

Minute of the Meeting of North Ronaldsay Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Friday, 2 July 2021 at 19:30

Present:

Mr I Deyell, Mr P Donnelly, Ms A Duncan, Mrs H Scott and Mr I Scott.

In Attendance:

- Councillor G Sinclair.
- Councillor H Woodbridge.
- Mrs J Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer/Interim Clerk.
- Ms H Galland, Incoming Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Councillor S Clackson.

2. Election of Office Bearers

Following discussion regarding the election of office bearers, it was:

Resolved:

A. To remain with the status quo.

B. That Ms A Duncan be appointed as Vice Chair.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of meeting held on 20 May 2021 was adopted, being proposed by P Donnelly and seconded by Ms A Duncan, subject to the following amendment:

“Paragraph 10. A. BT Scotland – R100 Scottish Isles Fibre Optic Cable Project

The Chair raised concerns regarding the installation of submarine cables to extend broadband coverage across Shetland and Orkney. He advised members that it appeared that the route for the cable would bypass North Ronaldsay en route to Shetland, with a branch going to Fair Isle. Councillor Sinclair noted his comments and advised that possible provision to North Ronaldsay would be included in the present project with the rest of Orkney, and it was:”

should read:

“Paragraph 10. A. BT Scotland – R100 Scottish Isles Fibre Optic Cable Project

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4. Matters Arising

A. Stiles

Members were advised that the Sheep Court meeting had been held the previous evening, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the report and await correspondence from the Sheep Court, keeping the Community Council briefed on progress.

B. Rabbits

P Donnelly advised members that the contractor had confirmed that he was willing to visit the island. The contractor was unable to visit soon due to other work commitments and had advised that health and safety regulations that required to be met would possibly increase the work required and the cost, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the report.

C. Community Resilience – Fuel Tanks

Following consideration of correspondence, previously emailed, regarding the fuel tanks and relevant costings, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should arrange the purchase and delivery of two 900 litre fuel tanks with hand pumps.

D. Gate at Cattle Grid

After hearing a report from the Empowering Communities Liaison Officer advising members that the gate at the cattle grid had been reported to the relevant department, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report.

E. Skips

The Chair advised members that the shipments of skips was still not taking place due to not having proper lifting facilities. Following discussion, it was suggested that Orkney Ferries should be providing lifting bars for the skips to be hoisted with, and it was:

Resolved to ask Orkney Ferries what the situation for the shipping of skips was at present.

F. Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP) Post

Members were advised that the advert for the ANP was now live and that a community representative on the interview panel had been agreed. Members went on to discuss what a relevant community question could be for the interview, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the report and that the Clerk would forward, by email, the questions already suggested, and members would get back with any further suggestions.

Councillor G Sinclair left the meeting at this point.

5. Correspondence

A. Connecting Scotland – Phase 3

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council, copies of which had previously been emailed, regarding the Phase 3 of the Connecting Scotland project, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence and that Mrs H Scott would forward details of any requirements for the school to the Clerk.

B. Balfour Hospital Helipad

Following consideration of correspondence from Ms F Clackson regarding a recent project she had undertaken about the Balfour Hospital Helipad, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

C. Inter-Island Transport Study – Phase 2

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services regarding the Inter Island Transport Study Outline Business Case Phase 2, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the consultation opened on 21 June 2021.
2. To note the proposals in the document for North Ronaldsay.
3. That a letter should be sent advising that North Ronaldsay Community Council was happy with the proposals.
4. That a copy of the link to the website should be posted locally.

D. 5G New Thinking Project

Following consideration of correspondence advising of a workshop on mobile networks, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence and that the event had passed.

E. Island Communities Fund

Following consideration of correspondence advising of the Islands Communities Fund, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence and to post the details locally.

F. Get into Summer

Following consideration of correspondence enclosing a “Get into Summer” poster, it was:

Resolved to note that the poster had been posted locally.

6. Consultation Documents

A. Under 22's Free Bus Travel

Following consideration of a survey regarding the impact on Island Communities of free bus travel for young people under 22, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the survey.

B. Local Place Plan Regulations

Following consideration of a consultation regarding the Local Place Plan Regulations, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Finance 2020-2021

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 16 June 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £13,568.08.

B. Turbine Fund 2020-21

Members considered the Turbine Fund statement as at 16 June 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, and it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £21,221.80.

C. Community Council Grant Scheme 2020-21

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 16 June 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the statement.

D. General Finance 2021-22

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 16 June 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £17,379.13.

E. Turbine Fund 2021-22

Members considered the Turbine Fund statement as at 16 June 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, and it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £21,221.80.

F. Community Council Grant Scheme 2021-22

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 16 June 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval in the main capping limit was £1,341.23, the balance remaining in the additional capping limit was £534.40, and the Island capping limit balance remaining was £534.594.

G. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 13 April 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

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

H. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund Statement as at 13 April 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that there was no more funding left for approval.

I. Annual Accounts

Following consideration of the annual Income and Expenditure accounts for year ended 31 March 2021, it was:

Resolved to note the contents.

8. Financial Requests

A. Voluntary Action Orkney (VAO)

Following consideration of an invoice from VAO for membership renewal, it was:

Resolved that the invoice should be paid.

B. Beach Plastic Recycling Centre

Following consideration of correspondence from O Gibb advising on proposals to undertake beach cleans and improve recycling facilities on the island and asking if the Community Council could provide support by means of passing on the information or providing financial assistance, it was:

Resolved to request a more detailed plan on the proposed project.

C. Sheep Festival

Following consideration of correspondence from the Sheep Festival Committee requesting financial assistance towards transport costs on the island, it was:

Resolved that an award of £350 should be made towards the transport costs and that an application should be made for Community Council Grant Scheme assistance.

9. Reports from Representatives

A. Transport Representative

Members heard a report from the Transport Representative advising members on the decision made on the remaining Sunday Sailings for this year and the recent briefing note from Orkney Ferries regarding cattle handling operations at lo-lo islands. Members discussed the information in the briefing note, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To arrange a Special Meeting to discuss cattle handling operations at lo-lo islands.
2. That Papa Westray Community Council members should be invited to the meeting.
3. That the Chair of the Board of Orkney Ferries and the Ferry Services Manager should be invited to the meeting.

B. Planning Representative

Resolved to note that there was nothing to report.

C. North Ronaldsay Development Trust Representative

After hearing a report regarding recent activities of the Trust, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report.

10. Publications

The following publications had been made available to members and were noted:

- VAO Newsletter – May 2021.
- Orkney Ferries – Statistics – March 2021.
- Letter from School Place – April, May and June 2021.
- VAO – Training and Funding Update – May and June 2021.

11. Any Other Competent Business

A. Waste and Recycling Service

Following consideration of a briefing note regarding waste and recycling services from Orkney Islands Council, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the briefing note.

B. War Memorial

I Scott advised members that a quote for the work was still awaited, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report.

C. Island Leaflets

I Scott queried if the island leaflets could be situated at a different location within the Airfield building as the present arrangements, due to Covid regulations, meant that visitors to the island could only access them on leaving the island, and it was:

Resolved that the request would be forwarded to the Airfield Manager.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of North Ronaldsay Community Council would be held on Monday, 30 August 2021 via Teams, commencing at 19:30.

13. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 21:40.