

Minute

General Meeting of the Council

Tuesday, 8 October 2019, 10:30.

Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall.



Present

Councillors J Harvey Johnston, Stephen G Clackson, Alexander G Cowie, Norman R Craigie, Robin W Crichton, David Dawson, Andrew Drever, Barbara Foulkes, Steven B Heddle, Rachael A King, W Leslie Manson, John T Richards, Stephen Sankey, John A R Scott, Gwenda M Shearer, Graham L Sinclair, James W Stockan, Magnus O Thomson, Owen Tierney and Duncan A Tullock.

Councillor Kevin F Woodbridge – remote attendance via Skype.

Clerk

- John W Mundell, Interim Chief Executive.

In Attendance

- Gavin Barr, Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure.
- Gillian Morrison, Executive Director of Corporate Services.
- Sally Shaw, Chief Officer/Executive Director, Orkney Health and Care.
- James Wylie, Executive Director of Education, Leisure and Housing.
- Gareth Waterson, Head of Finance.
- Karen Greaves, Head of Executive Support.
- Gavin Mitchell, Head of Legal Services.
- Shona Croy, Strategic Adviser (Renewables and Connectivity).
- Hazel Flett, Senior Committees Officer.

Observing

- Hayley Green, Head of IT and Facilities.
- Andrew Groundwater, Head of HR and Performance (for Items 17 to 19).
- Rebecca McAuliffe, Press Officer.

Declaration of Interest

- Councillor David Dawson – Item 11.

Chair

- Councillor J Harvey Johnston, Convener.

1. Disclosure of Exempt Information

The Council noted:

1.1. The proposal that the public be excluded from the meeting for consideration of Item 18, as the business to be discussed involved the potential disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the relevant paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended.

On the motion of the Convener, seconded by Councillor Barbara Foulkes, the Council resolved:

1.2. That the public should not be excluded from the meeting for consideration of Item 18, Proposed Participation in 4/5G Mobile Innovation Project.

2. Licensing Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 27 June 2019

On the motion of Councillor Duncan A Tullock, seconded by Councillor Barbara Foulkes, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 27 June 2019 as a true record.

3. General Meeting of the Council

Minute of Meeting held on 2 July 2019

On the motion of Councillor J Harvey Johnston, seconded by Councillor James W Stockan, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the General Meeting of the Council held on 2 July 2019 as a true record.

4. Planning Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 3 July 2019

On the motion of Councillor Robin W Crichton, seconded by Councillor John A R Scott, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 3 July 2019 as a true record.

5. Licensing Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 22 August 2019

On the motion of Councillor Duncan A Tullock, seconded by Councillor Barbara Foulkes, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 22 August 2019 as a true record.

6. Special General Meeting of the Council

Minute of Meeting held on 23 August 2019

On the motion of Councillor J Harvey Johnston, seconded by Councillor James W Stockan, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Special General Meeting of the Council held on 23 August 2019 as a true record.

7. Monitoring and Audit Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 29 August 2019

On the motion of Councillor John T Richards, seconded by Councillor David Dawson, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Monitoring and Audit Committee held on 29 August 2019 as a true record.

8. Local Review Body

Minute of Meeting held on 30 August 2019

On the motion of Councillor Robin W Crichton, seconded by Councillor John A R Scott, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Local Review Body held on 30 August 2019 as a true record.

9. Planning Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 4 September 2019

On the motion of Councillor Robin W Crichton, seconded by Councillor John A R Scott, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 4 September 2019 as a true record.

10. Development and Infrastructure Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 10 September 2019

On the motion of Councillor Graham L Sinclair, seconded by Councillor Andrew Drever, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 10 September 2019 as a true record.

The Council thereafter resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the Minute of the Meeting of the Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 10 September 2019.

11. Education, Leisure and Housing Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 11 September 2019

Councillor David Dawson declared a non-financial interest in this item, being a Board Member of Orkney Housing Association Limited, however, as the Strategic Housing Investment Plan was not discussed, he did not leave the meeting.

On the motion of Councillor Gwenda M Shearer, seconded by Councillor Alexander G Cowie, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Education, Leisure and Housing Committee held on 11 September 2019 as a true record.

The Council thereafter resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the Minute of the Meeting of the Education, Leisure and Housing Committee held on 11 September 2019.

