

Minute of the Meeting of St Andrews and Deerness Community Council held in St Andrews Primary School on Wednesday, 28 August 2024 at 19:30

Present:

Mrs L McAdie, Mr L Flett, Mrs N Linklater, Mr D Paterson and Miss R Russell.

In Attendance:

- Councillor J Moar.
- Councillor R Peace.
- Mr D Manson, Team Manager Development Planning, Orkney Islands Council.
- Mrs J McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer.
- Mrs J Lennie, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mr T Craigie and Councillor G Skuse.

2. OLDP and Local Place Plan Presentation

The Team Manager Development Planning advised that he wished to give a presentation on the Orkney Local Development Plan and then the Local Place Plan.

A. Orkney Local Development Plan (OLDP)

The Team Manager, Development Planning, advised that OIC were required by Scottish Government (SG) to prepare and produce an OLDP. This would be a five-year plan. The first step was to evidence gather information into topics and this had to be completed on 30 September 2024. Then, his team proceeded to the plan preparation followed by the delivery of the plan. This then would result in the draft proposed plan that would be made public for comment/objection.

He explained that the key idea of the OLDP was for the public to articulate key opportunities for improvement. A large part of the plan centred on the requirement for additional housing and, in Orkney, it was estimated that over a 20-year period, one hundred houses require to be built annually to meet demand.

He advised open space areas; green areas and play parks could be created in housing developments.

B. Local Place Plan (LPP)

The Team Manager, Development Planning, advised that a LPP was a beneficial tool for communities and assists with sourcing match funding for projects. It required to be prepared and led by community councils/communities prioritising issues for their community and, if required, should be prepared by 31 March 2025. He advised that to employ the services of consultants to provide this work was very expensive however, community led public discussion could provide much of the information required. He advised that whilst he could provide links and guidance, the local authority could not progress this.

The Team Manager, Development Planning, asked if there were any local priorities and the Chair advised a linked path from the town to Inganess and into Tankerness had been mooted, along with an extended car park at Dingshowe, Toab.

The CCLO suggested that a public meeting could be held to progress community led ideas. The Chair suggested that a public meeting be held in the first week of October 2024. The Clerk suggested that she could write to organisations inviting them to attend this meeting and to advertise locally for public attendance. Mr D Paterson thought this meeting should also be advertised in the local newspaper. The Team Manager, Development Planning, agreed to forward information and links to this community council in order that the priorities for action could be addressed and suggested that if he could assist further, the CC should contact him through Democratic Services, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would arrange a public meeting to be held in the first week of October and write to organisations in St Andrews and Deerness parishes to invite them to this meeting as well as the public in general.

The Team Manager, Development Planning, left the meeting at this point.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 26 June 2024 was considered and Mr L Flett advised that Item 2B, the appointment of the Vice-Chair, was not accurate and required amendment. It was acknowledged that an error had been made at the meeting with regard to the voting procedure, and that this had since been addressed. Mr L Flett further advised that he accepted that the voting process had not been adhered to and that as per the voting procedure, Mrs N Linklater was the Vice-Chair.

The minute was adopted, being proposed by Mr D Paterson and seconded by Mrs N Linklater, subject to the following amendment at Item 2B;

“Following a secret ballot, which did not provide a clear majority; with Mr L Flett, Mrs N Linklater and Mr T Craigie receiving two votes each, Mr T Craigie advised that he did not wish to be considered for this position and withdrew his name. A second vote took place between Mr L Flett and Mrs N Linklater and a clear majority was not reached again, as they received three votes each. To clarify how to proceed, the Clerk read the voting procedure to members and Councillor G Skuse was requested to assist by drawing the name of the Vice-Chair by lot, the first name drawn was Mrs N Linklater, and it was:

Resolved that Mrs N Linklater be appointed Vice Chairperson of St Andrews and Deerness Community Council.”

4. Matters Arising - Orkney College

Members considered correspondence from Orkney College regarding the availability of the 2024/2025 education grant from this Community Council. They advised that this information had been sent after the conclusion of their academic year meaning that it has taken additional resources to get this information to their students. They had asked that if there was another grant allocation, they be advised of this earlier in order to share with their students prior to the end of the academic year, and it was:

Resolved to note this information.

