

Minute of the Meeting of Papa Westray Community Council held in St Ann’s on Thursday, 14 November 2024 at 19:30

Present:

Mr N Rendall, Mr I Cursiter, Mr A Hourston, Mr B Hourston, Mrs L Sharp and Mrs I Hourston.

In Attendance:

- Councillor S Clackson.
- Mrs J Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer.
- Mr M Jones, Island Link Officer (ILO)/Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mrs F McNab, Councillor H Woodbridge and Ms J Foley (PDT).

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of Papa Westray Community Council held on 5 September 2024 was adopted, being proposed by Mr I Cursiter and seconded by Mrs L Sharp.

3. Matters Arising

A. Storage of grit and salt belonging to OIC

Mr A Hourston advised that work was now completed, and the unit was now up and running, and it was:

Resolved to note that this project was now completed.

B. Ferry and Pier Matters

Members discussed the topic at length. A draft letter to OIC highlighting PWCC's concerns re haulage and logistics in general had since been written by Mrs L Sharp and approved by members. This would be signed by Mr N Rendall and circulated accordingly, and it was:

Resolved to discuss this matter further at the next meeting.

C. Fibre Broadband Proposal

It was noted that the contractor was continuing the work, and it was:

Resolved to note the update.

D. Rabbit Management Plan

It was noted that the response from residents was generally positive but financing the project was going to be an issue. Therefore, it was agreed that the project should be postponed until Autumn 2025 and that the contractors would be notified of this, and it was:

Resolved to discuss the matter further at the next meeting.

E. Winter Treatment Contracts.

It was noted that the information relating to assisting in periods of bad weather had been circulated on 2 September 2024 and anyone interested had had the opportunity to contact OIC direct, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

F. Water Scheme Audit

Members were informed that Mrs L Sharp and the Clerk had carried out a basic audit of the water scheme and associated paperwork. It was decided that there should be more information relating to the electronic side of the scheme. Mr Gary Stove had very kindly provided this and the Clerk shared this with Environmental Health who were happy for it to be included in the Water Scheme Management Plan. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

G. Generators

It was reported that there were still 21 generators stored in the community shed. The Chair asked that the Clerk order connecting cables for the generators in order that they can be distributed, and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

4. Correspondence

A. Winter Service Plan Comments

Following consideration of correspondence, which was circulated to members on 30 September 2024, with comments on CC responses to the WSP, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Great British Energy Bill

Members were informed that the Clerk had emailed a letter of support on behalf of PWCC to Mr Liam McArthur on 14 October 2024, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Planning Representative Training

Details of training for CC Planning Representatives had been circulated to members on 10 November 2024. The Clerk advised that he would undertake this online training on 21 November 2024, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. SSEN Revised Community Toolkit

Details of this were circulated to members on 11 November 2024, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

E. Letter from Papay ANP's regarding homecare

A letter had been received from Papa Westray ANPs asking for PWCC's support, by letter, to Orkney Health and Social Care regarding the current lack of homecare on the island. Members agreed to support in any way they could. The Empowering

Communities Liaison Officer advised that she had spoken to Social Work, and that two residents were to begin training imminently and that another two were in the pipeline, and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

5. Consultation Documents

A. Boundaries Scotland Consultation

Correspondence had previously been circulated to members on 26 September 2024, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Insights on Community Resilience in Emergencies

This was circulated to members on 29 October 2024. It was agreed that Mrs L Sharp and the Clerk would go over the plan and update wherever necessary, and it was:

Resolved to note the consultation and monitor the situation.

6. Financial Statements

A. General Fund

Following consideration of the general fund statement for Papa Westray Community Council as at 5 November 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £20,007.49.

B. Papa Westray Community Council Water Scheme

Following consideration of the Water Scheme Account statement as at 5 November 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £22,911.90.

C. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the CCGS statement as at 5 November 2024, it was:

Resolved to note that the balances remaining in the main, additional and island capping limits were £2,846.31, £712.50 and £740 respectively.

D. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the CDF statement as at 5 November 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £5,000.

E. Seed Corn

Following consideration of the PWCC Seed Corn statement as at 5 November 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for allocation of £0.

7. Financial Requests

A. Water Scheme Maintenance

A request was made by Mr I Cursiter for the total sum of £3,676.38 for the purchase of media and consumables for the water scheme sufficient to last four years, and it was:

Resolved to note that it was agreed to award the full sum requested towards the items and that CCGS funding will be utilised to cover the cost.

B. Roderick Thorne, North Isles Sports Book

A request had been made by Mr R Thorne for support and possible future funding for a book he was writing on the history of The North Isles Sports. A letter of support was sent by the Clerk by email on 15 November 2024, and it was:

Resolved to await further information before committing funding to this project.

C. PCA Events

A request was made by Mr T Dodman on behalf of PCA for the total sum of £509.76 to cover costs relating to Bonfire night, Christmas presents for children at the Pot Luck Supper and the Muckle Supper, and it was:

Resolved to note that the full sum was awarded and CCGS funding will be used to cover the costs, subject to approval.

D. Repairs to East Road

A request was made by Ms J Foley on behalf of PDT for the sum of £672, plus shipping of aggregate and labour costs, for repairs to the East Road, and it was:

Resolved to note that the request was declined as it was felt that this would set a precedent.

8. Reports from Representatives

A. Transport

Resolved to note that no transport representative was present.

B. Planning

Resolved to note there had been one planning application relevant to Papa Westray, namely the replacement of existing equipment at the salmon farm off Vestness, Ref. no. 24/409/SCR.

C. Health and Care

Members were advised that a letter had been received from Papay Westray ANP's regarding the provision of home care (see correspondence), and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

D. Water Scheme Admin

It was reported that OIC Environmental Health intended to visit Papa Westray on 16 December 2024 to undertake random water sampling, and it was:

Resolved to note the update.

E. Papay Development Trust

Resolved to note that no representative was present to provide an update.

9. Publications

The following publications had previously been circulated to members and were noted:

- Letters from School Place 23/9/24, 22/10/24.
- Liam McArthur, Holyrood Highlights 27/9/24, 04/10/24, 11/10/24, 02/11/24, 08/11/24.
- This week in Parliament, Alistair Carmichael, 13/10/24, 20/10/24, 27/10/24, 10/11/24.
- VAO 01/10/24, 15/10/24, 17,10,24,01/11/24.
- Orkney Ferries Draft timetables for 2025.
- Orkney Ferries Statistics September 2024.
- Loganair stats.

10. Any Other Business – Fence Repair

Members considered a late submission by Mr P Baker enquiring as to the responsibility of repairing fences adjacent the community garden. He was advised to contact and liaise with PDT, and it was:

Resolved that the matter was closed.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of a date for the next meeting, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Papa Westray Community Council would be held on Thursday, 13 February 2024 at 19:30 in St Ann's Kirk Hall.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:35.