

Minute of the Meeting of Papa Westray Community Council held in St Ann’s Community Room, Papa Westray, on Tuesday, 20 March 2018 at 19:30

Present:

I Cursiter, S Thompson, A Hourston, B Hourston, I Hourston, F McNab and N Rendall.

In Attendance:

- L Sharp, Clerk and Papay Island Link Officer (ILO).
- J Foley, Community Development Officer (CDO).

Order of Business

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1. Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note that apologies had been received from Councillors S Clackson, G Sinclair and K Woodbridge.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 23 January 2018 was approved, being proposed by F McNab and seconded by N Rendall.

3. Matters Arising

A. Verge Cutting

Resolved that a substantive response to PWCC's request for delegation was still awaited from Orkney Islands Council.

B. Kirkyard Shed

Resolved that a substantive response was still awaited from Orkney Islands Council to PWCC's request regarding a new kirkyard shed and earth boxes.

Members noted that the existing shed was now falling down, and it was:

Resolved that the old shed should be taken down completely and disposed of locally.

C. Community Groups Shed and Transfer of Land

The ILO reported that the Building Warrant was granted on 5 February 2018 and that the shed had now been ordered, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

D. Community Land – Lease to PDT and registration for field numbers

The ILO reported that she had applied to the Scottish Government's Agriculture and Rural Economy Directorate to register the land for agricultural use and obtain field numbers. A response was awaited.

She had also drafted a rental agreement for Papay Development Trust (PDT) to use an area of the land for market gardening. Members reviewed the areas requested by the PDT, and it was:

Resolved that the ILO should proceed with a rental agreement with PDT.

E. War Memorials Improvement Project

A Hourston reported that the work was nearing completion, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

F. Community Resilience Planning

Members reviewed a draft Papay Community Resilience Plan that had been prepared by the ILO, and it was:

Resolved to accept the plan with three additions, these being the location of the paraffin, the SSE emergency contact number, and the VAO Emergency Planning volunteer drivers.

G. Water Scheme Electricity Contract

Resolved to note that this was yet to be actioned by Democratic Services.

H. Aggregate Shipping for Private Residences

Resolved to note that feedback was still awaited from the North Isles Councillors.

I. Concerns Regarding Golden Mariana

Resolved to take this matter under the report from the Transport Representative.

J. Papay Registrar and Burial Grounds Clerk

Members expressed their disappointment that this matter was not being given a sufficiently high priority. Members felt that the provision of a local registrar was essential to the community. The lack of transport to Westray on the winter timetable means that the interim solution of using the Westray Registrar was not viable, and it was:

Resolved that a letter be submitted again to Democratic Services expressing the strong feelings of members on the need for a local registrar to be addressed urgently, and their proposal that it be subsumed into the ILO role.

K. Water Scheme – Proposals for PWCC Use of Water Scheme Funds

Following on from the previous meeting, members heard that the maintenance plan had been updated to change filters at the wells every 2 months, and that 80 new filters had been purchased.

The Chair had discussed potential improvements to the tank with Mr Tulloch, and the ILO had also approached the Environmental Health Team. Feedback was now awaited from both sets of experts.

Members discussed the quotes that had been obtained for a new supply of UV bulbs and the one expression of interest in providing a local service to change bulbs, and it was:

Resolved that the ILO should order 50 new bulbs from the lowest quote supplier, and that a service of changing bulbs should be advertised in Papay Matters, in which customers pay the service provider directly.

The ILO advised that she had held off circulating a draft to members of the requested new contract for all water scheme users until the way forward on UV bulbs had been agreed, and that she would now progress this matter.

L. Community Transport Grant Scheme

The CDO advised members that she had now received information about the scheme, to which the PDT would be applying for 50% of the costs of the Papay-Westray Ad-hoc Boat Scheme. She explained that she was investigating potential funding options for the other 50% and may have to approach PWCC for financial assistance if a shortfall is predicted, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

M. Empowering Communities – Papay Priorities

Resolved to note that a substantive response was still awaited from OIC.

N. Recycling Small Electrical Items

Resolved to note that the matter was still with OIC.

O. Cloudnet Broadband

Resolved note that this had been advertised in Papay Matters.

P. Kirkyard Maintenance

Resolved to note that one bid had been received and accepted, and that a one-year contract was now in place with R Jamieson.

Q. Steps for Plane

Councillor Woodbridge had supplied photographs of the steps used at North Ronaldsay airfield for mobility-impaired passengers, which had been adapted from a set of steps previously used with helicopters. Members decided that more information was needed, and it was:

Resolved that the ILO check with Scottish Ambulance service whether the steps held at Papay airfield are still required for the new helicopter, or whether they can be adapted for other use.

