

## 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.

**13.6.** 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:

**13.7.** 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.

## **Minute**

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

Monday, 6 November 2023, 14:00.

Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall.



### **Present**

Councillors Graham A Bevan, David Dawson, Kristopher D Leask, Gwenda M Shearer, Gillian Skuse, Jean E Stevenson and James W Stockan.

### **Clerk**

- Hazel Flett, Service Manager (Governance).

### **In Attendance**

- Sweyn Johnston, Head of Enterprise and Economic Growth.
- Erik Knight, Head of Finance.
- Stuart Allison, Service Manager (Enterprise).
- Stuart Bevan, Solicitor.
- Carol Coleman, Economic Development Officer.
- Morag Robertson, Economic Development Officer.

### **Not Present**

- Councillor W Leslie Manson.

### **Declarations of Interest**

- Councillor Graham A Bevan – Item 3.
- Councillor Kristopher D Leask – Item 3.

### **Chair**

- Councillor Graham A Bevan, Convener.

## **1. Application 0/5/8/85 – North Ronaldsay Trust**

### **Trebb Community Resource Hub**

After consideration of a report by the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing from Morag Robertson, Economic Development Officer, the Sub-committee:

Noted:

**1.1.** That North Ronaldsay Trust had applied for assistance from the Community Development Fund towards Phase 1 of the Community Resource Hub, comprising renovation of the derelict house at Trebb to create a flat on the first floor and a gym, well-being centre, flexible office space, meeting room, kitchen and toilets on the ground floor, at a total estimated cost of £628,445.

**1.2.** That messages of support had been received from the undernoted:

- North Ronaldsay Community Council.
- A North Isles Councillor.

The Sub-committee resolved, in terms of delegated powers:

**1.3.** That, subject to the full funding package for Phase 1 of the project being in place, a grant of up to 16% of total eligible costs, up to a maximum sum of £100,000, to be met from the Community Development Fund, be offered to North Ronaldsay Trust towards Phase 1 of the Community Resource Hub at Trebb.

**1.4.** That powers be delegated to the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Governance, to determine whether appropriate security could be put in place and to conclude an Agreement, on the Council's standard terms and conditions, with North Ronaldsay Trust in respect of the funding detailed at paragraph 1.3 above.

## **2. Application 0/5/8/86 – Pickaquoy Centre Trust**

### **Mountain Bike and BMX Cycling Facility**

After consideration of a report by the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing from the Service Manager (Enterprise), the Sub-committee:

Noted:

**2.1.** That the Pickaquoy Centre Trust had applied for assistance from the Community Development Fund towards the construction of a purpose-built mountain bike and BMX cycling facility, for use by members of Orkney Cycling Club, the local community, and users of the Pickaquoy Centre, at a total estimated eligible cost of £374,186.

**2.2.** That messages of support had been received from the undernoted groups and individuals:

- Orkney Cycling Club.
- Orkney Islands Games 2025 Board.
- Liam McArthur Orkney MSP.
- NHS Orkney.

**2.3.** That the Pickaquoy Centre would be a pivotal venue for the Orkney 2025 International Island games that would include cycling and mountain biking in the sporting itinerary.

The Sub-committee resolved, in terms of delegated powers:

**2.4.** That a grant amounting to 22% of total eligible costs, up to a maximum sum of £81,200, to be met from the Community Development Fund, be offered to the Pickaquooy Centre Trust towards a purpose-built mountain bike and BMX cycling facility, subject to:

- Confirmation of the subsidy control position to the satisfaction of the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration.
- The full funding package being confirmed.

**2.5.** That powers be delegated to the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Governance, to conclude an Agreement, on the Council's standard terms and conditions, with the Pickaquooy Centre Trust in respect of the funding detailed at paragraph 2.4 above.

### **3. Regeneration Capital Grant Fund – Stage 2 Funding Application**

#### **Pier Arts Centre**

Councillor Graham A Bevan declared an interest in this item, his connection being that a close family member was the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Pier Arts Centre, and left the meeting at this point.

Councillor Kristopher D Leask declared an interest in this item, his connection being that he was a Director on the Board of the Pier Arts Centre, and left the meeting at this point.

Signed: Graham A Bevan.

As the Chair, Councillor Graham A Bevan, had left the meeting, the Clerk called for nominations for Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

The Sub-committee resolved:

**3.1.** That Councillor Gwenda M Shearer be appointed Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Councillor Gwenda M Shearer took the Chair.

After consideration of a report by the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing from the Service Manager (Enterprise), the Sub-committee:

Noted:

**3.2.** That, on 15 June 2023, the Community Development Fund Sub-committee resolved:

- That the Council should submit Stage 1 funding applications to the Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant Fund, on behalf of both the Pier Arts Centre and Birsay Heritage Trust.



- That, in accordance with the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund guidelines, the applications be ranked in the following priority order:
  - Priority 1: Pier Arts Centre, at the requested amount of £1,608,000.
  - Priority 2: Birsay Heritage Trust, at the requested amount of £760,000.

**3.3.** That, on 28 September 2023, the Scottish Government confirmed that the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund Investment Panel had recommended that the Pier Arts Centre's Stromness Creative Arts Hub project be invited to submit a Stage 2 application by the deadline of 10 November 2023.

The Sub-committee resolved, in terms of delegated powers:

**3.4.** That the Council should submit a Stage 2 funding application to the Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant Fund, on behalf of the Pier Arts Centre, at the revised amount of £1,408,000.

#### **4. Conclusion of Meeting**

At 14:25 the Chair declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: Gwenda M Shearer.