

Minute of the Meeting of Eday Community Council held in Eday Community Centre and via Teams on Wednesday, 6 December 2023 at 19:30

Present:

Mr T McCabe, Mr M Cockram, Mr A Garson, Mrs L Garson, Mr H Thomson and Miss E Wallington.

In Attendance:

- Councillor M Thomson.
- Mrs J McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer/Interim Clerk (via Teams).

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Councillors S Clackson and H Woodbridge.

2. Election of Office Bearers

Resolved that this would be carried out at the next meeting.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting of Eday Community Council held on 20 September 2023 was approved, being proposed by Mr A Garson and seconded by Mr M Cockram, subject to the following addition:

Item 11E – 4. That a general fund donation of £150 would be made to ECA towards food.

4. Matters Arising

A. First Responders

Councillor M Thomson provided a short update, reporting that they were no further ahead on this matter and suggested that the community council writes another letter, highlighting the discrepancy and advising that it needed to be a level playing field, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would draft a letter to circulate to members prior to sending to relevant parties.

B. Aggregate Scheme

Mr H Thomson, Mr A Garson and Mrs L Garson declared an interest in this item but remained in the meeting.

The Interim Clerk advised that there had been three applications for assistance with the cost of aggregate, and it was:

Resolved to award £150 to the three applicants, being Mr H Thomson of Cott, Ms M Byers of Woodbine Cottage, and Mrs L Garson of South House.

C. Pier Toilets/Waiting Room

Resolved to note that there was no update on this item but that photographs would be forwarded to Marine Services by the Interim Clerk.

D. Roads Operative/Roads Issues

Members had previously been forwarded a response from the Head of Neighbourhood Services, advising that she had reviewed the work and the resources apportioned to Eday, and that nothing would be changing, unfortunately. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

E. Cattle Pens

Resolved to note that there was no further information available at this time, and that the item should remain on the agenda.

F. Medical Cover

Copies of a letter from the Head of Primary Care, NHS Orkney, had previously been circulated to members, who noted the response with disappointment. It was agreed that it would be useful if the island could receive information on who would be providing cover to the island on any given week. It was also noted that a recent recruitment event had happened on the island, to encourage people to come forward to be home carers, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would respond to the letter from NHS Orkney, advising that Eday Community Council were still disappointed with the lack of communication and that they would like to receive more information about what cover was being provided, and by whom.

2. That anyone on the island who was interested in becoming a home carer should be advised to contact OHAC.

G. Lawnmower

Mr H Thomson advised that he had been to look at the grass cutting equipment and that the lawnmower would need a service early in the new year, and it was:

Resolved to note the information and that the CC-owned mower should be sent in for a service in the spring, prior to cutting season.

5. Correspondence

A. Winter Service Plan

Members had been emailed a copy of the winter service plan for 2023/2024 and noted that there were some roads that they would like upgraded, one being the road from the main road to The Green, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would ask if Roads Support would change the grading of the road to The Green to a PS2.

B. Housing

Following consideration of correspondence from Mr A Garson, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding council housing in Eday, it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence and that there was nothing the community council could do to assist with this matter.

C. Ad-Hoc Flights

Copies of correspondence from the Transportation Manager had previously been circulated to members, advising that the reason Eday does not receive ad-hoc flights is because their life-line service was the ferry, and it was:

Resolved that members were not content with this response and that the Interim Clerk should point out that the plane was also a life-line service for Eday and suggest that they receive more flights.

D. Draft ONI Summer 2024 Timetable

A copy of the draft ferry timetable for the outer north isles for next summer had been sent around members prior to the meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note the draft timetable and that there were no comments to make.

E. My Place Awards 2024

Correspondence from the Scottish Civic Trust had previously been circulated to members, regarding awards celebrating projects and people that work to improve places and communities in Scotland, and it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence.

F. War Memorial

Members considered correspondence from Moira Byers, which was read out by the Interim Clerk, regarding refurbishment of the Eday War Memorial, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That members were in agreement to go ahead with the refurbishment and that they were willing to fund it, in principle.
2. That the Interim Clerk would ask Moira Byers to obtain a quote for the works required, so that the full amount was known before agreeing to fund completely.

G. Kirkwall and St Ola CC – Benches

Correspondence from the Clerk to Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council had previously been forwarded to members, asking for information on the community council's involvement in the purchase and maintenance of benches, and it was:

Resolved to note that the deadline for responses had passed.

H. Head of Primary Care – Interviews

Members had previously been sent information on a stakeholder event and interview panel for the upcoming interviews for the Head of Primary Care post, and it was:

Resolved to note that the interviews were due to take place on 11 December.

I. ZEVI Funding

Members had previously been forwarded information from the Transportation Manager on the successful funding bid to the Zero Emission Vessel Infrastructure fund, and the demonstration project which would see two vessels trialled in Orkney, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided and that a 50-passenger vessel was expected to be put into service around the outer north isles late into 2025.

J. Boundaries Scotland

Resolved to note correspondence from Boundaries Scotland in relation to the second review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries, and that this had no proposed changes for Orkney.

K. Grass Cutting Tenders and Briefing Note

A briefing note from the Burial Grounds Officer had been emailed round members, advising of the need to reduce the cost of grass cutting around the county's kirkyards, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information provided.
2. That the tenders for the cutting of the old and new kirkyard, along with the war memorial and council houses, should be advertised with a closing date prior to the next meeting, on a two-year basis.

L. Bins

Resolved to note that no update had been received regarding new bins but that the Bag the Bruck waste had been collected since the last meeting.

6. Financial Statements

A. General Fund

Following consideration of the general fund statement for Eday Community Council as at 13 November 2023, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £9,313.34.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Members considered Eday Community Council's CCGS statement as at 13 November 2023, and it was:

Resolved to note that the main and island capping limits were fully allocated, and that £687.92 remained available for allocation within the additional capping limit.

7. Financial Requests – ECE and ECA – Turbine Generator Repair

A request for assistance from Eday Community Enterprises and Eday Community Association had previously been circulated to members, for help with the cost of repairing the spare turbine generator, and it was:

Resolved to note that £400 had been awarded towards the repair, subject to CDF approval.

8. Reports from Representatives

A. Transport

Councillor M Thomson advised that the Orkney Ferries Manager had offered to put the Nordic Sea to use during the refit period, to provide a link between Eday and Sanday. Members agreed that this would be much appreciated and would be an extra link.

Councillor M Thomson also reported that Orkney Ferries would be willing to look at the timetables and make changes. Members agreed that this would be a good thing, and that they would be willing to have some days with a lesser service if it meant other days where they could have a full day in town or be able to catch onward travel to mainland Scotland.

The Air and Ferry Services Consultative Forum meeting was also discussed, although a date was not yet known, and Mr H Thomson agreed to attend on behalf of Eday Community Council, and it was:

Resolved to note the update and information provided, and that a letter would be sent to Orkney Ferries supporting the use of the Nordic Sea and the review of timetables.

B. Planning

Resolved to note that the Furrowend application had been deferred, and that Eday Community Council would be keen that Planning Representatives were provided with training.

C. Health and Care

Resolved to note that all Health and Care matters had been covered previously in the meeting.

9. Consultations

A. National Islands Plan Review Workshops

Members had previously been sent information on workshops in Stromness and Westray on 6 and 7 November, to discuss the National Islands Plan Review, and it was:

Resolved to note that the events had now taken place.

B. Scottish National Islands Plan – PhD Research

Information on a PhD research project around Our Islands, Our Future/the National Islands Plan, had previously been circulated to members, and it was:

Resolved to note the survey and that members could complete this if they wished to do so.

C. Local Transport Strategy Consultation

Members noted correspondence that had been sent to them prior to the meeting, advising that the LTS was being reviewed and that the draft strategy was open for consultation, and it was:

Resolved to ask for public feedback within Eday, prior to the deadline for comments of 12 January 2024.

10. Publications

Members noted the following publications, which had all been previously emailed to them:

- VAO Newsletter – September, October and November 2023.
- VAO Training and Funding Update – September, October and November 2023.
- Letter from School Place – September and October 2023.
- Police Scotland Newsletter – Issue 4.
- SRA Newsletter – October and November 2023.
- Letter from School Place – November 2023.
- ORSAS Newsletter – November 2023.
- Orkney Ferries Statistics – October 2023.

11. AOCB – Haulage

Members noted some issues with haulage since the new provider had taken over, and it was:

Resolved to request another meeting with the haulier for a follow-up and to discuss concerns.

12. Date of Next Meeting

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

Resolved that the next meeting of Eday Community Council would take place on Wednesday, 6 March 2024 at 19:30.

13. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:10.