

Minute of the Meeting of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Monday, 15 March 2021 at 19:00

Present:

Rikki A Lidderdale, Robert F Leslie, Kim Burns, Lorraine A Craigie, David L Flett, Christopher Gee, Moyra Gordon, Christine E Harcus, Cathleen A Hourie, Steven Metcalf, John R Mowat and Tom Rendall.

In Attendance:

- Councillor Sandy G Cowie.
- Councillor Barbara Foulkes.
- Councillor Steven B Heddle.
- Councillor W Leslie Manson.
- Councillor John T Richards.
- Councillor John A R Scott.
- Councillor Gwenda M Shearer.

- Hazel Flett, Clerk.

- 1 member of the local press.
- Maureen Spence, Democratic Services Manager.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Dave Dawson.

2. Police Scotland Matters

Police Scotland had tendered their apologies, and it was:

Resolved to note the position.

3. Papdale Play Park

The Chair advised that the Orkney Islands Council representative had subsequently advised that the Papdale Play Park project was not yet at a stage where progress could be shared with the Community Council and a briefing would be issued at a later date, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

4. Adoption of Minute

The Minute of the Meeting held on 25 January 2021 was approved, being proposed by Kim Burns and seconded by John Mowat.

5. Matters Arising

A. Town Centre Funding – Tankerness House Gardens

The Chair advised that applications had been submitted for planning permission, listed building consent and financial assistance, and it was:

Resolved to note that the outcome of the various applications was awaited.

B. Big Belly Bins

The Chair advised that no response had been received from Orkney Islands Council regarding the Community Council's proposal that Environmental Services submit an application to the Town Centre Fund for big belly bins, following which discussion should take place with the Community Council to rationalise the number of rubbish bins across Kirkwall.

The Democratic Services Manager advised that big belly bins were not the preferred choice of bin for town centres and were more suited to rural locations where less frequent emptying was required. However, the relevant service manager was looking to review all bin locations and the Democratic Services Manager suggested that the Strategic Policy and Projects Manager be invited to attend a meeting of the Community Council to discuss the matter, and it was:

Resolved that consideration be given to inviting the Strategic Policy and Projects Manager, Orkney Islands Council, to a future meeting to discuss various refuse matters, including bin locations throughout Kirkwall.

David Flett joined the meeting and Councillor Barbara Foulkes left the meeting during consideration of this item.

C. Festive Lighting

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding arrangements for festive lighting, copies of which had been previously circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that, at this time, there were no implications for the Community Council regarding the catenary wires that were erected throughout the town centre, with the issue relating to column decorations used by rural community councils.

D. Hanging Baskets

The Chair advised that the Finance Sub-committee had held an initial meeting to discuss the provision of hanging baskets during 2021 and that as some further details were still to be confirmed, a further update would be provided in due course, and it was:

Resolved to note the current position.

6. Correspondence

A. Road Names for Carness Development

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council requesting names for a new housing development at Carness, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should email all members the various suggestions submitted, in order to determine a preferred set of names to submit to Orkney Islands Council.

B. New Street Name Suggestion off East Road

The Clerk had received correspondence from Orkney Islands Council requesting a name for a new street off East Road, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising that the Community Council's preferred name for the new road off East Road was Zawadski Drive.

C. Lane Exit at Meadow Crescent

Following consideration of potential road safety issues where the lane through Flett Park onto Meadow Crescent had been opened and the suggestion that staggered gates be erected to prevent the public from exiting straight on to the main road, it was:

Resolved to note that, although the Clerk had raised the matter with Orkney Islands Council prior to the meeting, no response had been received to date.

Steven Metcalf joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

D. Prohibition of Consumption of Alcohol in Designated Public Places – Byelaws

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding a review of the Orkney Islands Council Prohibition of Consumption of Alcohol in Designated Public Places Byelaws (Kirkwall) 2011, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to make no comment on the review of the byelaws.

