

# Minute of the Meeting of Flotta Community Council held in Flotta Community Centre and via Teams on Tuesday, 18 June 2024 at 16:15

## Present:

Mrs R Biddle, Mrs P Gee, Mr C Mullins, Mrs I Smith and Mrs J Ward.

## In Attendance:

- Councillor G Bevan.
  - Mr R Cunningham, Service Manager, Democratic Services and Communications.
  - Mr R Mackay, Head of Planning and Community Protection (via Teams).
  - Mrs A Holland, Incoming Clerk.
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- Five members of the public.

## Order of Business

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## **1. Welcome and Apologies**

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mr M Grant.

## **2. Adoption of Minutes**

The minute of the meeting held on 2 April 2024 was approved, being proposed by Mrs R Biddle and seconded by Mrs I Smith.

## **3. Election of Office Bearers**

### **A. Vice Chair**

Resolved that Mrs I Smith be elected as Vice Chair.

### **B. Transport Representative**

Resolved that Mr M Grant be elected as Transport Representative.

## **4. Matters Arising**

### **A. Flotta Community Association - Cafe**

Mrs R Biddle asked that it be noted that herself, Mrs J Ward, Mr C Mullins and Mr M Grant had declared an interest in this item and did not take part in the decision making at the previous meeting.

Mrs R Biddle also advised that the 50% grant funding would be extremely useful and that the Association would monitor the costs. She suggested that if they required more funds in future, they could submit a further request, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report.

### **B. Community Asset Transfer – Area of Land**

The Democratic Services Manager advised members that he had been advised that it was not important whether the land was with the rural boundary or not in terms of having a development that would be supported through the Local Development Plan process. There was a core policy in the Spatial Strategy of the Local Development Plan that supports development on the non-linked islands that would benefit the island socially and/or economically as long as there was not a conflict with another policy. It was also suggested that, although it was not necessary from a planning aspect, funding may be affected if the land was not within the settlement boundary. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the content of the update.
2. That the Democratic Services Manager would contact Planning asking that the area be considered for inclusion within the settlement boundary.

### **C. 13 and 14 Burnside**

Members raised concerns regarding outstanding works and if there was an update, and it:

Resolved to chase this up and provide an update to members.

### **D. Tarmac at Gibraltar Pier**

Members were advised that this had been made safe but that the metal spacer was still moving, and asked if action could be taken to prevent this from happening, and it was:

Resolved to await an update from Councillor L Hall, who was taking this item forward.

### **E. Broken Net in Play Park**

The Democratic Services Manager advised members that he had been in contact with Repsol regarding the possibility of assessing the condition of the climbing frames at Flotta Playpark and was awaiting a response, and it was:

Resolved to note that a response was awaited.

### **F. Scrap Car Scheme**

Members were advised that there was no updated available, and it was:

Resolved to note that Mrs R Biddle would speak to Mr B Findlay.

### **G. Ferry Waiting Room – Bin**

The Democratic Services Manager had emailed members regarding concerns around the closing time of the Ferry Waiting Room and the provision of a bin outside the waiting room, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk should write Democratic Services asking about the closing time of the waiting room and the provision of an additional bin outside the waiting room.

### **H. Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council - Transport Meeting**

Members advised that they had been unable to join the Teams link provided for the Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council meeting that had been held to discuss the ferry timetable, and it was:

Resolved to request an in-person meeting with Graemsay, Hoy and Walls CC to discuss this item.

## **5. Correspondence**

### **A. Orkney Ferries Update – Additional Passenger Services**

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Ferries advising that they are proposing to have an additional passenger vessel service to Hoy and Flotta during Summer 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

### **B. Orkney Ferries Update – Booking System**

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Ferries regarding their new booking system going live on 1 July 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

### **C. Addressing Depopulation Action Plan – SIF Online Meeting**

Following consideration of correspondence, previously emailed to members, regarding an online session at 19:30 on 5 June 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the event has passed.

### **D. Orkney Ferries Update – Sunday Office Opening**

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Ferries advising that their Shore Street Offices would be open on a Sunday between 09:00 to 15:00 starting 23 June 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

### **E. Annual Grants 2024/2025**

Members considered correspondence from Orkney Islands Council advising that the Community Council Annual Grants had been approved and details of allocations for all Community Councils provided. Capping limits and additional allocation figures had also been provided, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

### **F. Digital Voice Roadshow – July 2024**

Following consideration of correspondence from BT regarding a drop-in session they were holding at Orkney Library on 23 July where you could go and speak to BT representatives about their new home phone service, Digital Voice, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence and that Mr D Derrick, local resident, would try to attend the drop in and advise members accordingly.

