

Minute of the Meeting of Stronsay Community Council held in Stronsay Community Centre and via Teams on Monday, 7 October 2024 at 19:15

Present:

Mrs S Whiteman, Mr D Stout, Mr D Blyth, L Martini Brown (via Teams) and Mrs L McQuaid.

In Attendance:

- Councillor M Thomson (via Teams).
- Mrs J Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer.
- Mr C McAlpine, Island Link Officer (ILO)/Clerk.

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1. Apologies

The meeting commenced immediately after a public meeting to elect a new Community Council member, and the Chair congratulated Mrs L McQuaid on her appointment, and it was:

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mr S Hourston and Mr J Seaton, Councillors S Clackson and H Woodbridge, and Ms H Green, Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure.

2. Election of Office Bearers

A. Chairperson

Following a secret ballot, it was:

Resolved that Mrs S Whiteman be appointed as Chair of Stronsay Community Council.

B. Vice Chairperson

Following a secret ballot, it was:

Resolved that Mr D Stout be appointed as Vice Chairperson of Stronsay Community Council.

C. Transport Representative

Resolved that Mr S Hourston be appointed as Transport Representative for Stronsay Community Council.

D. Planning Representative

Resolved that the Island Link Officer be appointed as Planning Representative for Stronsay Community Council.

E. Stronsay Development Trust Co-opted Representative

Resolved that Mr J Seaton be appointed as the Stronsay Development Trust Co-opted Representative for Stronsay Community Council.

F. Health and Care Representative

Resolved that Mrs S Whiteman be appointed as Health and Care Representative for Stronsay Community Council.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 19 August 2024 was approved, being proposed by Mrs S Whiteman and seconded by Mr Blyth.

The minute of the Special Meeting held on 2 September 2024 was approved, being proposed by Mrs S Whiteman and seconded by Mr D Blyth.

The minute of the Special Meeting held on 5 September 2024 was approved, being proposed by Mrs S Whiteman and seconded by Mr D Blyth.

4. Matters Arising

A. Village Play Park

Members heard that the new equipment had been included in the supplier's job list for Orkney set for March 2025, although this was weather dependant, and that the equipment would be ordered in time for this. A full update was awaited, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided and that the Clerk would request an update for presentation to members at the next Community Council meeting.

B. Scrap Vehicles

Members heard that four spaces remained for scrap car disposal and that one vehicle had been removed, with a second waiting to be removed, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Daffodils on Verges

Members heard that the daffodils had arrived and had been distributed to thirteen residents for verge planting, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

D. Armistice Day

Members heard that an ex-service person had been invited to lay the wreath at the Stronsay war memorial on Remembrance Sunday, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

E. Local Place Plan

Members heard that preparing a local place plan required a lot of thought and work and that Stronsay Development Trust had already undertaken some of this, and it was:

Resolved that Mrs L McQuaid would look at the local place plan and the work already undertaken by Stronsay Development Trust.

F. Footpath Obstruction

Members heard that a donation had been received from Housing for work undertaken to clear the obstruction in front of 4 Whitehall and that a complaint had been received about the shrub overgrowth obstructing the shared pathway for 4 and 5 Whitehall, and it was:

Resolved that the shrub overgrowth on the shared pathway for 4 and 5 Whitehall would be brought to the attention of Housing.

G. Haulage Meeting

Members heard that dates for a meeting with a representative from the haulage company had been forwarded to members for consideration by the Service Manager, Democratic Services and Communications, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That members' preferred dates and times for a meeting with a representative from the haulage company would be forwarded to the Service Manager, Democratic Services and Communications.
2. That the Clerk would collate and present members with previously raised haulage concerns brought to their attention.
3. That members would forward the Clerk questions to be put to the representative from the haulage company.

H. Matters Arising from the Special Meeting held on 5 September 2024

Due to the sensitive content of the following item, it was held in committee.

Members discussed repair and maintenance issues raised by the Fish Mart operators, which had been forwarded to Orkney Islands Council, the Fish Mart Café's new opening hours, toilet cleaning arrangements, and that a review meeting was planned, and it was:

Resolved to note the information above and plans for a meeting.

5. Haulage of Aggregates

Members considered allocating funds towards the haulage of aggregate for use in improving private roadways leading to an occupied residence, and it was:

Resolved:

- A. That posters would be displayed locally inviting applications for financial assistance towards the haulage of aggregate for use in improving roadways leading to an occupied residence.
- B. That any grant awarded for the haulage of aggregate would be subject to Community Council Grant Scheme approval.

6. Slaughterhouse Report

Members had previously been consulted about the renewal of the slaughterhouse electricity contract and, following consideration of up-to-date energy costs, it was:

Resolved that confirmation would be sought on the costs presented to members and a new supplier contract would be opened.

7. Fish Mart Report

Due to the sensitive content of the following item, it was held in committee.

Members had previously been informed of possible options regarding public liability insurance arrangements, and that responses were awaited to repair and maintenance issues reported to Orkney Islands Council. Members also heard that a bill had been received for Fish Mart electricity usage, and it was:

Resolved:

A. That a request would be made for funds to be transferred from the Stronsay General Fund to the Stronsay Community Council bank account.

