

Minute of the Meeting of Papa Westray Community Council held in St Ann’s Community Room, Papa Westray, on Tuesday, 5 June 2018 at 19:30

Present:

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

In Attendance:

- Councillor G Sinclair.
- L Sharp, Clerk and Papay Island Link Officer (ILO).

Order of Business

1. Apologies.....	2
2. Election of Office Bearers	2
3. Adoption of Minutes	2
4. Matters Arising.....	2
5. Police Scotland Matters	6
6. Correspondence	6
7. Consultation Documents.....	7
8. Financial Statements	8
9. Financial Requests	9
10. Reports from Representatives	10
11. Publications	10
12. Any Other Competent Business.....	10
13. Dates of Next Meetings	11
14. Conclusion of Meeting	11

1. Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting, welcoming Councillor Sinclair, and it was:

Resolved to note apologies from I Hourston and J Foley (Community Development Officer).

2. Election of Office Bearers

A. Chairperson

The Clerk oversaw election of the Chair through a secret ballot of members, and it was:

Resolved that I Cursiter was duly elected as Chairperson.

B. Vice Chairperson

I Cursiter then took the Chair and, through a secret ballot, it was:

Resolved that S Thompson was duly elected as Vice Chairperson.

C. Transport Representative

Resolved that N Rendall was duly elected as Transport representative.

D. Planning Representative

Resolved that L Sharp be re-appointed as Planning representative, as part of her Island Link Officer duties.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 20 March 2018 was approved, being proposed by S Thompson and seconded by F McNab.

4. Matters Arising

A. Verge Cutting

Democratic Services had advised by email dated 5 June that PWCC's request for delegated budget and delivery has been reported to the Empowering Communities Forum and further instruction was awaited on whether or not this could be taken forward and if so how. Councillor Sinclair confirmed that PWCC's request was being considered, but that there were significant Health and Safety matters that were taking time to work through thoroughly. Following discussion, it was:

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

B. Kirkyard Earth Boxes and Shed

As agreed at the last meeting, the old shed has been taken down and disposed of locally. Democratic Services had advised by email dated 5 June that the Roads and

Environmental Services team do not have the staff resources to attend to PWCC's request for collapsible earth boxes. The email included information from the Operations Manager on the blacksmith who has previously made the metalwork for earth boxes and a suggestion that PWCC could get a quote for the work, for consideration by OIC. Regarding PWCC's request for involvement in choosing the new kirkyard shed, the email suggested that PWCC identify the size and type of shed required with quotes, and submit these to OIC for consideration, and it was resolved:

1. That the ILO should seek a price for having collapsible earth boxes made locally.
2. That, once the size of boxes was known, the shed should be sized and quotes found for the supply of a suitable shed.
3. That the quotes should be submitted to OIC for consideration for funding.

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

The ILO reported that a lease agreement was now in place with the PDT for their use of an area of the land for market gardening, and that the first annual payment of £30 had been received.

A response was still awaited from the Scottish Government's Agriculture and Rural Economy Directorate to PWCC's application to register the land for agricultural use and obtain field numbers, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

D. War Memorials Improvement Project

Members heard that the grant from the War Memorials Trust had now been received, and that the building work was complete. The ILO had touched up the inscriptions that had faded and was now taking responsibility for maintaining the small garden area. As agreed with members via email, the memorial had been entered into the British Legion's best kept memorial competition, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

E Community Resilience Planning

The ILO advised that this was near completion, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

F. Water Scheme Electricity Contract

Democratic Services had advised the ILO by email dated 4 June that all new contracts with SSE have to be paid by Direct Debit. Unfortunately, OIC does not use this method of payment, so if PWCC wished to change to a fixed price contract then they would have to choose an alternative supplier. OIC's Energy and Utilities Officer had offered to explore whether it would be cheaper to add the properties to OIC's supply contract. Members discussed whether there was merit in opening their own

bank account for the water scheme, from which direct debits could be paid, but concluded that this would probably incur more difficulties, and it was:

Resolved to take no further action and retain the SSE contract as it currently stands.