12. Orkney Health and Care Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 12 September 2019

On the motion of Councillor Rachael A King, seconded by Councillor Kevin F Woodbridge, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Orkney Health and Care Committee held on 12 September 2019 as a true record.

The Council thereafter resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the Minute of the Meeting of the Orkney Health and Care Committee held on 12 September 2019.

13. Special General Meeting of the Council

Minute of Meeting held on 16 September 2019

On the motion of Councillor J Harvey Johnston, seconded by Councillor W Leslie Manson, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Special General Meeting of the Council held on 16 September 2019 as a true record.

14. Policy and Resources Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 24 September 2019

On the motion of Councillor James W Stockan, seconded by Councillor Robin W Crichton, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 24 September 2019 as a true record.

The Council thereafter resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the Minute of the Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 24 September 2019.

15. Monitoring and Audit Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 26 September 2019

On the motion of Councillor John T Richards, seconded by Councillor David Dawson, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Monitoring and Audit Committee held on 26 September 2019 as a true record.

The Council thereafter resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the Minute of the Meeting of the Monitoring and Audit Committee held on 26 September 2019.

16. Community Development Fund Sub-committee

Minute of Meeting held on 2 September 2019

On the motion of Councillor J Harvey Johnston, seconded by Councillor James W Stockan, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Community Development Fund Sub-committee held on 2 September 2019 as a true record.

17. Climate Emergency

Conference of the Parties, Glasgow 2020 – Proposal for Orkney Event

After consideration of a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure, copies of which had been circulated, the Council:

Noted:

17.1. That, on 24 September 2019, the Policy and Resources Committee considered a report providing an update on ongoing work to deliver upon the Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency.

17.2. That one of the actions identified in the report, referred to at paragraph 17.1 above, was to consider appropriate fora and events to profile Orkney activity in that area, noting the potential to link an event to the United Nations Conference of the Parties which had been confirmed for Glasgow for autumn 2020.

17.3. That the Policy and Resources Committee subsequently recommended that the Chief Executive should submit a report, to the General Meeting of the Council scheduled for 8 October 2019, regarding the principle of seeking to engage with the UK and Scottish Governments in relation to holding an event in Orkney during 2020, linked to the United Nations Conference of the Parties to be held in Glasgow, which would aim to showcase the ongoing projects and activities relating to climate change and a carbon neutral economy.

The Council resolved:

17.4. That the principle of engaging with the UK and Scottish Governments in order to seek to secure an event in Orkney during 2020, linked to the United Nations Conference of the Parties to be held in Glasgow, be approved.

18. Proposed Participation in 4/5G Mobile Innovation Project

The public were not excluded from the meeting for consideration of this item.

Prior to consideration of this item, the Head of Legal Services provided guidance to the Council in respect of remote attendance at meetings and, in particular, the terms of Standing Order 33.2, which stated "A Member will not be permitted to participate in a Meeting from a remote location where the decision may affect the interests or rights of any person as an individual or commercial undertaking or where the decision is made after a hearing and the person has a right to be heard in person or through a representative".

On the motion of Councillor Stephen G Clackson, seconded by Councillor Rachael A King, the Council **suspended Standing Orders** in order that Councillor Kevin F Woodbridge might continue to participate in the meeting from a remote location.

After consideration of a report by the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure, copies of which had been circulated, the Council:

Noted:

18.1. That, in 2017, the Council, as part of a consortium of partners, successfully submitted a bid to the UK Government's 5G Rural Connected Communities project, resulting in the 5G Rural First trial.

18.2. That the 5G Rural First trial, which delivered a number of innovative projects throughout Orkney, ended on 30 September 2019.

18.3. That the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport had announced a further competitive funding programme, the 5G Rural Connected Communities Project, with a closing date for applications of 25 October 2019.

18.4. The opportunity for the Council to continue to be involved in 5G trials, with a number of potential partners having expressed a willingness to collaborate on a future bid.

The Council resolved:

18.5. That the Council should participate as a partner in a Connected Communities project bid with a focus on the provision of 100% 4 and 5G coverage for Orkney and trialling new commercial models for delivery of 4 and 5G services in rural environments.

18.6. That powers be delegated to the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Development and Infrastructure Committee and the Executive Director of Corporate Services, to finalise the Council's contributions to the Connected Communities project proposal for submission to the UK Government on the basis of a cost neutral position to the Council at this stage.

19. Conclusion of Meeting

At 11:34 the Convener declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: Harvey Johnston.