

Minute of the Meeting of Flotta Community Council held in Flotta Community Centre, on Thursday, 15 March 2018 at 16:00

Present:

Mrs H Howe, Mr N Cheeseman, Mrs P Gee, Mr D Hourston, Mr M Howe and Ms I Smith

In Attendance:

- Councillor R Crichton.
- Mrs J McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer.
- Three members of the public.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been intimated on behalf of Mr C Mullins and Councillors J Stockan and M Thomson.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The Minute of the meeting held on 18 January 2018 was considered by members, and subsequently approved, being proposed by Mr D Hourston and seconded by Mr M Howe.

3. Flotta Kirkyard - Grasscutting

It was noted that the grasscutting contract had been advertised with a closing date of 9 March 2018, however no tenders had been received. Members discussed options and agreed that the tender should be re-advertised locally and also an advert placed in the Orcadian. In the meantime, members felt that the Council should be asked to do the first cut, and advised that they may be required to do the remainder of the cuts for the 2018 season, should a suitable tender not be found, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would re-advertise the grasscutting tender, locally and in the Orcadian, with a closing date of 21 May 2018.
2. That any tenders received would be considered at the next meeting.
3. That the Interim Clerk would contact the relevant Council department asking that the kirkyard grass be cut by Council operatives until further notice.

4. Flotta 10K

Members provided an update on plans for the upcoming event. It was agreed that Orkney Athletics Club would be contacted regarding arrangements and asked that the 10K event be run in conjunction with the 5K fun run. The Chair had spoken to Flotta Terminal representatives who had confirmed that they would provide boats on the day and assist with the necessary improvement works to the roads prior to the event. It was also agreed by members to apply to CCGS for £400 towards the cost of bouncy castle hire and trophies, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Flotta 10k subcommittee would progress plans with Orkney Athletics Club.
2. That Orkney Athletics Club be asked to take the notice off their poster regarding ferry travel.
3. That the Interim Clerk would submit an application for CCGS on the sum of £400 for bouncy castle hire and trophies.

5. Matters Arising

A. Flotta Play Park

The Community Council Liaison Officer reported that she had met with the Sport and Leisure Service Manager and explained the procedure that must be adhered to when installing equipment in Council play areas. She explained that ongoing maintenance could be an issue, as the Council budgets were being cut and there may not be the funds to maintain new equipment. The access from Burnside to the park was discussed, and members reported that the fencing still required attention. Members also asked whether the zip line was to be put back up, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would enquire as to whether the zip line could be reinstated.
2. That Councillor Crichton would look into the issue of the access to and broken fencing around the play park.

B. 13-14 Burnside

The Burnside Sub-committee informed the other members that they had made a visit to the houses to assess what required attention. It was agreed that full redecoration was needed in both properties, and members noted that there had already been contact made by individuals who were interested in carrying out such works. Members agreed that it would be useful to tender for the works prior to the end of the summer season so that the works could commence as soon as the season was over. A new single bed, mattress and pillows had been bought, and members agreed that an oven, a dining table and a set of dining chairs still required to be purchased for the hostel. Councillor Crichton also advised members that the lease for the two properties had recently expired, but that the lease would be renewed for another ten years under the existing terms and conditions, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Burnside Sub-committee would source the remaining items that required to be purchased for the properties.
2. That the Interim Clerk would take draft tender documents to the next meeting for members to discuss.

C. Solar Panels at Burnside

Members discussed correspondence from Democratic Services, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding input from the solar panels on properties at Burnside. Members noted that the energy has to be used as it is created. Mr D Hourston offered to provide meter readings for both properties to the Interim Clerk, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Wind Turbine Generator at Flotta School

It was advised that the deadline had passed for applications to the EON Energising Communities Fund, and members agreed that this issue should be passed to the Community Association, and it was:

Resolved to leave this item in the hands of Flotta Community Association.

E. Screen Machine Visit

The Community Council Liaison Officer reported that no further communication had been received from Screen Machine, and it was:

Resolved to note that no further action was required.

F. Islands of Orkney Brochure

Members were provided with a copy of the draft pages for the 2018 brochure, and it was:

Resolved that no further amendments were required.

6. Correspondence

A. Letter from Mr I McConnell

Following consideration of correspondence from Mr Ian McConnell, copies of which had been previously circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. That Flotta Community Council understood the interpretation of the word disabled to be as detailed in the Equalities Act 2010.
2. That Planning Training can be made available to any member if they wish to be provided with it.
3. That Councillor Crichton would contact the Head of Planning with regards to Planning training for Community Councillors.
4. That the Interim Clerk would provide a written response to Mr McConnell.

B. Scottish Business Water Rates

Following consideration of correspondence from Business Stream, copies of which had been previously circulated, informing members of the forthcoming introduction of live rateable value, members noted that there was a big disparity between the rateable values shown for the two properties, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would write to Business Steam asking for clarification on how the live rateable value figures had been calculated.