R. Homecare

Members heard that the ILO had met with Crossroads to discuss options for potentially increasing the number of homecare workers. This had identified the biggest obstacle as being the new regulations introduced by the Scottish Government. These require homecare workers to register annually (at a cost of £25 per annum) and to gain an SVQ2 within 3 years (at a cost of £1,000). Papay homecare workers are on zero-hour contracts as they only respond to need, and so these costs could not reasonably be met by individuals. Members were deeply concerned by this development that would impact on the future ability of people in need of care to stay in their homes as long as possible, and it was:

Resolved that a letter be written to the local MSP expressing concerns about the impact of recent changes to homecare legislation.

S. Drainage Offlets

A request for clearing of the drainage offlets had been submitted to Orkney Islands Council, and matters were now in hand, and so it was:

Resolved to note the information.

4. Police Scotland Matters

Resolved to note the update from the Isles Officer, copies of which had previously been circulated.

5. Correspondence

A. Bag the Bruck 2018

The ILO advised that a CCGS application had been submitted on behalf of the PCA, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

B. Email from OIC Chief Executive - Community Council Funding

Members had been pleased to hear that the proposed cuts to Community Council funding had not been taken by OIC, and it was:

Resolved to note PWCC's gratitude to OIC for retaining budget levels.

C. NHS "Give a Little, Help a Lot" Fundraising Group

Members discussed a letter from a group that was fundraising to provide items that would support families and children attending the new Balfour Hospital, and it was:

Resolved to donate £500 to the "Give a Little, Help a Lot" fundraising group.

D. Orkney Business Festival 2018

The ILO advised that she had forwarded the information to Papay Community Cooperative and Papay Development Trust, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

E. Thank You Letter from St Ann's Kirk

A letter had been received from St. Ann's Kirk thanking PWCC for the water rate concession to be applied for financial year 2018/2019, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

F. Internet Access

Members had received a questionnaire from the Orkney Jobcentre requesting information on the community's access to broadband, as part of a review on the level of digital support to jobseekers. The ILO had drafted an input that had been agreed with members via email, and then submitted, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

G. Isles Operations

Members considered the correspondence from Democratic Services regarding a number of services that were not being undertaken whilst health and safety reviews were ongoing, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

6. Consultation Documents

A. Licensing Overprovision

Resolved to note the information.

B. Verge Maintenance Plan

Members expressed their disappointment in the draft Verge Maintenance Plan that had been circulated for comment by OIC, as it still took no account of the request submitted under the Empowering Communities initiative, for local delegation of the responsibility and budget. Members felt that, even if a decision was outstanding, that the plan should at least acknowledge that such considerations were underway and a deadline for a decision being made, and it was:

Resolved that the ILO should submit these views to Democratic Services by the consultation deadline.

C. Non-linked Isles Locality Planning

The ILO advised that she had collated changes from the PDT, Papay Coop, Papay Community Association, and individual businesses on Papay and had submitted these by the deadline, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Account

Following consideration of financial statements for the Community Council's General Account for financial year 2017/2018, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £9,334.94 as at 9 March 2018.

B. Papay Water Scheme Account

Following consideration of financial statements for the Water Scheme Account for financial year 2017/2018, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £46,532.58 as at 9 March 2018, and that a sum of £900 should be transferred from the water account into the general account.

C. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the Papa Westray Community Council Grant Scheme statement, it was:

Resolved to note that all grants expected to claim in financial year 2017/2018 had now been paid.

D. Community Development Fund

Resolved to note that the CDF had been spent fully.

E. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of a statement for the Seed Corn Fund, it was:

Resolved to note that £1,012.54 was available for allocation, as at 9 Mar 2018.

F. Scrap Car Budget

The ILO reported that 12 vehicles had now been sent for scrapping and at least a further two were due to go shortly, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

8. Financial Requests

A. Year 2 Contribution to PDT Leader Project

Members considered a progress report from the PDT regarding the market garden. It noted that a number of challenges had been met that had significantly reduced the expected levels of produce. Lessons had been identified and actions taken that should lead to a much more successful 2018. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Year 2 contribution of £3,333 should be paid in April from the General Account.

B. Year 2 Contribution to THAW

The ILO reported that she had attended stakeholder meetings on behalf of PWCC, and that THAW had delivered support to five Papay households in fuel poverty. THAW were considering visiting islands to hold tariff-switching drop-in sessions, and members agreed that this would be of interest to Papay, and it was:

Resolved that the year 2 grant of £120 should be paid in April from the General Account.

9. Reports from Representatives

A. Transport

The Transport Representative advised that an update on the replacement of the Golden Mariana had been given at the recent transport meeting. Attempts to find a suitable second-hand boat had come to nothing and so a new build would be needed. OIC had asked whether a similar passenger-only vessel would be Papay's preference, or a small ro-ro. The Transport Representative had advised that such a decision could not be made without detailed information being made available such as boat capacities, frequency of service, and what type of vessel and service was also to be provided by the replacement Kirkwall – Papay route. Members concurred that definitive, detailed choices needed to be put to Papay before an answer could be given, and it was:

Resolved to note the information and await more detailed proposals from OIC.

B. Planning

Resolved to note that there was nothing to report.

C. Community Development Officer

The CDO thanked PWCC on behalf of Papay Development Trust for their financial support to the financial year 2017/2018 boat scheme. She explained that her HIE-funded role would change at the end of March, to become a Funding Development Manager, with more responsibility for managing the PDT's staff.

The PDT was progressing its efforts on housing, with an application now submitted to the Scottish Land Fund and a bid to the Rural Housing Fund in preparation. She explained that the PDT would like to set up a cross-committee Housing Steering Group and invited PWCC to nominate a representative. Members agreed that the Chair of PWCC should accept the invitation and participate on behalf of the Community Council, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

D. Papay Water Scheme Administrator

Resolved to note that the quarterly water samples had been taken on 19 March.

10. Publications

Resolved to note that the following publications had been received:

- Loganair Statistics – January and February 2018.
- Orkney Ferries Statistics – January 2018.
- Holyrood Highlights.
- Councillor Clackson Newsletters.

- Orkney Partnership January Newsletter.

11. Any Other Competent Business

A. North Isles Landscape Partnership

Members were pleased to hear that the North Isles Landscape Partnership bid had been successful, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

B. Parking Charges at Kirkwall Airport

Members discussed the daily parking charge that HIAL had decided to introduce without consultation. All were agreed that the charges would have a disproportionate impact on Papay residents, as follows:

- The Loganair flight, as clearly identified in the STAG2 Study, is Papay's lifeline service. Unlike most of the north isles, Papay does not receive a boat service that enables residents to take a day return into Kirkwall and residents do not have the choice of taking transport that delivers passengers right into the centre of the town. Papay folk must travel via Kirkwall airport.
- The afternoon flight back to Papay on the summer timetable is not supported by a bus service from the town during school terms. The Loganair flight leaves at 16:30, but there is no bus after 14:45, meaning that passengers must either cut their visit short to get back to the airport early, or pay for a taxi.
- A Papay businessperson will be put out of business by the charges. This individual goes to the Mainland a couple of times a week to deliver a service, and keeps a car at the airport to support this. The charges proposed will mean that their small business will no longer be financially viable.
- A number of Papay folk keep a car at the airport long-term to enable them to access the Orkney Mainland beyond Kirkwall, to visit family or friends for the day, or to conduct business, as our boat service does not enable us to take a car over for the day. Public transport is not sufficiently frequent or well-connected to enable this to be done any other way.

Following discussions, it was:

Resolved that a letter be submitted via Democratic Services, requesting that HIAL introduce a long-term concessionary rate for Papay residents – and for any of the other isles facing the same circumstances.

C. Community Playpark

I Hourston and the ILO reported that the community playpark project had met a difficulty regarding maintenance and insurance. OIC were currently responsible for maintenance and insurance of the existing playpark. Discussions with the OIC Sport and Leisure Service Manager indicated that he did not support the same arrangement going forward and was proposing that the Papay community take responsibility for both. The Papay project team had proposed a partnership arrangement, whereby the community take responsibility for maintenance (and rectifying any repairs needed following annual inspections), and OIC covering

insurance. The Sport and Leisure Service Manager had also rejected this proposal, and yet it was known that such an arrangement is in place for the new Westray playpark. Members were agreed that Papay should be entitled to the same partnership terms as Westray, and it was:

Resolved that the Chair should raise the matter with the North Isles Councillors.

D. Fuel Pump

I Hourston reported that a new fuel-quality pipe was needed for the fuel pump as the existing pipe has disintegrated, and it was:

Resolved that D Hourston undertake the fuel-pipe repair.

12. Dates of Next Meetings

Resolved to note that the next meetings of Papa Westray Community Council would be held on Tuesdays 5 June and 4 September 2018 respectively.

13. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting concluded at 21:40.