

Minute of the Meeting of Firth and Stenness Community Council held in Firth Community Centre, on Thursday, 6 September 2018 at 19:30

Present:

Ms W Dunnet, Mr J Horrocks, Mr R Hourston, Mr M Lynch, Mr N Macleod, Mr V Muir, Ms M Murray and Mrs A Stevenson.

In Attendance:

- Councillor H Johnston.
- Councillor R King.
- Councillor O Tierney.
- Mrs M Spence, Democratic Services Manager.
- Mr I Heggie, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies had been received from Councillor D Tullock.

2. Election of New Members

A Special Meeting had been held prior to the general meeting, at which two new members had been elected, Mr M Lynch and Mr R Hourston, who were both in attendance, and it was:

Resolved to welcome the two new members to their first meeting as members of Firth and Stenness Community Council.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting of Firth and Stenness Community Council held on 21 June 2018 was approved, being proposed by Mr V Muir and seconded by Ms M Murray.

4. Matters Arising

A. Repairs to War memorial

After hearing from the Clerk that signatures had been arranged and that the War Memorial Trust had now received the completed contract, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Clerk should contact CS Services and arrange a start date for repairs to proceed.
2. That the Clerk should give the required notice to the War Memorials Trust two weeks before work commences.

B. Orkney Flag

Members heard that the flag purchased was of better quality and that it had already been flown. It was also noted that the red insignia had also been flown on the 3 September 2018 to mark the Seafarers UK Day, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Stenness Village Septic Tank

Members heard from Councillor King that there was not a detailed update to provide except that only one evidence form had been received regarding the septic tank area. She explained that the forms were available for complaints to be sent to Environmental Health about the septic tank, smells etc. Members also heard that two community council members had observed a grey sludge oozing from the reed bed into the burn. However, as there was no informative feedback, it was:

Resolved that members would resume consideration of this issue at the next meeting.

D. Standing Stones Car Park

Members heard from the Clerk that Orkney Island Council were still in negotiation with the landowner and that no work could be undertaken until the issue had been resolved, and it was:

Resolved that members would resume consideration of this issue at the next meeting.

5. Picnic Benches

Members discussed the current state of the picnic benches around the parishes, and considered the possibility of bench repair and treatment being carried out by Community Service representatives, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would ask Democratic Services for their assistance in this matter.

6. Correspondence

A. Headstones Inspection Process

Members heard that Orkney Island Council were to replace paper with metal plaques explaining the health and safety regulations behind the laying down of headstones.

Councillor King also asked if members of the community council could be point of contact for relatives enquiring about headstones.

It was also reported to members that, on occasion, when grass cutting is taking place that the machinery used comes in contact with the headstones, perhaps causing instability, it was:

Resolved that the clerk be the named point of contact and that Democratic Services be asked to inform the grass cutting team to take more care in the cutting procedure.

B. Clerk Sessions

Members heard that there was to be a CC conference on 2 October 2018 for both clerks and chairs, it was:

Resolved that the clerk and Mrs A Stevenson attend the conference.

C. Christmas Tree Lighting – Event Management

Members discussed the dates and times for 2018 tree lighting ceremonies in both Stenness and Finstown, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would send the relevant form to Democratic Services for the Finstown event, and that Stenness Community Association would organise their event separately.

D. Accessible Transport Event

Following consideration of correspondence from Disability Equality Scotland, in partnership with Transport Scotland, informing members of an event on accessible transport which was due to be held on 20 September 2018, it was:

Resolved to note information provided.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 20 August 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the estimate balance was £8,431.51.

B. Rennibister Wind Turbine Community Fund

After consideration of the Rennibister Wind Turbine Community Fund statement as at 20 August 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the balance of £3,000.

C. Community Council Grant Scheme

After consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as 20 August 2018, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £2,027.60.

D. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 20 August 2018, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £3,534.95 was available for allocation.

8. Financial Requests

A. Mrs Fiona Dalziel – Girl Guiding Blackpool Event

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mrs F Dalziel, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of two people attending an event in Blackpool in September 2018, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £25 per person should be made towards the cost of the trip in September, totalling £50.

B. Kirkwall and St Ola CC - Bonfire and Firework Event

Following consideration of correspondence received from the Clerk to Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of the bonfire event to be held in November 2018, it was:

Resolved that no donation would be given.

9. Consultations

A. SSE - Proposed Sub Station

Members had been informed that the SSE consultation and presentation would reveal the extent of the whole infrastructure and had been encouraged to attend consultation meetings and voice concerns. Further discussion took place, and members also asked whether solar panel installation had been considered on the substantial roof, with any financial proceeds being donated to the Community Council, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would communicate with SSE on this matter.

B. Statement of Alcohol Licensing Policy

Following consideration of the consultation document on the Statement of Alcohol Licensing policy, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved that members had no comments to make on the consultation.

10. Any Other Competent Business

A. Refuse Collections

A member commented on refuse collection regulations, particularly the two metre rule from the kerb. Members were informed that current regulations were in place to assist in increasing efficiency. Any residents of the Firth and Stenness area who cannot meet this demand should be informed to contact Orkney Island Council, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Named Person Scheme

A member reported that he had observed that Orkney Island Council had become part of the Named Person scheme. None of the Councillors had any knowledge of such a scheme. However, Councillor King intimated that she could investigate this matter, and it was:

Resolved that Councillor King report back to next meeting.

11. Date of Next Meeting

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

Resolved a meeting of Firth and Stenness Community Council would be held on Thursday, 8 November in Stenness Community School Firth Community Centre at 19:30.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 20:45.