

Minute of the Meeting of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council held in the Friends Room, St Magnus Centre, Kirkwall, on Monday, 21 January 2019 at 19:00

Present:

Tom Rendall, Cathleen A Hourie, Jimmy Currie, David L Flett, Christine E H Marcus, Robert F Leslie, Rikki A Lidderdale, Steven Metcalf and John R Mowat.

In Attendance:

- Councillor Sandy G Cowie.
- Councillor Dave Dawson.
- Councillor W Leslie Manson.
- Councillor John T Richards.
- Councillor John A R Scott.
- Hazel Flett, Clerk.
- Jenny McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer.
- Police Constable Alastair Inverarity, Police Scotland.
- Jeremy Richardson and Jayne Venables, Orcadians Go Green (for Item 4).
- 1 member of the public.
- 1 member of the local press.

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1. Tribute and Apologies

The Chair paid tribute to the late Alastair MacLeod and passed on the Community Council's sympathies to his family, following which all present observed a minute's silence.

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Christopher Gee and Alan Ryrie and Councillors Norman R Craigie, Andrew Drever, Barbara Foulkes, Steven B Heddle, Steve Sankey and Gwenda M Shearer.

Cathleen Hourie joined the meeting at this point.

2. Police Scotland Matters

Following a presentation from the Police Constable on Police Scotland matters, including the winter campaign, "Mad Friday" and parking matters in Kirkwall, it was:

Resolved to note the presentation.

Robert Leslie and Councillor John A R Scott joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

The Police Constable left the meeting at this point.

3. Kirkwall BID

Resolved to note that there were no Kirkwall BID matters to report.

4. Reuse Facility at Hatston

Following a presentation from representatives of Orcadians Go Green, regarding a proposal to set up a reuse facility at Hatston, it was:

Resolved to note the presentation.

The representatives of Orcadians Go Green left the meeting at this point.

5. Adoption of Minute

The minute of the meeting held on 26 November 2018 was approved, being proposed by Rikki Lidderdale and seconded by John Mowat.

6. Matters Arising

A. Green Plaques

After hearing an update from the Chair regarding the green plaques, it was:

Resolved to note that the plaque commemorating Patrick Craigie had been installed on property at 81 Victoria Street, Kirkwall, with the Christina Costie plaque due to be installed shortly.

B. Road Safety in Vicinity of Scapa Distillery

Following consideration of correspondence from the Visitor Centre Supervisor and the Distillery Operations Manager, Scapa Distillery, regarding road safety in the vicinity of the distillery, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the current position.

C. Traffic Issues at Watersfield Development

Following discussion providing an update on traffic issues at the Watersfield housing development since the previous meeting, it was:

Resolved to note that Mr A Lennie had lodged his petition with Orkney Islands Council, following which a meeting would be held with relevant councillors and officers.

D. Scotland's Tree of the Year – Promotion and Use of Care Grant

Following an update from the Chair regarding promotion and use of the care grant, it was:

Resolved to note that the Chair had submitted a report to the Woodland Trust on use of the care grant to date, together with plans for the remaining balance, thanking Christine Marcus for all her work in co-ordinating the various competitions.

E. Orkney Transmission Reinforcement Project

Following consideration of correspondence from SSEN setting out frequently asked questions from responses received to the consultation process to date regarding the Orkney transmission reinforcement project, together with correspondence from Orkney Heritage Society setting out its concerns regarding the project, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Heritage Society advising that, whilst the Community Council was interested in the Society's campaign, the Community Council did not want to hamper renewable energy development in Orkney and therefore was reluctant to support its campaign.

F. Safer Streets 20mph Bill

Following consideration of correspondence from Mark Ruskell MSP regarding a consultation on his Safer Streets Bill and a call for evidence by the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee of the Scottish Parliament, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that, if members wished, they could submit individual responses by the closing date of 28 January 2019, with the Chair submitting a short response on behalf of the Community Council advising that a blanket policy was not considered the best way forward.

G. Financial Assistance

The Clerk had previously circulated by email correspondence from Glaitness School and two individuals, and it was:

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

H. War Memorial

The Clerk advised that no response had been received from Orkney Islands Council regarding the request to investigate leaching at the war memorial, and it was:

Resolved to await a response.

7. Correspondence

A. Kirkyard Extensions

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council informing members of progress with kirkyard extension, copies of which had been circulated, and after discussion regarding recent works undertaken by Orkney Islands Council to lay flat unsteady headstones, it was resolved:

1. To note the contents of the correspondence regarding the proposed kirkyard extension at St Olaf's Cemetery.
2. That the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council expressing the Community Council's concern regarding the state of the two kirkyards, due to headstones being laid flat, and requesting that works be undertaken immediately to remedy the situation, particularly in the cemetery surrounding St Magnus Cathedral, given the number of visitors to the cathedral and the surrounding cemetery.

B. PSYV Emergency Services Fun Day

Following consideration of correspondence from the PSYV Co-ordinator regarding the Emergency Services Fun Day, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the event, which had been postponed from a date in October 2018 due to adverse weather, had been rescheduled to 3 March 2019.

