

# Minute of the meeting of Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Saturday, 13 March 2021 at 10:15

## Present:

Mr Angus Firth, Mrs Christina Cox, Mrs Zoe Flaws, Mrs Carole Maguire and Mr Richard Tipper.

## In Attendance:

- Councillor Stephen Clackson.
- Councillor Heather Woodbridge.
- Mr Peter Roebuck, Rousay Sailing Club.
- Mrs Jackie Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer.
- Mrs Jenny McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer/Interim Clerk.

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## **1. Apologies**

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mr Robert Friel and Mr John Garson.

## **2. Adoption of Minute**

The Minute of the meeting held on 23 January 2021 was approved, being proposed by Mrs Christina Cox and seconded by Mr Angus Firth.

## **3. Matters Arising**

### **A. Notice Boards**

Members were advised by the Chair that he had approached two individuals about getting the notice boards erected and it was hoped that this would be completed soon, and it was:

Resolved to note the update provided.

### **B. Kirkyard Matting**

Mrs Carole Maguire advised that she had spoken to the Burial Grounds Officer regarding the matting and that responsibility for upkeep and insurance of any matting would need to be considered. She agreed to pursue the matter further, and it was:

Resolved to note the update provided.

### **C. Memorial/Path at Rousay Kirkyard**

Mrs Zoe Flaws advised that she had visited the kirkyard at Brinian and suggested that a suitable place for a dozen or so plaques would be at the gate posts. She agreed to send photographs to Democratic Services so that this could be given clearance by the relevant department, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That Mrs Zoe Flaws would send photographs to Democratic Services of the proposed area for siting memorial plaques.
2. That the Community Council Liaison Officer would obtain permission from the relevant department of Orkney Islands Council.

### **D. Roads Issues**

The Interim Clerk advised that all the issues reported at the previous meeting had been passed to the Roads Support Manager and that they would be investigated accordingly. Members advised that there were a few stretches of road that looked near to splitting open and that surface dressing was needed. It was also reported again that the ditches in Egilsay needed cleared as the water was running on to the road, especially on the road down to the pier. The top of the pier road in Rousay was another area of concern. The Chair advised that he would speak to the roads operative, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would report the areas of concern.
2. That the Chair would speak to the roads operative.

### **E. Orkney Ferries – Emergency Bookings**

The Interim Clerk advised that this issue had been resolved and there should be no more problems with people not being allowed to travel last-minute for emergency reasons, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **4. Correspondence**

### **A. Scottish Government – Covid-19 Marketing Campaign**

After consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Government, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding their Covid-19 marketing campaign, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **B. Workshop Invite – 5G**

Members had previously been emailed information from Orkney Islands Council's Strategic Advisor, Renewables and Connectivity, regarding a workshop to discuss 5G and rural connectivity, which had since taken place, and it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence.

### **C. The Circular Economy and the Planning System**

Members had previously been emailed an invite from Planning Aid Scotland to a series of events to provide an introduction to the Circular Economy as Scotland moves towards its zero carbon target by 2045, and an overview of the Scottish planning system, current planning reforms and of National Planning Framework, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **D. Scottish Water – Help Tracing Leaks and Bursts**

Members discussed correspondence from Scottish Water that had been previously passed on to them regarding help tracing leaks and bursts after the recent bout of poor weather, and it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence and information provided.

### **E. Orkney Citizens Advice Bureau – EU Settled Status Support**

Members considered correspondence from the Manager of Orkney Citizens Advice Bureau regarding help for completing applications, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

#### **F. Rousay Primary School – Letter of Thanks**

Correspondence from the Rousay Primary School was read by the Interim Clerk, thanking the community council for the recent funding towards Christmas presents for the children, and it was:

Resolved to note the letter of thanks.

#### **G. Islands of Orkney Brochure**

Members considered correspondence from Democratic Services, a copy of which had been previously emailed, regarding plans for the islands brochure for 2021 and that any changes would be made to the online version only, and it was:

Resolved to note the information and that any changes required to be sent to the Interim Clerk by 17 May 2021.

#### **H. Calor Rural Community Fund**

Following consideration of correspondence, copies of which had previously been emailed, regarding the rural community fund being open for applications, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **5. Financial Statements**

#### **A. General Account**

Following consideration of the General Finance statement as at 26 February 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £21,733.04.

#### **B. Community Council Grant Scheme**

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 26 February 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval in the main capping limit was £2,635.16, the balance remaining in the additional capping limit was £669, and the Island capping limit balance remaining was £648.

