

Minute of the Meeting of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council held in the Garden Room, King Street Halls, Kirkwall on Monday, 20 August 2018 at 19:00

Present:

Tom Rendall, Cathleen A Hourie, David L Flett, Christopher Gee, Christine E Marcus, Robert F Leslie, Rikki A Lidderdale, Alastair M MacLeod and John R Mowat.

In Attendance:

- Councillor Sandy G Cowie.
- Councillor David Dawson.
- Councillor W Leslie Manson.
- Councillor John A R Scott.
- Sergeant Andy MacDonald, Police Scotland.
- Constable James Sutherland, Police Scotland.
- One member of the local press.
- Jenny McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer.
- Hazel Flett, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of James Currie, Steven Metcalf and Alan Ryrie and Councillors Andrew Drever, Barbara Foulkes, Steven B Heddle, John T Richards and Gwenda M Shearer.

2. Police Matters

The Sergeant gave a short update on various policing matters, and it was:

Resolved to note the presentation.

The Sergeant and the Police Constable left the meeting at this point.

3. Kirkwall BID

The Director of Kirkwall Business Improvement District (BID) had sent her apologies for being unable to attend the meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note that Kirkwall BID had recently appointed a Co-ordinator.

4. Adoption of Minutes

The Minute of the Meeting held on 18 June 2018 was approved, being proposed by Alastair MacLeod and seconded by John Mowat.

5. Matters Arising

A. Green Plaques

Following an update from the Clerk regarding the green plaques, it was resolved:

1. To note that, as the wording had been agreed at the previous meeting, the Clerk had submitted an application for funding from the Community Council's Community Development Fund allocation, following receipt of a quote from Sign of the Times.
2. To note that, as the application for funding had been approved, the Clerk would confirm the order with Sign of the Times.

B. Repairs to Cattie Maggie's Bridleway

Following consideration of correspondence from Councillor Barbara Foulkes regarding maintenance at Cattie Maggie's bridleway, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that Orkney Islands Council was looking to appoint a contractor to carry out drainage works to help dry up the wettest areas and that the Rosa Rugosa would be cut around the middle of July in time for the Riding of the Marches in August 2019.

C. Applications for Financial Assistance

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, Scottish Draughts Association, Orkney Area Young Enterprise Scheme, Island

Select Group, Orkney Gymnastics Club, Girlguiding Orkney and Highland District Hockey, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence thanking the Community Council for financial assistance provided to the various individuals and organisations.

D. Shrub Bed at Scapa Junction

Following consideration of correspondence from the Blide Trust regarding maintenance of the shrub bed at the Scapa junction, copies of which had been circulated, it was resolved:

1. To note that the Blide Trust had cut back the shrub bed in July and would be going back at the end of August to take another foot off the shrubs, advising that a clear view from at least 30 feet from the junction was now possible.
2. That Cathleen Hourie should contact the Blide Trust to arrange further cutting back of the shrubs.

E. Road Safety in Vicinity of Scapa Distillery

Following consideration of correspondence from the Visitor Centre Supervisor and Orkney Islands Council regarding road safety in the vicinity of Scapa Distillery, copies of which had been circulated, it was resolved:

1. To note that the Visitor Centre Supervisor, Scapa Distillery, had been contacted by Orkney Islands Council regarding visitors choosing to walk to the distillery rather than using transport and advised that they took the safety of their visitors very seriously.
2. To note that the Community Council's request to liaise with neighbours had been passed to relevant parties in Chivas Brothers Ltd.
3. To note that Orkney Islands Council was currently looking into the matter and a traffic count was being arranged.
4. To await the results of the traffic count before considering what further action to take.

F. Kirkwall Micro Asphalt Footway Treatment

Following clarification from the Clerk that Councillor Richards, rather than Councillor Scott, had offered to liaise with Orkney Islands Council regarding the necessity of micro asphalt footway treatment of an area at Clay Loan, it was:

Resolved that Councillor Cowie would contact Councillor Richards and seek an update for the next meeting.

6. Correspondence

A. Community Resilience Planning

Following consideration of correspondence from the Chair of the Orkney Local Emergency Co-ordinating Group regarding community resilience planning, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided regarding community resilience and the Community Asset Register run by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

Christine Marcus joined the meeting at this point.

B. KGS Pupil Support

Following consideration of correspondence from a pupil at KGS, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence thanking the Community Council for financial assistance provided.

C. NHS Orkney

Following consideration of correspondence from the NHS Orkney Fundraising Group, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence thanking the Community Council for financial assistance provided.

D. Digital Champion Training

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding digital champion training, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that a one-day free digital training the trainer session would be held at Orkney College on 5 September 2018.

E. Removal of Redundant Street Lighting

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding the removal of redundant street lighting, copies of which had been circulated, it was resolved:

1. To note that Orkney Islands Council, as Roads Authority, had no legal obligation to provide or maintain street lighting on private roads, therefore, as part of the Asset Replacement Programme for 2018/19, Roads Support planned to remove various street lights and associated infrastructure currently situated on private property and lighting private roads or lanes.
2. To note that, prior to carrying out the works, the residents would be given the option to retain the apparatus and, if so, Orkney Islands Council would arrange for the power to be disconnected and the residents would be responsible for providing their own electricity.

3. That the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising that the Community Council had mixed views on the removal of such street lighting, given that the apparatus must have initially been placed at the various locations for a reason, together with potential safety issues for residents and the cost of removing the lighting.