B. That a letter would be sent to the Fish Mart operators notifying them of an increase in the electricity costs.

8. Reports from Representatives

A. Stronsay Development Trust – Co-opted Representative’s Report

A report on the activities of Stronsay Development Trust had previously been circulated to members, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Transport Representative’s Report

A report on the Air and Ferry Transport Forum meetings held on 20 August 2024 had previously been circulated to members, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Planning Representative’s Report

Members had previously been notified of planning application, ref 24/303/PP, and a proposal of application notice from the Senior Consultant, ITP Energised, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Health and Care Representative’s Report

Members heard that a presentation had been given at the last Health and Care meeting by the newly appointed Head of Primary Care, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

9. Consultations

A. The Voice of Communities Survey

Members had previously been forwarded, and responded to Consultation – The Voice of Communities Survey, and it was:

Resolved to note that the Clerk had forwarded members' comments on completing the survey.

B. Boundaries Scotland Consultations – Publication of Further Proposals

Members had previously been forwarded information on Boundaries Scotland Consultations – Publication of Further Proposals – Constituencies and Provisional Proposals – Regions (Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries), and it was:

Resolved to note that members had no comment to make on the Boundaries Scotland Consultations – Publication of Further Proposals.

10. Correspondence

A. Stronsay Community Association – Travel Request

Members had previously been consulted over a travel request support for Stronsay's 2025 Massive Weekend, and it was:

Resolved to note members' support to request a change to ferry sailings to accommodate Stronsay's 2025 Massive Weekend had been successful.

B. Orkney Islands Council - Winter Treatment Contracts

Members had previously been forwarded information on Orkney Islands Council winter treatment contracts, and a call for local contractors to come forward, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

C. National Care Service Sessions

Members had previously been forwarded information on National Care Service online sessions, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

D. Islands Connectivity Plan – Consultation Report

Members had previously been forwarded information on access to the summary report on the Islands Connectivity Plan, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

E. Harbour Dredging

Members had previously been provided with information on an article that had appeared in the local press about harbour dredging, which Councillor M Thomson was following up, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

F. Resignation

Members had previously been forwarded details of Stronsay Community Council member Rev D Locke's resignation and that members' comments and thanks had been included in an acknowledgement letter, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

G. Isles Special Collection Rota

Members had previously been forwarded details of the Isles Special Collection Rota up to 31 March 2025 and members heard that copies had been displayed locally, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

H. Overgrown Core Paths

Members heard that concerns had been raised over the Vat o' Kirbuster and Rothiesholm core paths which had subsequently been brought to the attention of the Roads Service Officer, who had responded, and it was:

Resolved that further concerns over the Rothiesholm core path would be brought to the attention of the Roads Service Officer.

I. Orkney Towns Fund Board – Online Community Engagement Event

Members had previously been forwarded correspondence advertising a community online engagement regarding the ongoing work of the Orkney Towns Fund board and that this had also been advertised locally, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

J. ZEVI Update

Members had previously been forwarded an update on the Zero Emission Vessel Infrastructure which included a request for community feedback, and members heard that their comments had been forwarded to the Service Manager – Transportation who would engage further with communities, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

K. Winter Service Plan 2024-2025

Members had previously been forwarded comments submitted to a consultation on the Winter Service Plan 2024-25, and Roads' responses to these, and it was:

Resolved that Roads would be asked to reassess the grading of a road previously brought to their attention.

L. Outer North Isles Timetable – Summer 2025

Members had previously been forwarded an update from the Service Manager – Transportation, on the Outer North Isles Timetable – Summer 2025, and that this would be displayed locally, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

M. North Isles Sports

Members had previously been forwarded a letter from a Sanday resident requesting members' support for a project being undertaken on the North Isles Sports, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided which members gave their support to.

11. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 16 September 2024, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £10,153.75.

B. Fish Mart Account

After consideration of the Fish Mart account statement as at 16 September 2024, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £13,688.18.

C. Slaughterhouse Account

After consideration of the Slaughterhouse account statement as at 16 September 2024, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £10,474.15.

D. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2023/2024 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 16 September 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval in the main capping limit of £2,455.42.

E. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 16 September 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for allocation of £13,723.40.

12. Requests For Financial Assistance

A. Stronsay Resident – Financial Assistance Request

Following consideration of correspondence received from a Stronsay resident, requesting financial assistance towards the cost involved in attending an athletic event in Glasgow in March 2025, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £96.50 be given towards the cost, to be met from the Stronsay Community Council General Fund.

B. Stronsay Community Association

Following consideration of correspondence received from Stronsay Community Association, requesting financial assistance towards the purchase of fireworks for the annual bonfire and firework display, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £700 be given towards the cost of fireworks for the annual bonfire and firework display, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved.

C. Stronsay Community Association

Following consideration of correspondence received from Stronsay Community Association, requesting financial assistance towards the purchase of a Christmas tree for use at the annual tree lighting ceremony, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £280.80 be given towards the cost of a Christmas tree for the annual tree lighting ceremony, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved.

13. Publications

The following publications had been forwarded to members and were noted:

- Orkney Ferries Statistics – July and August 2024
- Loganair Passenger Statistics for the year to August 2024
- The Digital Phone Switchover

14. Any Other Competent Business

A. Ward Hill Community Play Park

Members had previously been consulted about the removal of play equipment and the closure of the Ward Hill community play park and the response from the Team Manager – Sport and Leisure, and it was

Resolved that an update would be requested on the Ward Hill community play park from the Team Manager – Sport and Leisure.

B. Recycling of Electrical Items

Following consideration of the disposal of small electrical items, it was:

Resolved that Orkney Islands Council would be asked to provide a facility to store and remove small electrical items.

15. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Stronsay Community Council would be held on Monday, 25 November 2024 commencing at 19:00 in the Stronsay Community Centre.

16. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:30.