

## **Minute**

### **Special General Meeting of the Council**

Tuesday, 22 June 2021, 16:00.

Microsoft Teams.



### **Present**

Councillors J Harvey Johnston, Stephen G Clackson, Alexander G Cowie, Norman R Craigie, Robin W Crichton, David Dawson, Barbara Foulkes, Steven B Heddle, Rachael A King, W Leslie Manson, John T Richards, Stephen Sankey, John A R Scott, Gwenda M Shearer, Graham L Sinclair, James W Stockan, Magnus O Thomson, Owen Tierney, Duncan A Tullock and Heather N Woodbridge.

### **Clerk**

- Gavin Mitchell, Head of Legal Services.

### **In Attendance**

- John W Mundell, Interim Chief Executive.
- Gavin Barr, Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure.
- Stephen Brown, Chief Officer/Executive Director, Orkney Health and Care.
- James Wylie, Executive Director of Education, Leisure and Housing.
- Gareth Waterson, Head of Finance.
- Karen Greaves, Head of Executive Support.
- Hazel Flett, Senior Committees Officer.

### **Observing**

- Andrew Groundwater, Head of HR and Performance.
- David Hartley, Communications Team Leader.

### **Apology**

- Councillor Andrew Drever.

### **Declarations of Interest**

- No declarations of interest were intimated.

### **Chair**

- Councillor J Harvey Johnston, Convener.

## **1. Orkney Pride Committee – Request to Fly Flag**

After consideration of a report by the Chief Executive, together with an Equality Impact Assessment, copies of which had been circulated, the Council:

Noted:

**1.1.** The flag flying protocol, attached as Appendix 1 to the report by the Chief Executive, which detailed the flags to be flown at the Council Offices, School Place and the Town Hall, Kirkwall, on specific dates or events each year.

**1.2.** That a request had been received from the Chair of the Orkney Pride Committee, for the Rainbow flag to be flown at the Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall, on Saturday, 26 June 2021 to mark Orkney Pride.

**1.3.** That the Rainbow flag was an emblem for the entire LGBT+ community and was flown as a gesture of solidarity within the community, promoting equality and inclusion and celebrating the diversity of communities as a whole.

**1.4.** That, for 2021, 26 June was designated Armed Forces Day and, in accordance with the protocol referred to at paragraph 1.1 above, the Council would fly the Armed Forces flag on that day.

Councillor J Harvey Johnston, seconded by Councillor W Leslie Manson, moved that:

- The Armed Forces Day flag be flown at the Council Offices and the Rainbow flag at Kirkwall Town Hall on 26 June 2021.
- The Chief Executive should undertake a review of the flag flying protocol and thereafter submit a report to the Policy and Resources Committee.

Councillor David Dawson, seconded by Councillor Duncan A Tullock, moved an amendment that, notwithstanding the flying of the Armed Forces Day flag on 26 June 2021, no flags other than those approved in the flag flying protocol be flown from buildings owned by Orkney Islands Council, pending a review to be undertaken of the flag flying protocol and a subsequent report to Policy and Resources Committee.

The result of a recorded vote was as follows:

For the Amendment:

Councillors Stephen G Clackson, Norman R Craigie, David Dawson and Duncan A Tullock (4).

For the Motion:

Councillors Alexander G Cowie, Robin W Crichton, Barbara Foulkes, Steven B Heddle, J Harvey Johnston, Rachael A King, W Leslie Manson, John T Richards, Stephen Sankey, John A R Scott, Gwenda M Shearer, Graham L Sinclair, James W Stockan, Magnus O Thomson, Owen Tierney and Heather N Woodbridge (16).

The Motion was therefore carried.

The Council thereafter resolved:

**1.5.** That the Armed Forces Day flag be flown at the Council Offices and the Rainbow flag at Kirkwall Town Hall on 26 June 2021.

**1.6.** That the Chief Executive should undertake a review of the flag flying protocol and thereafter submit a report to the Policy and Resources Committee.

## **2. Conclusion of Meeting**

At 16:41 the Convener declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: