Minute of the Meeting of Evie and Rendall Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Monday, 22 November 2021 at 19:30

Present:

Eoin R Harcus, Mrs Elizabeth Flett, Miss Fiona Georgeson, Colin Gunn and Ms Lorraine Wilson.

In Attendance:

- Councillor Harvey Johnston.
- Councillor Rachael King.
- Councillor Owen Tierney.
- Councillor Duncan Tullock.
- Ms Hayley Green, Interim Executive Director (Environmental, Property and IT Services).
- Richard Flett, Development and Properties Manager, Orkney Housing Association Ltd.
- Mr Maureen Spence, Democratic Services Manager.
- Mrs Lynne Leitch, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from James Stevenson.

2. Interim Executive Director, Environmental, Property and IT Services

The Chair introduced the Interim Executive Director of Environmental, Property and IT Services to the meeting. She had asked to join with the Community Council members informally and to listen and answer any questions which may arise during the meeting.

3. Discussion with Development and Properties Manager, Orkney Housing Association Ltd

The Chair introduced the Development and Properties Manager of Orkney Housing Association Ltd (OHAL) to the meeting. He informed the meeting that OHAL owned a field next to Evie School and they were about to begin the development of the site and we were keen to consult with the Community Council on the housing needs in the area. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Development and Properties Manager would return to the Community Council at a later date for further feedback once the plans had been drawn.

The Development and Properties Manager left the meeting at 19:47.

4. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 6 September 2021 was approved, being proposed by Colin Gunn, and seconded by Mrs Elizabeth Flett.

5. Matters Arising – Updates from Police Scotland

After hearing that Colin Gunn was in the process of contacting one of the Police Sergeant's in Kirkwall over their change in communicating with the Community Councils, it was:

Resolved to note the update.

6. Correspondence

A. NHS Healthcare Improvement Scotland

Members considered correspondence received from NHS Healthcare Improvement Scotland, copies of which had previously been circulated. Concerns were raised at proposals to improve the way social care is delivered in Scotland through the National Care Service for Scotland. Councillors advised that Orkney Islands Council had submitted a comprehensive response to the Scottish Government on the recent consultation, and it was: Resolved to note the contents of the update.

B. Orkney Islands Council Patching Works 2021-2022

Members considered the programme of patching works, details of which had previously been issued. Members mentioned to the Interim Executive Director present that if the ditches had not been neglected then some of the remedial work would not be needed now. Also mentioned was that anyone could report any road concerns through the OIC website or by contacting Customer Services, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the discussion.

C. Hoolan Energy – Update on Costa Head and Hesta Head Wind Farm Projects

Following consideration of correspondence from Hoolan Energy, advising that they were planning to submit a Section 42 application to Orkney Islands Council to consider extending the duration of the consent by five years in order to allow them time to connect to the grid, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the update.

D. Winter Service Plan and Policy

Following consideration of the Winter Service Plan 2021/22, the Winter Service Policy 2021-26 and associated gritting maps, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the plans.

E. The Orcadian – Coverage

Following consideration of correspondence from the Chief Reporter at The Orcadian informing members that the paper was keen to broaden their coverage on news and current affairs throughout parishes and also attend some Community Council meetings, it was:

Resolved to note that the idea seemed to be a good one in principle.

F. Orkney Rape and Sexual Assault Service

Following consideration of correspondence from the Orkney Rape and Sexual Assault Service informing members of their campaign on activism against genderbased violence, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

G. Thank You messages

After hearing from the Clerk that thank you messages had been received in respect of financial assistance provided by the Community Council, it was:

Resolved to note that messages of thanks had been received Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council, J Childs, M McAllister, C Ridland and the Evie School Parent Council.

7. Consultations

A. Introduction of Memorial Permit

Following consideration and discussion of the consultation launched by Orkney Islands Council to introduce a memorial permit, and after members raised concern that the cost of the permit would be an unnecessary, extra cost to families of the bereaved, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the deadline for submission of comments was 26 November 2021.

2. To note that members were not in favour of a memorial permit being introduced.

B. Local Transport Strategy

Following consideration of Orkney Islands Council's Local Transport Strategy questionnaire, members noted that rural areas were not very well served on bus routes. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the deadline for submission of comments was 1 December 2021.

2. To note that members would like to see the bus routes reviewed for the rural areas.

C. Aviation Strategy

Following consideration of the Scottish Government's online consultation on the development of the draft Aviation Strategy, it was:

Resolved:

A. To note that the deadline for submission of comments was 22 January 2022.

B. To note that no comments were made.

8. Evie and Rendall Community Park

A. Contractor's Final Invoice

Members heard that the final invoice from the main contractor had been received. Funds had been transferred from Hammars Hill Energy Fund and NPower Fund totalling £35,000 which was approved by members at the meeting being proposed by Colin Gunn and seconded by Miss Fiona Georgeson. The final instalment of Community Development Funding (CDF) would be remunerated retrospectively once the invoice to the contractor had been paid, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Wheelie Bin

The Clerk had applied for a wheelie bin for the park and the "Duty of Care" paperwork was awaited. Charity rates for the annual cost of the bin would apply, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Fence

The Chair advised that he had received a price for the cost of erecting a fence (chain mail fencing, dog and child), including a kissing gate for the cost of £2,850 plus VAT which was approved by members, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the above update.

9. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 10 November 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £6,058.39.

B. NPower Fund

After consideration of the NPower Fund statement as at 10 November 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolbed to note the balance of £31,353.33.

C. Burgar Hill Renewables Fund

After consideration of the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund statement as at 10 November 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the Annual Community Benefit of £6,500 had been received.

2. To note that the balance was £13,231.77.

D. Hammars Hill Energy Fund

After consideration of the Hammars Hill Energy Fund statement as at 10 November 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £10,777.87.

E. Community Council Grant Scheme

After consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 10 November 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was

Resolved to note that the sum of £2,731.42 remained available for allocation.

F. Community Development Fund

After consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 10 November 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £6,580.30 remained available for allocation.

G. Seed Corn Fund

After consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement as at 10 November 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £3,395 remained available for allocation.

10. Financial Applications

A. D McGee, Under 14's Rugby in Invergordon

Following consideration of correspondence received from D McGee, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of both he and his son participating in the under 14's County Rugby being held in Invergordon, it was:

Resolved that a donation of \pounds 75 be given to each of the participants towards the cost of the event, totalling \pounds 150 which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

B. D McGee, Inter Island Men's Hockey in Aberdeen

Following consideration of correspondence received from D McGee, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of competing in the Inter Island Men's Hockey competition being held in Aberdeen, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the cost of the event, which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

C. D McGee, Under 14's Rugby in Invergordon

Following consideration of correspondence received from D McGee, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of his son competing in the under 14's County Rugby being held in Invergordon, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the cost of the event, which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

D. Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, North District Championships (part 1), Inverness

Following consideration of correspondence received from the Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, copies of which had previously been distributed, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of two competitors from Evie and Rendall representing Orkney in part one of the North District Swimming Championships being held in Inverness, it was:

Resolved that a donation of \pounds 75 be given towards the cost of the event to each competitor, giving the sum of \pounds 150 which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

E. Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, North District Championships (part 2), Inverness

Following consideration of correspondence received from the Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, copies of which had previously been distributed, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of three competitors from Evie and Rendall representing Orkney in part two of the North District Swimming Championships being held in Inverness, it was:

Resolved that a donation of \pounds 75 be given towards the cost of the event to each competitor, giving the sum of \pounds 225 which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

F. Ms L Wilson, Ladies Senior Hockey in Inverness

Ms L Wilson declared an interest is this item and did not take part in the discussion thereof.

Following consideration of correspondence received from Ms L Wilson, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of her daughter competing in the Ladies Senior Hockey competition being held in Inverness, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the cost of the event, which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

G. F Tams-Gray, Travel Funding for Research

Following consideration of correspondence received Mr Tams-Gray, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of travelling research purposes for his university course, it was:

Resolved that the applicant would be asked for more specific details on his proposed trips.

H. Miss L Wood, Under 17's Netball in Glasgow

Following consideration of correspondence received from Miss L Wood, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the costs of participating in the under 17's netball trials being held in Glasgow, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the cost of the event, which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

I. Miss L Wood, Under 17's District Netball in Aberdeen

Following consideration of correspondence received from Miss L Wood, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the costs of competing in the under 17's district netball competitions being held in Aberdeen, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the cost of the event, which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

J. Mrs S Tomalin, Netball in Aberdeen and Shetland

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mrs S Tomalin, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of her daughter competing in three under 15's Netball District League competitions being held in Aberdeen and Shetland it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the cost of each event, giving the sum of £225 which should be met from Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

K. Road Repairs, Hallbreck Cottage, Rendall

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mrs S Fraser, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for grant funding for improvements to their driveway at Hallbreck Cottage, Rendall through the Road Repairs Scheme, it was:

Resolved that a grant of up to a maximum £250 be awarded, subject to the roads scheme criteria.

11. Publications

The Police Scotland Area Newsletter had been made available to members via email. Attendance by a Police Officer at Community Council meetings was again discussed, and it was noted that the members can request their presence through Democratic Services.

12. Any Other Competent Business – LGC Award

Members congratulated Mrs Maureen Spence, Democratic Services Manager on the award that the Council had recently won as a result of the work with the local communities during the pandemic through the resilience groups. After hearing that the award was also for the communities of Orkney, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the discussion.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates and the format of meetings, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Evie and Rendall Community Council would be held on Monday, 7 February 2022, commencing at 19:30, either face to face or by Teams depending on the restrictions in place at the time.

14. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:52.