G. Aggregate Shipping for Private Residences

Councillor Sinclair advised members that there is a T1 category in the Community Council Grant Scheme for the shipping of aggregate for community projects, which stands at £642 for Papay for this financial year. Aggregate used for the Community Groups shed project would qualify for the grant. There is no scheme for aggregate used in private house-building. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the information.

H. Concerns Regarding Golden Mariana

Councillor Sinclair informed members that the replacement vessel is to be a new build and, as such, the decision would be taken under the STAG2 study, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

I. Papay Registrar and Burial Grounds Clerk

Following discussion regarding the role of Papay registrar and burial grounds clerk, it was:

Resolved to note the information.

J. Water Scheme

The ILO had purchased 50 new UV bulbs and the new cost and replacement service had been publicised in Papay Matters. In discussion, it was noted that some spare UV boxes were held at Holland Well. The Chair had discussed potential improvements to the tank with R Tulloch, and feedback was awaited.

Members also heard that A Hourston had yet to install the new water hydrant near Beltane House. The Chair had noted that PWCC's turbine had stopped working and he had requested repair work. Members had also noted a broken air vent cover at Bolispol and the need for a new steel plate cover at the New Pier, and it was:

Resolved that the ILO should place a purchase order for the turbine repair with Burray Boatyard, and a purchase order with the Water Attendant to repair the damaged covers.

K. Empowering Communities – Papay Priorities

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

L. Recycling Small Electrical Items

Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to close this matter and take no further action.

M. Steps for Plane

An enquiry had been submitted to Scottish Ambulance Service as to whether the steps held at Papay airfield were still required for the new helicopter, or whether they could be adapted for other use. A reply had been received to say that the request was under consideration. In discussion, members felt that the helicopter steps were unlikely to be suitable for modification, and it was:

Resolved that the ILO should submit a request to the OIC Airfield Superintendent for the provision of a step suitable for mobility-impaired users.

N. Homecare

The ILO had written to Liam McArthur MSP on 16 April 2018 expressing members concerns about the impact of recent changes to homecare legislation. The letter explained that the island had reached a crisis point last year in the provision of homecare and reported on the setting up of a more community-led local scheme, but explained that the new regulations, requiring homecare workers to register annually and to acquire an SVQ2 at their own expense, would now make it almost impossible to retain or recruit workers. PWCC members had asked the MSP to ask the Scottish Government to revisit this issue to make it “island-proof”.

A reply had been received on 23 April from L McArthur MSP thanking PWCC for their input and explaining that this is an issue that he has been trying to get the Scottish Government to address for some time, especially in light of the Islands Bill. He advised that he would “use the example given by PWCC to illustrate how counter-productive the application of the rules in a one-size-fits-all fashion is going to be for those in island communities that the rules are supposed to benefit”.

Councillor Sinclair informed members that this matter was one of the first things that OIC would be looking at under the Islands Bill, and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

O. Kirkwall Airport Parking Charges

The ILO confirmed that a letter requesting a concession for islanders had been submitted on 27 March, and a reply from the HIAL Managing Director confirming receipt had been received on 17 April. Members were pleased with the outcome of HIAL’s consultation, and it was:

Resolved to take no further action.

P. Community Playpark

Members discussed the disappointing progress with OIC on the way forward with the Papay Playpark. The Papay community were seeking an agreement as outlined in OIC’s Playpark Policy, and applied to the Westray playpark, of the community funding the equipment whilst OIC continue to insure and maintain (as they are currently doing with the Papay playpark). Councillor Sinclair offered to look into the matter, and it was:

Resolved to accept Councillor Sinclair's offer to investigate what was happening within OIC regarding the Papay playpark.

Q. Fuel Pump Repair

Resolved to note that the repair had been carried out by D Hourston.