E. VAO – Your Community, Your Voice

Following consideration of correspondence from VAO regarding the Your Community, Your Voice consultation, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the consultation, which was open to the general public in the West Mainland and Kirkwall, closed on 21 March 2021.

F. Recovery from Covid Lockdown

Following consideration of correspondence from the Orkney Street Pastors regarding areas or issues which could benefit from their services once recovery from the Covid lockdown commenced, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to the Orkney Street Pastors thanking them for the work they did pre-Covid, which should continue when permitted post-Covid, and that the Community Council would bear them in mind for any potential project or service in future.

G. Orkney Native Wildlife Project

Following consideration of correspondence from the Orkney Native Wildlife Project providing an update on the project as at February 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the current position.

H. Children with ASN

Following consideration of correspondence from a teacher at Glaitness School regarding improving activities and out of school provision for children with additional support needs, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to the teacher advising that the Community Council supported the proposal, in principle, and suggesting that contact be made with all Community Councils in the first instance.

Councillor Steven Heddle left the meeting at this point.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

Following consideration of the General Finance statement as at 5 March 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 5 March 2021 of £13,024.04.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2020/21 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 5 March 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £3,045.69.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 5 March 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £3,688.42.

8. Financial Request – Orkney Amateur Swimming Club

Following consideration of correspondence received from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club requesting financial assistance towards the purchase of track start blocks, copies of which had been circulated previously, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £500 be given towards the cost of purchasing track start blocks, to be met from the Community Council's General Finance allocation.

9. Consultation – Verge Maintenance Plan 2020

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding a review of the Verge Maintenance Plan, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that members should email any issues or concerns to the Clerk, no later than 31 March 2021, to enable a response to be submitted.

10. Meetings attended by Members

A. Reaching 100% (R100)

Liam McArthur MSP and Alistair Carmichael MP had organised a roundtable event on the R100 project, via Zoom, on 5 February 2021, and it was:

Resolved to note that two members of the Community Council had attended the roundtable online event.

B. 5G New Thinking

Orkney Islands Council had arranged a virtual workshop on 25 February 2021 regarding the 5G New Thinking project, which involved a number of partners trying to tackle the problem of improving rural connectivity, and it was:

Resolved to note that the Community Council had not been represented at the virtual workshop.

C. Mainland Resilience Group

The Mainland Resilience Group had met on 4 March 2021, and it was:

Resolved to note the report from the Chair on matters raised.

D. Scottish Rural Parliament

The Scottish Rural Parliament had held online conference sessions on 8 and 11 March 2021, and it was:

Resolved to note the report on attendance by a member.

E. The Circular Economy and the Planning System

Planning Aid Scotland had arranged various online events on the Circular Economy of Scotland, and it was:

Resolved to note the report on attendance by a member.

11. Publications

The following publications had been sent to the Clerk and were forwarded to members via email:

- VAO Newsletters – January and February 2021.
- VAO Volunteering Summary – February and March 2021.
- VAO Training and Funding Update – February 2021.
- Paths for All – eNews – 28 January and 25 February 2021.
- L McArthur MSP – Coronavirus: Latest Information and Advice – 29 January (and correction), 2, 5, 12, 19 and 23 February and 2 March 2021.
- Health Improvement Scotland – Scottish Government Covid-19 Vaccination Marketing Campaign.
- Scottish Water – Press Release – Scottish Water appeals for help tracing leaks and bursts in Orkney.
- Scottish Rural Action – February 2021 Newsletter.
- Fair Start Scotland – Triage Newsletter – March 2021.

12. Any Other Competent Business

A. Insurance for 2021/2022

The Clerk had received correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding the insurance schedule for 2021/2022, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council confirming that the insurance premium for 2021/2022 be paid, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being granted.

B. Dog Litter Bins

Following a request from a member regarding the provision of dog litter bins, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council requesting that a dog litter bin be provided in the layby on Work Road.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council should be held on Monday, 10 May 2021, commencing at 19:00.

14. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:55.