F. Traffic Issues at Watersfield Development

After hearing representations from a member on behalf of a resident of the Watersfield housing development regarding traffic issues within the housing development, it was resolved:

1. To note that, since bollards had been installed across the junction of Burnett Brae with East Road, thereby stopping vehicular traffic using Burnett Brae as a through route direct to and from Wasdale Crescent, vehicles were then turning and using either Douglas Loan or Robertson Loan, which were designed home zones, to access Moar Drive to leave the housing development.
2. To note that home zones were residential streets in which the road space was shared between drivers and other road users, with no defined pavements.
3. To note that Orkney Islands Council had arranged for traffic counts to be undertaken at various locations within the housing development.
4. To await the outcome of the traffic counts and monitor the situation.

7. Matters Arising

A. Scotland's Tree of the Year

Following an update from the Chair on use of the care grant provided by The Woodland Trust, it was resolved:

1. To note that a promotional leaflet had been produced by the Chair, assisted by members, and distributed, with the award and information display currently on display in the Orkney Museum.
2. To note that three competitions had been launched, namely:
 - A short story competition, open to anyone over 16 years of age, 750 words maximum, with a first prize of £50.
 - A photo competition, with no age restriction, for photos of any tree or trees in Orkney, with a first prize of £50.
 - An art competition for primary schools, with three categories (nursery to P1, P2 to P4 and P3 to P7), with a prize of £50 to the overall winning school and certificates to the winning individual pupils in each category.
3. To note that three judges had been selected for the three various competitions and that each primary school participating in the art competition would receive a "baby" Big Tree to plant, with Jenny Taylor to be contacted in order to provide advice on the planting and care of the baby Big Trees.

4. That the Clerk should arrange for letters to be sent to all primary schools advising of the art competition.

5. To note that Radio Orkney and The Orcadian had been approached to cover the launch and ongoing publicity of the competitions.

B. The Big Tree – Annual Maintenance

The Clerk again clarified that it was Councillor Richards and not Councillor Scott who had offered to investigate what maintenance Orkney Islands Council intended to undertake on the Big Tree, and it was:

Resolved to seek an update for the next meeting.

Christopher Gee left the meeting at this point.

8. Financial Statements

A. General – 1 April to 13 August 2018

Following consideration of a financial statement for the period 1 April to 13 August 2018 in respect of the Community Council's General Fund, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 13 August 2018 of £5,083.73.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme 2018/2019

Following consideration of a financial statement in respect of the Community Council Grant Scheme for 2018/2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval as at 13 August 2018 was £235.19.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of a financial statement in respect of the Community Development Fund, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for allocation as at 13 August 2018 was £3,688.42.

9. Applications for Financial Assistance

A. YDL Scottish Finals

Following consideration of correspondence from A Shearer requesting financial assistance towards her daughter's participation in the YDL Scottish Finals held in Grangemouth on 29 July 2018, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be awarded, subject to confirmation of attendance.

B. Highland Badminton Training

Following consideration of correspondence from E Ballantine requesting financial assistance towards his sons' participation in Highland Badminton training sessions and Regional and National competitions, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £10 be awarded in respect of each training session and competition attended, subject to confirmation of attendance.

10. Consultation - Review of Statement of Alcohol Licensing Policy

Following consideration of a consultation document regarding the review of the Statement of Alcohol Licensing Policy, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising that the Community Council had no comment to make on the review of the Statement of Alcohol Licensing Policy.

11. Meetings Attended by Members

A. Pidgin Perfect – Kirkwall THI

A member had contacted a representative of Pidgin Perfect, a consultant employed by Kirkwall THI to arrange small scale art works, and it was:

Resolved to note the report regarding the proposal to install four to ten flags, comprising steel and perspex, at various locations in Kirkwall, as part of the THI project.

B. THAW

THAW's annual general meeting was held on 27 June 2018 in Kirkwall Town Hall, and it was resolved:

1. To note the report by the member who had attended.
2. That Luke Fraser, Orkney Islands Council, be invited to give a short presentation to the Community Council.

C. Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks had arranged a consultation event on the Finstown Substation held in the Firth Community Centre on 11 July 2018, and it was:

Resolved to note the report by the member who had attended.

12. Any Other Competent Business

A. Application for Provisional Premises Licence

The Clerk had received correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding an application for a provisional premises licence in respect of a gin bar at 18 Shore Street, Kirkwall, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising that the Community Council had no objection or representation to make in respect of the application for a provisional premises licence.

B. Traffic Regulation Orders

The Clerk had received correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding various proposed traffic regulation orders, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising that the Community Council welcomed the undernoted proposals, particularly those which would address various parking issues within Kirkwall which had been raised with and by the Community Council:

1. Provision of disabled on-street parking bays at 21 Laverock Road and 37 Meadowbank.
2. Time-limited parking within 23 marked bays (maximum stay of 30 minutes, with no return within 3 hours, Monday to Saturday 08:00 to 18:00) and loading areas (maximum stay of 20 minutes) along Harbour Street and Shore Street.
3. 23 marked parking spaces along Great Western Road, with no time limit, and no waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the remaining areas along Great Western Road, thereby removing double parking and making access to and from various properties easier.
4. No waiting between 08:00 and 18:00 (single yellow lines) on the south side (Brandyquoy side) of Palace Road, with time limited parking within 11 marked bays (maximum stay of 1 hour, with no return within 3 hours, Monday to Saturday 08:00 to 18:00) on the north side (Cathedral side) of Palace Road.

C. Continental Market

Following concerns raised by a member regarding the continental market in the car park at The Reel, Broad Street, it was:

Resolved to note the concerns raised, including that it would not be possible to restrict any potential persons or companies from seeking permission from Orkney Islands Council to use the car park for alternative events.

D. Democracy Matters

Following a report from a member regarding Democracy Matters, an initiative by the Scottish Government to involve communities in local decision-making, it was:

Resolved to consider this further at the next meeting.

13. Date of Next Meeting

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

Resolved that the next meeting should be held on Monday, 8 October 2018.

14. Conclusion of Meeting

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