

# Minute

## General Meeting of the Council

Tuesday, 12 December 2023, 10:30.

Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall.



## Present

Councillors Graham A Bevan, Stephen G Clackson, Alexander G Cowie, David Dawson, P Lindsay Hall, Steven B Heddle, Kristopher D Leask, W Leslie Manson, James R Moar, Raymond S Peace, John A R Scott, Gwenda M Shearer, Gillian Skuse, Jean E Stevenson, James W Stockan, Ivan A Taylor, Mellissa-Louise Thomson, Owen Tierney, Duncan A Tullock and Heather N Woodbridge.

## Present via remote link (Microsoft Teams)

Councillor Rachael A King.

## Clerk

- Gavin Mitchell, Head of Legal and Governance.

## In Attendance

- Oliver D Reid, Chief Executive.
- Stephen Brown, Chief Officer, Orkney Health and Social Care Partnership.
- Karen Greaves, Corporate Director for Strategy, Performance and Business Solutions.
- Gareth Waterson, Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration.
- Peter Diamond, Head of Education.
- Andrew Groundwater, Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development.
- Lorna Richardson, Head of Neighbourhood Services.
- Hazel Flett, Service Manager (Governance).

## Observing

- Kirsty Groundwater, Communications Team Leader.

## Declarations of Interest

- No declarations of interest were intimated.

## Chair

- Councillor Graham A Bevan, Convener.

## **1. Tribute to the late Cyril A Annal**

The Convener referred to the death of Mr Cyril Annal, former member of Orkney Islands Council, and paid tribute to the service he had given to the Council and the local community over many years, following which the Council observed a minute's silence.

## **2. General Meeting of the Council**

### **Minute of Meeting held on 3 October 2023**

On the motion of Councillor Graham A Bevan, seconded by Councillor James W Stockan, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the General Meeting of the Council held on 3 October 2023 as a true record.

## **3. Planning Committee**

### **Minute of Meeting held on 4 October 2023**

On the motion of Councillor Owen Tierney, seconded by Councillor Alexander G Cowie, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 4 October 2023 as a true record.

## **4. Local Review Body**

### **Minute of Meeting held on 4 October 2023**

On the motion of Councillor Owen Tierney, seconded by Councillor Alexander G Cowie, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Local Review Body held on 4 October 2023 as a true record.

## **5. Licensing Committee**

### **Minute of Meeting held on 5 October 2023**

On the motion of Councillor Duncan A Tullock, seconded by Councillor David Dawson, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 5 October 2023 as a true record.

## **6. Development and Infrastructure Committee**

### **Minute of Meeting held on 14 November 2023**

On the motion of Councillor David Dawson, seconded by Councillor Gillian Skuse, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 14 November 2023 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 14 November 2023.

## **7. Education, Leisure and Housing Committee**

### **Minute of Meeting held on 15 November 2023**

On the motion of Councillor Gwenda M Shearer, seconded by Councillor Jean E Stevenson, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Education, Leisure and Housing Committee held on 15 November 2023 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 15 November 2023.

## **8. Monitoring and Audit Committee**

### **Minute of Meeting held on 16 November 2023**

On the motion of Councillor Alexander G Cowie, seconded by Councillor P Lindsay Hall, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Monitoring and Audit Committee held on 16 November 2023 as a true record.

## **9. Local Review Body**

### **Minute of Meeting held on 21 November 2023**

On the motion of Councillor Owen Tierney, seconded by Councillor Kristopher D Leask, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Local Review Body held on 21 November 2023 as a true record.

## **10. Policy and Resources Committee**

### **Minute of Meeting held on 28 November 2023**

On the motion of Councillor Heather N Woodbridge, seconded by Councillor James W Stockan, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 28 November 2023 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 28 November 2023.

## **11. Planning Committee**

### **Minute of Meeting held on 29 November 2023**

On the motion of Councillor Owen Tierney, seconded by Councillor Kristopher D Leask, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 29 November 2023 as a true record.