## **6. Consultations**

### **A. OIC Housing Survey**

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council seeking local views on a strategy for housing in Orkney, it was:

Resolved that members had made no comments and that the deadline had now passed.

### **B. Transport Scotland – Islands Connectivity Plan**

Following consideration of correspondence advising that there were drop-in sessions being arranged in various areas regarding islands transport connectivity, it was:

Resolved that members had made no comments and that the deadline had now passed.

### **C. Scottish Fire and Rescue Service National Public Consultation**

Following consideration of correspondence from Scottish Fire and Rescue regarding a pre-consultation exercise titled ‘Shaping Our Future Service: Your Say,’ it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence and that Mrs I Smith would respond to the consultation.

### **D. Review of Orkney’s Local Development Plan**

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding a review of Orkney’s Local Development Plan, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence and that members had no comments to make.

### **E. Review of Gambling Policy**

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding Orkney Islands Area Licensing Board carrying out a review of its Gambling Policy. The deadline for comments was 28 June 2024, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence and that members had no comments to make.

## **7. Financial Statements**

### **A. Annual Accounts – 31 March 2024**

After consideration of the Annual Accounts as at 31 March 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the Annual Accounts.

## **B. Finance Statements at 31 March 2024**

After consideration of the Finance Statements as at 7 June 2024, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the Finance Statements for 2023/2024 as at 31 March 2024.

## **C. General Finance 2024/2025**

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 10 June 2024, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £57,847.53.

## **B. Wind Power Fund**

After consideration of the Wind Power Fund statement as at 10 June 2024, copies of which had previously been circulated, and whether the account should remain open or the funds transferred to the General Account, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the estimated balance was £16,493.77.
2. That the Wind Fund account should remain open meantime.
3. To note that the new owners of the turbines had reinstated the community benefit payments to the Community Council and that £12,000 had been paid covering the last three years.
4. That a letter of thanks should be sent to the company.

## **C. Burnside Account**

After consideration of the Burnside Account statement as at 10 June 2024, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £5,393.69.

## **D. Community Council Grant Scheme**

After consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 10 June 2024, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the OIC Main Capping Limit had £1,374.93 remaining for allocation.
2. To note the Additional Capping Limit had £765 remaining for allocation.
3. To note the OIC Island Capping Limit had £740 remaining for allocation.

## **E. Community Development Fund**

After consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement as at 10 June 2024, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £10,980.51 remained available for allocation.

## **F. Seed Corn Fund**

After consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement as at 10 June 2024, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £3,161.00 remained available for allocation.

## **8. Financial Request - VAO Membership 2024/2025**

The Interim Clerk advised that an invoice for VAO Membership renewal for 2024/2025 had been received, and it was:

Resolved that membership would be renewed at £15.

## **9. Publications**

Resolved to note the following publications had been made available to members:

- Orkney Ferries Statistics – March and April 2024.
- Farm Diversification Drop-In Event – May 2024.
- Review of Orkney Local Development Plan – Newsletter – June 2024.
- Scottish Islands Federation – Newsletter – June 2024.

## **10. Reports from Representatives**

### **A. Transport**

Resolved to note that there was nothing to report back at this meeting.

### **B. Planning**

Mrs J Ward reported that there had been one planning application for the stone bench and table in the playpark, and it was:

Resolved to note that there had been one planning application approved since the last meeting.

### **C. Health and Care**

Resolved to note that there was nothing to report back at this meeting.

## **11. Any Other Competent Business**

### **A. Scapa Flow Landscape Partnership - Paths**

Members raised concerns regarding the condition of the paths at Head of Banks and Stanger Head. The path at Stanger Head was in need of being strimmed and the

path at Head of Banks required strimming and repair works at some areas which were verging on becoming a safety issue, and it was:

Resolved to ask Orkney Islands Council if this would be part of the core path network with a view to having the paths returned to being user friendly and that the Community Council may consider providing financial assistance.

## **B. Planning - Polycrubs**

Mr C Mullins advised members that they wished to submit the planning application again for the putting green. The Democratic Services Manager advised that this project could be moved along with the Community Council area of land by means of weekly meetings. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to set up fortnightly meetings of a working group to take the project forward.

## **C. Signs**

Mrs P Gee asked if representatives from Flotta Community Council and the Heritage Trust meet to discuss signage requirements for the island. The Heritage Trust could make the necessary arrangement if the Community Council could assist with funding the project, and it was:

Resolved that a joint meeting should be arranged to discuss signage for the island.

## **12. Date of Next Meeting**

Following consideration of dates for the next meeting of Flotta Community Council, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 27 August 2024 at 16:15.

## **13. Conclusion of Meeting**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 17:15.