

Minute of the Meeting of Stromness Community Council held in the Town House, Stromness, on Monday, 22 January 2018 at 19:00

Present:

G Deans, A Esslemont, E Knight, J Mowat, W Mackay, P McLaughlin and J Park.

In Attendance:

- Councillor R Crichton.
- Councillor J Stockan.
- K Groundwater, Stromness Development Officer.
- C Spence, Chief Executive, Orkney Housing Association Limited.
- R Flett, Development and Property Manager, Orkney Housing Association Limited.
- S Scott, Regional Commercial Manager, Scottish Water.
- R Aitchison, Head of Delivery, Amey Black and Veach.
- One member of the press.
- P Breck, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies were intimated on behalf of K Bevan.

2. Orkney Housing Association

The Chief Executive gave a brief overview of Orkney Housing Association informing members that it was formed in 1985 and to date had provided 1,000 homes in Orkney. They are now looking ahead at developments in the Stromness area, with Upper Sunnybank being the preferred site. This would provide 30 to 40 affordable houses in a phased development, with a mix of low-cost home ownership and rent. Statistics show that there is a lack of interest in low-cost home ownership in the Stromness area and wonder whether this is the true picture, it was:

Resolved to note the presentation.

Members of Orkney Housing Association left the meeting at this point.

3. Scottish Water

The Scottish Water representative informed members that they were here to give an update on the works and also discuss the legacy from Scottish Water.

The Amey Black and Veach representative updated members on the progress of the works and informed members that this had been a challenging two-year project however they anticipated being off site mid-February with the office site cleared by the end of February. The marker posts would be in place by the end of January. Discussion was held regarding the area of ground at the south end and agreed that it would not be grassed instead hard standing would be looked at.

Councillor Stockan raised the matter of the door on the kiosk at Merriman's and the Amey Black and Veach representative agreed to make sure this was in the correct position.

Councillor Stockan also raised the matter of the houses along the seafront which had not been connected to the main sewerage system and suggested a letter of comfort be issued for those premises.

The Scottish Water representative asked members what their thoughts were regarding the legacy from Scottish Water and it was agreed that members would get back to him following the meeting with an anticipated funding amount, it was:

Resolved that this be noted.

The Scottish Water and Amey Black and Veach representatives left the meeting at this point.

4. Police Matters

Following consideration of correspondence received from Sergeant Hay updating members on the concerns raised at the last meeting, it was:

Resolved that these be noted.

5. Adoption of Minutes

The Minute of the meeting held on 27 November 2017 was approved, being proposed by E Knight and seconded by P McLaughlin.

6. Matters Arising

A. Parking Consultation

Councillor Crichton informed members that the consultation had not been issued yet and there would be an advert in the paper when it was going out to the public, it was:

Resolved that this be noted.

B. Scottish Water – Update on Street Works and Legacy

Resolved to note that this was discussed at Item 3 above.

C. Public Stage

A Esslemont informed members that the final inspection was being carried out this week which would then enable the final grant payments to be processed. The project had come in under budget and once the final amount was known members could decide what or if to spend the remaining funding on, it was:

Resolved to that this be noted.

D. Entrance onto Market Green from North End Road

Councillor Crichton informed members that there was still ongoing work at this area that would need to be completed before any road materials should be looked at, it was:

Resolved that this be noted.

E. Tree Lighting

The Chair informed members that the tree lighting event had gone reasonably well although there may be one or two things to take account of for next year, it was:

Resolved that this be noted.

F. Stromness Tourist Information Centre

Councillor Stockan informed members that there had been a productive meeting with Lord Thurso, Chair of Visit Scotland, and various other representatives and was hopeful that a solution would be forthcoming, and it was:

Resolved that this be noted.

G. Coat of Arms

Following consideration of information circulated by the Clerk re the use of the Coat of Arms, it was:

Resolved that this be noted.

7. Correspondence

A. Consultation Document – Winter Service Plan 2017/2018

Following consideration of the above Consultation Document it was agreed that members would forward any comments to the Clerk by the next meeting on 12 March, it was:

Resolved that this be noted.

B. Orkney Historic Boat Society – Stromness Boat Haven

Following consideration of correspondence received from Orkney Historic Boat Society informing members of their progress with their project of a Boat Haven in Stromness, it was:

Resolved to write the Orkney Historic Boat Society informing them that members fully supported them with this project and agreed that Copland's was an ideal location for a boat haven in Stromness.