5. Police Scotland Matters

Resolved to note that there was no update.

6. Correspondence

A. Scottish Transport Awards

A letter dated 23 March had been received from the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure informing members that the OIC airfields service had been shortlisted in the Scottish Transport Awards, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

B. Application for Variation of Premises Licence

Members had received a licensing application for changes to the arrangements at Beltane House, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

C. SSEN North of Scotland Resilient Communities Fund 2018

The ILO reported that, as agreed out of committee, she had submitted a bid on behalf of PWCC for the purchase of a satellite phone and 5-year airtime plan. The Papay Civil Contingency Plan highlighted this as a need, and this had been reconfirmed recently during a prolonged period when the nurse and first responder pager network was not working. OIC's Civil Contingency Officer had provided details of the system required and SSEN had advised that the decision will be made in September, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

D. THAW Year 1 report

Members reviewed the report from THAW dated 15 April on the first 9 months of the Wellbeing Orkney initiative, which showed that a number of Papay households had been assisted. The ILO reported that a team from THAW had held a drop-in session earlier in the day, which had offered advice and assistance with energy tariff-changing and energy reduction measures, and had been attended by 9 households, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

E. Thank You Letter from “Give a Little, Help A Lot”

A letter dated 1 May had been received from “Give a Little, Help A Lot” thanking PWCC for the £500 grant awarded, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

F. Community Council Annual Grant

Members had received a letter dated 17 May advising that the annual grant for financial 2018/2019 was £3,940.16, with a CCGS main capping limit of £3,322, and £662 additional capping limit for costs associated with halls or community centres and inter-island transport, and a further £642 additional allocation for costs of transporting aggregate materials for community projects. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the information.

7. Consultation Documents

A. Amended Core Paths Plan

Resolved to note the consultation.

B. Draft Kirkwall Urban Design Framework

A notice dated 20 March had been received regarding a consultation on the Kirkwall Urban Design Framework, and it was:

Resolved to note the consultation.

C. Orkney Transmission Infrastructure Project

A letter had been received on 19 April advising members of SSEN consultation events on the proposed new transmission infrastructure, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

D. Orkney Harbour Masterplan

Members had discussed the questions posed in the masterplan consultation out of committee due to the short deadline of the end of May, and it was:

Resolved to note that PWCC’s input had been as follows:

“Q1. What works well? Our current pier has a good depth of water and is used all year round for the twice-weekly steamer, the summer scheduled Golden Marianna service, plus the school, doctor and minister’s boat services to Westray. Papay has a growing population and a vibrant community that delivers infrastructure projects, which mean that there is a strong demand for cargo and vehicle space and passenger services. The waiting room is a benefit to travellers and pier workers.

Q2. What are the issues and constraints? The Papay pier is very exposed which means that the steamer is prone to cancellation in bad weather due to weather and

wave motion. This also means it can't be used by creel boats, so that the boat currently operating from Papay has to moor off the east coast. The pier top deck is in poor condition, and the marshalling area at the parking area is too small and has a very limited turning circle.

Q3. What are the opportunities? A sheltered harbour on Papay would create new job opportunities. The new Papay-Westray boat could lie up at Papay and be operated by a Papay-based crew. We believe that this would reduce the number of crossings needed and so be a revenue cost-saver to OIC. It would be perfectly feasible to attract and train a crew in the time it would take to build. A sheltered harbour would also create additional economic opportunities due to its suitability for the berthing of creel boats, which would lead to an increase in the number of boats operating from Papay, and to attracting more yachts to enhance the tourist industry.

Q4. What proposals/improvements could be implemented? A wave screen would make a big difference to current operations, and could be implemented in a period of months. A much bigger impact would be achieved by creating a new sheltered harbour on the west coast of Papay, to be ready for when the new boats come into service. A west coast harbour would reduce the crossing time to Westray and would also be safer should a small square-bowed Ro-Ro be introduced, as it would remove the need to traverse the strong currents round the Point of Vestness.