C. OIC Community Transport Grant

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding the Community Transport Grant Scheme, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the closing date for applications from constituted community groups and trusts for assistance from the Community Transport Grant Scheme of 1 February 2019.

D. Application for Provisional Premises Licence

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding an application from Highland Distillers Limited for a provisional premises licence in respect of the Ground Floor, 58 Albert Street, Kirkwall, it was:

Resolved to make no representation or objection, noting that it was good to see another vacant property on Albert Street being reused.

8. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

Following consideration of the General Finance statement as at 7 January 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 7 January 2019 of £8,146.57.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2018/19 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 7 January 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £337.07.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 7 January 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £3,688.42.

9. Financial Requests

A. Orkney Youth Climbing Squad

Following consideration of correspondence received from Orkney Youth Climbing Squad requesting financial assistance towards the cost of six children participating in the 2019 Youth Climbing Series to be held in Inverness on 26 January 2019, Aberdeen on 16 February 2019 and Kinlochleven on 2 March 2019, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £10 be awarded in respect of each participant in each event, subject to confirmation of attendance.

B. Young Rotary Musician of the Year

Following consideration of correspondence received from R Marcus requesting financial assistance towards her son participating in the District Final of the Young Rotary Musician of the Year to be held in Perth on 2 March 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

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

C. Under 17 Netball

Following consideration of correspondence received from K Brown requesting financial assistance towards her daughter participating in the Under 17 Netball trip to Edinburgh from 11 to 13 January 2019, it was:

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

D. Scotland U17 Netball

Following consideration of correspondence received from C Tulloch requesting financial assistance towards two girls training with the Netball Scotland Under 17 Long Squad and participating in the Netball Europe competition to be held in Huddersfield from 1 to 3 March 2019, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £10 be awarded in respect of each girl for each training event attended, together with the competition in Huddersfield, subject to confirmation of attendance.

John Mowat left the meeting at this point.

10. Hanging Baskets

Following discussion on arrangements for hanging baskets and testing the brackets, it was resolved:

A. To note that the brackets would be tested, as part of a contract placed by Orkney Islands Council, on 11 February 2019.

B. That the Community Council should continue the scheme to provide floral hanging baskets in the town centre during 2019 for private businesses and households only, on the same basis as 2018.

C. That a grant of £2,000 be awarded towards the provision of hanging baskets, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved.

D. That the Clerk should make the necessary arrangements to secure a contract for the provision of hanging baskets during 2019.

E. That powers be delegated to the Chair and Vice Chair to accept a tender for the provision of hanging baskets.

F. That the Chair and Vice Chair should contact the successful tenderer to agree the length of time the hanging baskets should remain on the buildings.

John Mowat rejoined the meeting at this point.

11. Shrub Bed at Scapa Junction

Following discussion of continued maintenance of the shrub bed at the Scapa junction and possible clearing and replanting, it was:

Resolved that Cathleen Hourie should contact Robertsons, the contractor for the new Balfour hospital, to determine whether financial assistance and/or plants were available, with a view to replanting the shrub bed at the Scapa junction, and report back to the next meeting.

12. Flower Tubs at War Memorial

Following discussion of continued provision of flower tubs at the Kirkwall and St Ola War Memorial, it was resolved:

A. That the Community Council should provide flower tubs at the Kirkwall and St Ola War Memorial containing Royal British Legion colours.

B. That a grant of £120 be awarded towards provision of the flower tubs, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved.

13. Consultations

A. Verge Maintenance Plan 2018

Following consideration of a consultation document from Orkney Islands Council regarding the verge maintenance plan, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to make no comment.

B. Energy Supply Company – Our Power

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding a proposal for making payments to community councils as part of partnership arrangements for an energy supply company in Orkney, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising that the Community Council supported the proposal.

14. Meetings Attended by Members

A. Scottish Water and Orkney Islands Council

Scottish Water and Orkney Islands Council had arranged a meeting to provide an update on the drainage modelling for Kirkwall held in the King Street Halls on 27 November 2018, and it was:

Resolved to note the report on attendance by various members of the Community Council.

B. Workshop – Lower Speed Communities

Orkney Islands Council had arranged a workshop on Lower Speed Communities held in the Kirkwall Town Hall on 28 November 2018, and it was:

Resolved to note that a short report on attendance had been provided at item 6F above.

15. Publications

The Clerk had circulated the undernoted publications via e-mail:

- Scottish Rural Parliament – December 2018 Newsletter.
- THAW Orkney – Funding support available for households with a cancer diagnosis.

16. Any Other Competent Business - Scottish Rural Parliament

Following an update from John Mowat on his attendance at a reception at the Scottish Parliament for the Scottish Rural Parliament, it was:

Resolved to note that, as the Scottish Rural Parliament was considering a venue for its next biannual meeting, with Orkney being a potential host, John Mowat should pass on any relevant information to Democratic Services, Orkney Islands Council.

17. Date of Next Meeting

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

Resolved that the next meeting of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council be held on 18 March 2019 in the Garden Room, King Street Halls, Kirkwall, commencing at 19:00.

18. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:00.