C. SSEN – Consultation Project Orkney

The Chair informed members that he had attended the event held locally by Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks, and that final details of this project were still to be put in place, and it was:

Resolved that this be noted.

8. Reports from Community Council Representatives

A. MARS

The MARS representative informed members that several issues were ongoing, i.e. lighting and street repairs, and it was:

Resolved that this be noted.

B. Stromness Community Business Forum

The Business Forum representative informed members that the AGM was to be held in February, date to be confirmed, and it was:

Resolved that this be noted.

C. Stromness 200 Events

The Development Officer informed members that this would be her last meeting as the post of Development Officer comes to an end in February. She gave an overview of the events that had been held throughout the year and funding that had been sourced, and it was:

Resolved to note that the Chair thanked the Officer for all the work she had carried out over the last year for the Stromness 200 events.

D. Stromness Development Trust

The Development Officer informed members that there would be a meeting on Wednesday, 24 January, and it was:

Resolved that this be noted.

E. Playpark Sub-committee

E Knight informed members that the sub-committee had had a short meeting and several ideas had been suggested. It was now a case of deciding what best suits this area and take this forward, and it was:

Resolved that this be noted.

9. Financial Statements

A. Community Council General Account

After consideration of the Community Council's General Finance Statement as at 22 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £688.76.

B. Sea Haven Account

After consideration of the Sea Haven Account statement as at 22 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the balance of £105.80.

C. Community Council Grant Scheme Statement

After consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme Statement as at 22 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £985.18.

D. Community Development Fund

After consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 22 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the total remaining for allocation of £3,929.86.

E. Seed Corn

After consideration of the Seed Corn Fund as at 22 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note that £3,263.78 remained for approval.

10. Requests for Financial Assistance

A. Stenness Community School - Nethybridge

Following consideration of an application for assistance received from Stenness Community School for assistance towards three Stromness pupils taking part in the P6/7 trip to Nethybridge, it was:

Resolved to grant £13 each of the three Stromness pupils taking part in the P6/7 trip to Nethybridge.

B. Stromness Academy – Geography Trip to Switzerland

Following consideration of an application for assistance received from Stromness Academy for assistance towards 18 Stromness pupils taking part in the geography trip to Switzerland, it was:

Resolved to grant £13 each of the 18 Stromness pupils taking part in the geography trip to Switzerland.

C. Stromness Shopping Week – Fireworks

Following consideration of an application for assistance received from Stromness Shopping Week for assistance towards the Saturday night fireworks display, it was resolved:

1. To grant £2500 to Stromness Shopping Week for assistance towards the purchase of fireworks for the Saturday night display, subject to approval from the Community Council Grant Scheme.
2. That payment is to be split between this financial year and the 2018/2019 financial year as follows: £1,630 2017/2018 and £870 2018/2019.

11. Publications

The following publication was made available to members:

- Orkney's Creative Future – A Ten Year Strategy for the Arts.

12. Any Other Competent Business

A. Proposed Meeting Dates for 2018

Following consideration of amended dates for future meetings, it was:

Resolved to note members agreed the following changes, Mondays 12 March, 30 April and 18 June 2018.

B. Safety at Schools

J Park informed members that at the Parent Council meeting a query had been raised regarding the route to school and following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note that J Park would inform the Parent Council to contact the Road Safety Officer in the Council.

C. School Bus – Ness to Primary School

J Park informed members that a query had been raised at the Parent Council regarding the lack of bus provision from the Primary School to Ness at the end of the school day, after discussion it was:

Resolved to note that J Park would report back to the Parent Council.

D. Scapa 100 Celebrations

J Park informed members that events to celebrate the 100 years since the scuttling was now being looked at, and it was:

Resolved that this be noted.

E. Stromness Town Hall

Councillor Stockan asked if a letter had been received from the Town Hall User Group regarding the possibility of upgrading the toilets to inside facilities, and following discussion it was:

Resolved to send a letter of support to the Group for upgrading the toilet facilities.

13. Date of Next Meeting

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

Resolved that the next meeting would be held on Monday, 12 March 2018 at 19:00 in the Town House, Stromness.

14. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 21:30.