C. Police Scotland – Isles Officer

Following consideration of correspondence from the new Isles Officer, Orkney Area Command, copies of which had been previously circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Internal Ferry Services Funding

Following consideration of correspondence from the North Isles MSPs, copies of which had been previously circulated, regarding success in securing additional funding from the Scottish Government for operating the Internal Ferry service, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

E. Orkney Business Festival

Following consideration of correspondence from the Business Gateway, copies of which had been previously circulated, regarding the forthcoming Business Festival, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

F. Internet Access Survey

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney JobCentre Plus, a copy of which was read out at the meeting, regarding ascertaining the level of digital support available throughout the county prior to the roll out of Universal Credit Full Service in September 2018, it was agreed that the Community Association should complete the form and return it by the deadline of 17 March 2018, and it was:

Resolved that this would be passed to the Community Association to complete.

G. Orkney Sustainable Fisheries

Following consideration of correspondence from the Fishery Development Manager, a copy of which was read out at the meeting, regarding community engagement, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Fund

Following consideration of the General Fund statement, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £34,263.61 as at 6 March 2018.

B. Burnside Account

Following consideration of the Burnside Account statement, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £1,324.08 as at 6 March 2018.

C. Wind Power Fund

Following consideration of the financial statement for the Wind Power Fund, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £10,082.41 as at 6 March 2018.

D. Community Council Grant Scheme

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

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £1.41 as at 6 March 2018.

E. Community Development Fund

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

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £12,825.31 as at 6 March 2018.

F. Seed Corn Fund

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

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for allocation of £3,161.00, as at 6 March 2018.

8. Financial Request – Bag the Bruck

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services, copies of which had previously been circulated, advising that the Bag the Bruck event would be happening again this year and was eligible for support through CCGS, it was:

Resolved to apply for £300 from CCGS in the new financial year.

9. Reports from Representatives

A. Transport

The Transport Representative explained that she had attended the recent meeting of the Ferry Service Consultative Forum and reported that various issues had been discussed, including books of tickets and tickets reflecting the journeys/statistics, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Planning

Resolved to note that there were no issues to report.

10. Consultation Documents

A. Verge Maintenance Plan

Following consideration of the Verge Maintenance Plan, copies of which had previously been circulated, members agreed that the roads in some parts of Flotta were getting progressively narrower, as the dirt would gather after cutting, the grass would then grow further into the road, effectively making more verge, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would report the comments to Democratic Services.
2. That Councillor Crichton would discuss the issue with the relevant officer.

B. Licensing – Overprovision Assessment

Following consideration of the consultation from Licensing regarding overprovision, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved that members had no comment to make.

C. The Orkney Partnership – Locality Plan – Non-Linked Isles

Following consideration of the Locality Plan consultation, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved that members had no comment to make.

D. Scottish Water – Shaping the Future

Following consideration of the Scottish Water consultation, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved that members had no comment to make.

11. Publications

The following publications were noted by the Community Council:

- Orkney Ferries – Statistical Reports – December 2017/January 2018.
- Orkney Partnership Newsletter – January 2018.
- VAO Newsletter – January/February 2018.

12. Any Other Competent Business

A. Ensign from HMS Vanguard

Members queried when the ensign would be received for display at the Heritage Centre, and it was:

Resolved to note that the ensign was still to be delivered to Flotta.

B. Flotta Kirkyard

It was reported that the entrance to Flotta kirkyard was in a poor and dangerous state. The stone that holds the gate had fallen away, and the road surface had broken up. Following discussion, it was agreed that photos should be taken and sent to the Interim Clerk, who would forward the concerns to the relevant officer, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would contact the relevant officer and express the concerns of the Community Council regarding the kirkyard entrance.

Mr N Cheeseman left the meeting at this point.

C. Aggregates Scheme

Members agreed that they should run an aggregates scheme in the new financial year, and asked for information on how it should run, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would provide information to members at the next meeting in order that a scheme could be devised.

D. Flotta Wind Power

Due to the sensitive nature of this item, it was heard in private.

Members considered correspondence from Flotta Wind Power Ltd, a copy of which was read out at the meeting, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk should write to Flotta Wind Power Ltd and provide dates for a visit to Flotta.

E. Letter from C Grainger

Due to the sensitive nature of this item, it was heard in private.

Following consideration of a letter from Ms C Grainger, a copy of which was read out at the meeting, it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would respond to Ms Grainger by letter.

F. Presentation to Mr and Mrs Sinclair

Members unanimously agreed that a presentation should be made to former members David and Marina Sinclair, in appreciation of the contribution that they both made during their time on Flotta Community Council. It was suggested that the Stromness and South Isles Councillors could be involved and that a date should be arranged for a presentation, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would look at suitable dates for a presentation.
2. That the Chair would order gifts once a date had been arranged.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Following a discussion regarding possible dates for the next meeting, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Flotta Community Council would be held on Thursday, 24 May 2018 at 16:00.

14. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 18:30.