

Minute

Special General Meeting of the Council

Thursday, 19 December 2024, 11:15.

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, Rachael A King, W Leslie Manson, James R Moar, Raymond S Peace, Gwenda M Shearer, Gillian Skuse, Jean E Stevenson, Ivan A Taylor, Mellissa-Louise Thomson, Owen Tierney, Duncan A Tullock and Heather N Woodbridge.

Present via remote link (Microsoft Teams)

Councillors Kristopher D Leask, Janette A Park and John A R Scott.

Clerk

- Gavin Mitchell, Head of Legal and Governance.

In Attendance

- Oliver D Reid, Chief Executive.
- Karen Greaves, Corporate Director for Strategy, Performance and Business Solutions.
- Gareth Waterson, Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration.
- James Wylie, Corporate Director for Education, Leisure and Housing.
- Andrew Groundwater, Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development.
- Sweyn Johnston, Head of Enterprise and Economic Growth.
- Lorna Richardson, Head of Neighbourhood Services.
- David Custer, Service Manager (Engineering).
- Hazel Flett, Service Manager (Governance).
- Shonagh Merriman, Service Manager (Corporate Finance).

In Attendance via remote link (Microsoft Teams)

- Stephen Brown, Chief Officer, Orkney Health and Social Care Partnership.
- Maya Tams-Gray, Committees Officer.

Observing

- Karen Bevilacqua, Service Manager (Legal Services).
- Kirsty Groundwater, Communications Team Leader.

Declarations of Interest

- No declarations of interest were intimated.

Chair

- Councillor Graham A Bevan, Convener.

1. Exclusion of Public

On the motion of Councillor Graham A Bevan, seconded by Councillor Heather N Woodbridge, the Council resolved that the public be excluded from the meeting, as the business to be considered involved the disclosure of exempt information of the classes described in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended.

2. Strategic Offshore Energy Development Strategy

Project Development Budget

Under section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public had been excluded from the meeting for this item on the grounds that it involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 6, 8, 9 and 10 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

After consideration of a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration, copies of which had been circulated, the Council:

Noted:

2.1. That all documents relating to the Pre-Construction Services Agreement (PCSA) made it clear that the project had not been given final approval and would only move forward to the construction phase should the Council decide to exercise that option after full analysis of the overall business case, in line with the Offshore Energy Development Strategy.

The Council resolved:

2.2. That progression of the PCSA be confirmed.

2.3. That £2.2 million of additional funding to progress the PCSA be allocated from the £4 million budget ring-fenced to deliver the Strategic Offshore Energy Development Strategy.

2.4. That the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration should continue to seek further external funding to contribute towards the costs of the PCSA and to take forward other options in the Strategic Offshore Energy Development Strategy in parallel with the work on the PCSA.

The above constitutes the summary of the Minute in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 section 50C(2) as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

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3. Conclusion of Meeting

At 13:38 the Convener declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: Graham A Bevan.