## **12. Monitoring and Audit Committee**

### **Minute of Special Meeting held on 29 November 2023**

On the motion of Councillor Alexander G Cowie, seconded by Councillor P Lindsay Hall, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Special Meeting of the Monitoring and Audit Committee held on 29 November 2023 as a true record.

## **13. Policy and Resources Committee**

### **Minute of Meeting held on 30 November 2023**

On the motion of Councillor James W Stockan, seconded by Councillor Heather N Woodbridge, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 30 November 2023 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 30 November 2023, subject to the following item of discussion:

### **Orkney Responsible Tourism Management**

Councillor James R Moar referred to the recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee regarding responsible tourism management, and, in particular, the provision of toilets at the Ring of Brodgar, and, seconded by Councillor Owen Tierney, moved an amendment that the Council should seek to install and operate temporary toilets at the Ring of Brodgar car park for a three-year period, to be funded from a further provision of up to £95,000 from the Council's Crown Estate Fund.

The result of a recorded vote was as follows:

For the Amendment:

Councillors Stephen G Clackson, David Dawson, Rachael A King, James R Moar, Gwenda M Shearer, Jean E Stevenson and Owen Tierney (7).

For the Motion (the recommendations contained in the Minute):

Councillors Graham A Bevan, Alexander G Cowie, P Lindsay Hall, Steven B Heddle, Kristopher D Leask, W Leslie Manson, Raymond S Peace, John A R Scott, Gillian Skuse, James W Stockan, Ivan A Taylor, Mellissa-Louise Thomson, Duncan A Tullock and Heather N Woodbridge (14).

The Motion was therefore carried, and the Council thereafter resolved:

**13.1.** That the principle of seeking to derive direct revenue to the Council from tourism to support the responsible management and sustainable development of tourism, particularly through investment in appropriate staff resource, infrastructure and services, be supported.

**13.2.** That, when developing tourism strategies and visitor management plans, the Council should pursue the goal of decarbonised sustainable tourism, as outlined in the Glasgow Declaration.

**13.3.** That, where practical, the Council should seek to align with the principles of the Glasgow Declaration in all of its work on tourism and in particular pursuit of decarbonisation, regeneration and collaboration.

**13.4.** That, in particular, the Council commit to the long term goal of "uniting all stakeholders in transforming tourism to deliver effective climate action" as stated in the Glasgow Declaration.

**13.5.** That the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration should commission an Orkney Islands Council Visitor Management Plan to:

- Identify interventions which would relieve tourism pressures on supporting Council infrastructure and services and, in turn, improve the visitor experience and community wellbeing.
- Consider opportunities for the Council to generate revenue from tourism to support its responsible management and sustainable development.
- Align with the vision and objectives of the Orkney Tourism Strategy 2020-2030 and complement the Council's Strategic Tourism Infrastructure Development Plan (currently in draft).

**13.6.** That a provision of up to £185,000 be made from the Council's Crown Estate Fund in respect of the following:

- Recruitment of appropriate additional staff resource.
- Development of the Orkney Islands Council Visitor Management Plan, referred to at paragraph 13.5 above.

**13.7.** That the provision of toilet facilities within the Heart of Neolithic Orkney World Heritage Site be further considered by the Development and Infrastructure Committee no later than March 2024.

The Council noted:

**13.8.** That the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration, in consultation with the Head of Finance, would determine the specific source of the allocation of Crown Estate monies, referred to at paragraph 13.6 above, based on the advice set out in section 14 of the report by the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee on 30 November 2023.

## **14. Community Development Fund Sub-committee**

### **Minute of Meeting held on 6 November 2023**

On the motion of Councillor James W Stockan, seconded by Councillor Gwenda M Shearer, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Community Development Fund Sub-committee held on 6 November 2023, attached as Appendix 1 to this Minute, as a true record.

## **15. Conclusion of Meeting**

At 11:20 the Convener declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: Graham A Bevan.