5. Consultation Documents

A. Sectorial Plan for Offshore Wind Energy

Following consideration of the Sectorial Plan for Offshore Wind Energy consultation document and information on an online workshop which was held on 22 July 2024, it was:

Resolved to note this information and that Mrs N Linklater had read and noted this information.

B. Water Safety Policy

Following consideration of the OIC's first Water Safety Policy and questionnaire, which required a response by 11 August 2024, it was:

Resolved to note this information and that the Clerk had sent this questionnaire to local outlets for public participation.

C. National Care Service

Following consideration of the Scottish Government National Care Service consultation, which required a response by 30 September 2024, it was:

Resolved to note this information and that members could submit a response by the response deadline.

D. Orkney Islands Regional Marine Plan

Following consideration of the Orkney Islands Regional Marine Plan, which required a response by the deadline 25 October 2024, it was:

Resolved to note this information and that members could submit a response by the response deadline.

E. Orkney Islands Regional Marine Plan: Finfish Farming Spatial Guidance

Following consideration of the Orkney Islands Regional Marine Plan: Finfish Farming Spatial Guidance, which requires a response by the deadline 25 October 2024, it was:

Resolved to note this information and that members could submit a response by the response deadline.

F. The Voice of Communities Survey

Following consideration of the Highlands and Islands Enterprise, the Voice of Communities Survey, which required completion by 30 September 2024, the CCLO advised that this was a very lengthy survey that was more conducive to be completed by an individual on behalf of an organisation, and it was:

Resolved to note this information and that the Chair would complete this survey, on behalf of this Community Council.

6. Correspondence

A. NS&I Attendance

Following consideration of correspondence from Ms H Green, Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure, advising that due to a lack of senior managers available to attend Community Council meetings, they would now attend only one meeting annually and ideally in person, it was:

Resolved to note this information.

B. Orkney Matters Meeting

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services inviting members to attend the Orkney Matters meeting on 11 July 2024, it was:

Resolved to note that two members had attended the Orkney Matters meeting and Miss R Russell advised that this had been a very good meeting however, there had been a poor turnout from Community Council members and the public .

C. Orkney Towns Fund

Following consideration of correspondence from Aquatera Ltd on behalf of the Orkney Towns Fund inviting members to participate in a community workshop on 18 July 2024, Mrs N Linklater advised that she had attended this meeting and that the fund provides a great opportunity for funding of smaller projects especially. She advised that another workshop would be held later in the year and she would forward any information she received to members, and it was:

Resolved to note that Mrs N Linklater had attended this meeting online and to note the information provided.

D. Scottish and Southern Energy Network (SSEN)

Following consideration of correspondence from SSEN advising that the new Powering Communities to Net Zero three million fund was open to applications for grant funding, with a deadline for receipt of applications of 31 August 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided and that the Clerk had sent this information to local outlets.

E. Ms H Nicholson, Glasgow Caledonian University

Following consideration of correspondence from Ms H Nicholson, Glasgow Caledonian University, regarding her studies into Scottish Resilience and more specifically "Community Preparedness within Scottish Local Authorities" and requesting that members complete her survey, it was:

Resolved to note that the Chair and Mrs N Linklater had completed the survey.

F. SURF Awards 2024

Following consideration of correspondence from SURF inviting applications to the SURF Awards 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided and that this information had been shared to local outlets.

G. NHS SHARE

Following consideration of correspondence from NHS SHARE inviting members and the public to join the SHARE register to assist with health projects and research by way of survey and personal response to health research, it was:

Resolved to note this information and that the Clerk would share this information to local outlets.

H. Thank You Letters

Resolved to note that thank you letters had been received from Miss L Booth, Mrs J Scott, Ms R Woods, Mrs S Nicolson and St Andrews Primary School, Primary 2 for financial assistance provided.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 19 August 2024, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £18,432.33.

B. Ayrenergy Ltd Fund

Following consideration of the Ayrenergy Ltd Fund Statement as at 19 August 2024, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £23,085.16.

C. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2024/2025 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 19 August 2024, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance of £2,919.18 remained in the main fund for allocation.

D. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 19 August 2024, it was:

Resolved to note that £5,000 remained available for allocation from the CDF.

8. Financial Requests

A. Education Grant Applications

Members considered ten education grant applications and there was some discussion with regard to acceptable criteria for allocation of an award of an education grant. Concern was raised with regard to the funding of driving lessons as an education grant and a review of the guidelines was progressed.

Following further consideration, it was:

Resolved:

1. To award a £500 education grant each to nine applicants; Miss Kaitlyn McKinney, Miss Ann Lennie, Ms Yvonne Harcus, Miss Jenna Scott, Miss Andrea Brough, Mr

Angus Darbyshire, Mr Magnus Craigie, Mrs Katherine Craigie and Miss Molly Tait totalling £4,500.

2. To note that this Community Council would not grant funds for driving lessons and the Clerk will update the guidelines accordingly.

3. That the Clerk would write to the remaining applicant advising that their application was refused for not meeting relevant criteria for an award of education grant funding and to offer them the chance to reapply if they could provide further supporting information and a request based on the criteria (which would be issued to them), acceptable for an award of funding, in time to be considered at the next meeting on 20 November 2024.

4. That no late education grant applications would be given consideration.

B. East United Football Club

Following reconsideration of correspondence from EUFC requesting funding towards the annual maintenance of St Andrews football pitch and following much discussion by members, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would write to EUFC to ask them to breakdown the cost of the annual maintenance at St Andrews football pitch totalling £714, and also request the names of the individual/s who cuts the grass at St Andrews football pitch.

C. East Mainland Agricultural Society

Mr L Flett declared an interest in this item.

Members considered correspondence from EMAS requesting financial assistance towards the cost of the construction of a new pavilion in the East Mainland Show Park. Following some discussion, the Chair advised that whilst she was supportive of this project, she felt members did require a breakdown of project costs and confirmed funding. She suggested that once any shortfall was confirmed, and an amount, members could give this application reconsideration. Other members were in agreement, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would write to EMAS requesting that they submit a breakdown of the project costs and their confirmed funding sources, so that the funding of any shortfall could be given consideration by members.

D. Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council

Members considered correspondence from Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council requesting financial assistance for the 2024 Bonfire and Fireworks Display at Pickaquoy, Kirkwall, and it was:

Resolved, unanimously, to grant Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council £175, subject to approval from CCGS.

E. Deerness Community Centre Association

Members considered correspondence from DCCA requesting financial assistance for the 2024 Xmas lunch for sixty-two senior citizens with estimated cost of £8 per

person and Mrs N Linklater proposed that each local senior citizen be granted £8 for the 2024 Xmas lunch and this was seconded by Mr D Paterson, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To approve a grant totalling £8.00 each to Deerness Community Centre Association for sixty-two Deerness resident senior citizens towards their 2024 Deerness Senior Citizen Xmas lunch, totalling £496 and subject to eligibility under CCGS.
2. That in order to claim the grant, a list of Deerness resident senior citizens in attendance should be supplied to the Clerk along with invoice/s for costs.

9. Publications

The following publications had been made available for members to view and were noted:

- Orkneycommunities.co.uk – Newsletter – April 2024.
- VAO – Newsletter - June and July 2024.
- VAO - Training and Funding Update – July and August 2024.
- Scottish Rural Action - Newsletter - August 2024.

10. Any Other Competent Business

A. Mr I Rendall

The Chair advised that Mr I Rendall had intimated his resignation from this Community Council, with immediate effect, and that a new member would be required, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would write to Mr I Rendall thanking him for his service to this Community Council and the community.

B. Deerness Stores

Mr L Flett advised that he and many other Deerness residents welcomed the re-opening of Deerness Stores and he thanked Councillor J Moar for the efforts he had made to find a new proprietor for Deerness Stores. Members welcomed this news and added their thanks, and it was:

Resolved that this Community Council wished the new proprietor of Deerness Stores every success with her new venture.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Resolved that the next meeting would be held on 20 November 2024 in St Andrews Primary School at 19:30.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:38.