.

## **14. Conclusion of Meeting**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 21:35.