#### **C. Community Development Fund**

Following consideration of a statement for the Community Development Fund as at 26 February 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £5,427.80.

#### **D. Seed Corn Fund**

Following consideration of a statement for the Seed Corn Fund as at 26 February 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that £9,035 remained available for allocation.

## **6. Financial Requests**

### **A. Rousay Parent Council**

Members had previously been sent an application from Rousay Parent Council for financial assistance with the cost of installing a baby swing at Rousay School play park. The group had also asked for assistance with contacting the correct person at Orkney Islands Council to discuss the matter. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would respond to inform the group that they should speak to the Sport and Leisure Service Manager about the installation of a baby swing.
2. That members were happy to provide funding, in principle, once the full costs were known and the relevant permissions secured.
3. That the Interim Clerk would ask the group to submit a further application for assistance if and when further information on costs was available.

### **B. Insurance Costs 2021/2022**

Following consideration of information from Democratic Services on the insurance quote for Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council for the financial year 2021/2022, a copy of which had been circulated by email before the meeting, it was:

Resolved that members were happy to fund the insurance costs for 2021/2022 from the Community Council Grant Scheme fund.

## **7. Consultations**

### **A. DEFRA and Scottish Government – Animal Welfare and Livestock Transportation**

Members had previously been sent information on two consultation exercises being carried out by DEFRA and the Scottish Government regarding animal welfare and livestock transportation, and it was:

Resolved to note that the consultation had now ended.

### **B. Scotland's Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest Consultation**

Members had previously been sent information on a consultation event to discuss out of hospital cardiac arrest, and it was:

Resolved to note that the event had since taken place.

### **C. Verge Maintenance Plan 2020**

Following consideration of the Verge Maintenance Plan for 2020 and the invitation for any comments to inform the 2021 plan, it was:

Resolved that members had no comments to make on the consultation.

## **8. Reports from Representatives**

### **A. Planning**

The Planning Representative was not present at the meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note that no update was available.

### **B. Transport**

Members were advised by the Transport representative that Orkney Ferries had secured funding from the Scottish Government, which would mean Sunday sailings for the island group, and that there was a lot of work going into a new fare structure. It was hoped that further information on this work would be available in the next couple of months.

Councillor Stephen Clackson advised that the testing and roll out of an online booking system had been held up by an issue with WorldPay and that there was a board meeting upcoming, after which he offered to report back.

The Chair voiced the opinion that he would not support the adjusting of the timetable through the week so that Sunday sailings could be accommodated, and other members were in agreement. It was agreed that this may require a special meeting at some stage.

Members also noted their frustration that school pupils were still having to leave classes early in order to catch the ferry and asked if it would be possible for that sailing to be shifted back just five or ten minutes to fit in better with the secondary school day.

Following further discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information provided.
2. That a special meeting may be required to discuss the issues relating to ferries, timetables and fares/funding.
3. To monitor the situation regarding school pupils.

## **9. Publications**

The following publications had been previously emailed to members, and were noted:

- VAO Newsletter – January and February 2021.
- VAO Training and Funding Update – January and February 2021.
- Letter from School Place – February 2021.
- Orkney Ferries – Statistics – November and December 2020.

## **10. Any Other Competent Business – Septic Tank Emptying**

The Chair advised that he had been approached by a number of individuals asking him to empty their septic tank. Members advised that Scottish Water offered this service for a fee, and information was available on their website. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that information would be forwarded to the Review regarding septic tank emptying, including the web address for the relevant part of the Scottish Water website.

## **11. Presentation – Rousay Marina**

Members were provided with a presentation from Mr Peter Roebuck of Rousay Sailing Club, and information on the possibility of developing a marina in Rousay and associated infrastructure. Councillors advised that Council officers were enthusiastic about this concept and would be willing to consider it more fully as part of phase two of the Harbours Master Plan consultation later in the year. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

A. That the Interim Clerk would write a letter of support to Mr Roebuck/Rousay Sailing Club.

B. That the Interim Clerk would write to Marine Services advising of their support of the proposal from Rousay Sailing Club and asking for an update on where they were with the Harbours Masterplan.

## **12. Date of Next Meeting**

Following discussion of a date for the next meeting, members agreed that while meetings were still to be online, they could move to an evening through the week, and it was:

Resolved that Democratic Services would email members with a suggested date for the next meeting of Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council.

## **13. Conclusion of Meeting**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 11:10.