We thank OIC for the opportunity to input to the consultation and hope that decisions on the future fleet and harbours for Papay will consider our needs and opportunities on their own merit, rather than in tandem with North Ronaldsay, as the challenges posed by Papay's maritime environment are significantly less than those of our north-easterly neighbour."

E. Community Conversation Meetings

Following receipt of correspondence from OIC regarding the "Community Conversation" meetings, PWCC members had decided on 29 May that the questions should be posed to Papay residents via a form to be issued with June's Papay Matters. The ILO confirmed that this had been done, with a deadline for responses of 15 June, so that the Chair would be able to feed views into the Community Council Conference on 20 June, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

8. Financial Statements

A. General Account

Following consideration of financial statements for the Community Council's General Account for financial year 2017/2018 and financial year 2018/2019, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £9,565.86 as at 28 May 2018.

B. Papay Water Scheme Account

Following consideration of financial statements for the Water Scheme Account for financial year 2017/2018 and financial year 2018/2019, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £45,269.23 as at 28 May 2018.

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 this year's 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 28 May 2018.

F. Scrap Car Budget

The ILO reported that a further two vehicles had been scrapped since the last meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

9. Financial Requests

A. Papay School Lagganlia Trip

A request for a financial contribution to the P7 trip to Lagganlia had been received on 2 May, which members had considered via email, due to the need for a decision before 21 May, and it was:

Resolved that PWCC would fund the travel costs, of up to £100 per pupil attending.

B. Year of Young People

Members considered a request the "Year of Young People" Ambassadors in Orkney for a contribution towards a proposed youth concert in August. Having established that Papay Community Association had been approached to get involved, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £50 be made from the General Account.

C. Papay Singing Workshop

Members considered a request from the Papay Singing Group for a financial contribution towards hosting the Stream of Sound Community Choir from the West Midlands, who would perform in August and hold community singing workshops. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to award £170 toward the cost of accommodation, and £273 toward the cost of travel between Kirkwall and Papay, for which a CCGS application should be made.

10. Reports from Representatives

A. Transport

Resolved to note that there was nothing to report.

B. Planning

Resolved to note that there was nothing to report.

C. Community Development Officer's Report

The CDO was unable to attend but had sent a message to inform members that Papay Development Trust has been awarded a grant from the OIC Community Transport Grant scheme, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

D. Papay Water Scheme Administrator

Resolved to note that the next quarterly water samples will be taken on 18 June.

Members then discussed the water pipe leak at the Pier which had not yet been mended although it had been reported to OIC by the Pier Master, and it was:

Resolved that the ILO should ask OIC for an update on when the repair will be made.

11. Publications

Resolved to note that the following publications had been received:

- Loganair Statistics – March 2018.
- Orkney Ferries Statistics – February and March 2018.
- Holyrood Highlights.
- Councillor Clackson Newsletters.
- Orkney Partnership Newsletter.

12. Any Other Competent Business

A. Community Groups Shed

The ILO informed members that the shed has now been fabricated, and payment made by the Isle of Papay Machinery Group, so that its delivery to Papay was expected sometime during June, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

B. Bin for St Boniface Kirkyard

The ILO reported that she had received a verbal request from Mrs R Rendall, for a bin to be put in the St Boniface Kirkyard. Members agreed that this would be a good improvement, and it was:

Resolved that the ILO would arrange procurement of a concrete-based bin and that it be placed near the kirkyard gate.

C. Weed killer Treatment of St Boniface Track and Carpark

Members had noted that the track and car park at St Boniface required weed killer treatment, and it was:

Resolved that the ILO should arrange this with one of the accredited suppliers.

13. Dates of Next Meetings

Resolved to note that the next meetings of Papa Westray Community Council would be held on Tuesdays 4 September and 13 November 2018 respectively.

14. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting concluded at 22:20.