

Minute of the Meeting of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council held in the North Walls School, on Friday, 19 January 2018 at 18:45

Present:

Mrs M Groat, Mrs G Robertson, Mr C Bates, Mr A Clark, Mr A Sinclair, Mrs R Thomson and Mrs J Traynor.

In Attendance:

- Councillor M Thomson.
- Mrs T Avis, Clerk.
- Mr M Webster, Mrs J Sinclair and Mrs K Dubrowski, Hoy and Walls Ambulance Service.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been intimated on behalf of Councillors R Crichton and J Stockan.

2. Minutes

A. Minute of Meeting held on 17 November 2017

The minute of the meeting held on 17 November 2017 was approved, being proposed by Mrs G Robertson and seconded by Mr A Clark.

3. Matters Arising

A. Hoy and Walls Ambulance Service

M Groat welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the ambulance crew who were going to demonstrate a piece of equipment that the Community Council purchased for the Community. After the demonstration M Groat thanked them and, it was:

Resolved to note the demonstration.

B. Island Link Officer

The Clerk informed the members that the Development Trust had been approached for the cost of renting an office in Longhope for the ILO to use. Members discussed what sort of thing they would expect the Officer to do and concluded a good start would be to fill the gap of the MARS representative, however they were unclear how this would work in practice, and it was:

Resolved to write to Democratic Services about this.

C. THAW Orkney meeting

The Clerk informed members that the Development Trust had arranged a meeting for the afternoon of Wednesday 14 February and asked which members would be able to attend, and it was:

Resolved that M Bates, J Traynor and G Robertson would attend.

D. Aggregate Allocation

The Clerk informed members she had contacted the office to find out if there was any budget available. Members discussed about how to allocate the aggregate between Graemsay and Hoy and Walls, and it was:

Resolved that Graemsay would get the full allocation this year, then Hoy and Walls in the following four years, which would take into account the difference in number of folk and properties.

E. Community Resilience Plan

The Clerk informed members that a grant of £3,500 had been received from Scottish and Southern Electricity in respect of this plan. Members were concerned that the meeting that had been arranged to discuss the plan had been cancelled at the last minute and it was:

Resolved to arrange another meeting via Democratic Services.

F. Ferries Consultative Forum

The Clerk informed members that the Transport Representative was unable to attend this meeting, however R Thomson confirmed she was able to attend. The Clerk passed round draft minutes and timetables for winter 2018 which members discussed. Members were particularly concerned at the proposal that the late Friday sailing of the MV Graemsay was changed to request only sailing. The Chair reminded members that the local GP had previously said he would also be against any change to this sailing. Members also asked why the 11:00 sailing of the MV Hoy Head was not all year round and every day of the week, and it was:

Resolved to write to Democratic Services regarding this and for R Thomson to take to the Ferries Consultative Forum on 14 February 2018.

4. Correspondence

A. Scapa Flow Visitor Centre and Museum

After consideration of correspondence from the Scapa Flow Visitor Centre and Museum, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. THAW Orkney

After consideration of correspondence from THAW Orkney, members discussed if the Development Trust would have seen this funding opportunity, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would pass on the information to the Development Trust.

C. Scottish Water

After consideration of correspondence from Scottish Water regarding community engagement, the Clerk said that a member was required to have an interview with Scottish Water, and it was:

Resolved that M Groat would take the interview.

D. Police Scotland

After consideration of correspondence from Police Scotland regarding an update in October 2017 members asked if it was known which Officer was responsible for the island, the Clerk confirmed she now had his name, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would invite the Officer to the next meeting.

E. Orkney Native Wildlife Project

After consideration of correspondence from Orkney Native Wildlife Project regarding a survey, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

F. Scottish Health Council

After consideration of correspondence from Scottish Health Council regarding GP Patients records, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

G. National Health and Social Care

After consideration of correspondence from National Health and Social Care regarding a meeting, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

5. Consultation Document - Winter Service Plan

After consideration of the Winter Service Plan, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

6. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

Following consideration of the Community Council's general financial statement, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £11,441.79, as at 9 January 2018.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £1,054.18 as at 9 January 2018, and grant 61703 be cancelled as it had not been claimed.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for allocation of £5,711.63, as at 9 January 2018, and grant CDF16 be cancelled as it had not been claimed.

D. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement, it was:

Resolved to note the funds remaining for approval of £3,658.47, as at 9 January 2018.

7. Requests for Financial Assistance

A. Stromness Academy – Geography tour to Switzerland

After consideration of an application from Stromness Academy for financial assistance towards two isles pupils attending a geography tour to Switzerland, the Chair asked the Clerk for details of the guidelines that the Community Council had previously set. The Clerk informed members that in January 2014 members had agreed that children resident on Graemsay, Hoy and Walls should be granted £250 each, if the trip was overseas, and £60 if the visit was in the UK, and it was:

Resolved that a grant of £250 per child be granted in the form of a donation.

B. Gable End Film Society – Hire of Films

After consideration of an application from the North walls Community School for financial assistance towards the cost of eleven isles pupils attending a trip to Nethybridge Outdoor Centre, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £60 per child be granted in the form of a donation.

8. Publications

The following publications were made available to members:

- Orkney Ferries – Statistics July 2017.
- Orkney Ferries – Statistics August 2017.
- Orkney Ferries – Statistics September 2017.
- Orkney Ferries – Statistics October 2017.

9. Any Other Competent Business

A. Ferry Issues

Members requested that Orkney Ferries be asked again to explain how the statistics were produced. Members also discussed whether those adults who accompanied children on the ferry should be charged the full return fare, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would contact Democratic Services regarding these queries.

B. Development at Lyness

Members asked if there were any further details regarding the proposed decommissioning proposals at Lyness, Councillor Thomson said that the plan was still under discussion, but a decision was likely to be announced sometime in February and, it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

C. Cattle Grids

The Clerk informed members that a member of the public had rung regarding the condition of the cattle grid on the road to Wee Fea. Members agreed it was in need of attention however there was some discussion around whether it was the Council's responsibility due to the road not being adopted. Following discussion about other cattle grids, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would take photographs of the cattle grids when next in the area to send to Democratic Services.

D. Orkney Islands Council – HMS Vanguard Ensign

The Clerk read out an email received from Democratic Services regarding a request from Democratic Services that the ensign from HMS Vanguard be displayed at the Flotta Heritage Centre, a proposal supported by Orkney Islands Council, and it was:

Resolved to inform Democratic Services that the Community Council agreed with this proposal.

E. Ferry Fares – Ticket discount

The Clerk read out a letter from a local resident to the Island of Hoy Development Trust, which the Community Council had been copied in on. The letter was regarding the discount that residents could get if buying books of tickets in advance and a proposal for a fairer system for low income families. Members noted that the Community Council had already discussed this matter, comments which had then been fed back to Orkney Islands Council, and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

F. Moaness Pier

Members discussed the issue regarding vehicles parked at Moaness Pier for an extended period of time. One member noted that some were not taxed, and some had been SORN. Councillor Thomson informed members that the new lighting at the pier would be installed within the next 6 to 8 weeks, and it was:

Resolved to write to Democratic Services regarding the car parking situation.

G. Ferry Charges

Members discussed the prices of tickets bought in books for ferry travel. It was pointed out that buying tickets in bulk was cheaper, however this disadvantaged those on lower incomes as they may be unable to afford to buy in bulk. The Community Council agreed that they supported the idea of fairer ticket prices for all. Councillor Thomson noted that this issue was being raised with Orkney Islands Council, and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

H. Lyness Cinema

Members noted that a public notice regarding demolishing the old cinema at Lyness had recently been placed, and it was:

Resolved to note the report.

10. Date of Next Meeting

After consideration of dates for the next meetings, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council would take place on Friday, 16 March 2018.

11. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting concluded at 20:50.