

Minute of the Meeting of Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council held in the Rousay Community School and via Microsoft Teams on Saturday, 17 June 2023 at 09:15

Present:

Mr Angus Firth, Mrs Zoe Flaws, Mrs Carey Mainland, Mrs Carole Maguire and Mr Richard Tipper.

In Attendance:

- Councillor Mellissa Thomson.
- Mr Stewart Williams, Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre Development Trust Manager.
- Mrs Jenny McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer (via Teams).
- Mrs Emma Soames, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies had been received from Mrs Diana Compton and Miss Alice Mainland, and Councillors Heather Woodbridge and Stephen Clackson.

2. Adoption of Minute

The minute of the meeting held on 22 April 2023 was approved, being proposed by Mrs Zoe Flaws and seconded by Mrs Carole Maguire.

3. Matters Arising

A. Notice Boards

Members were advised that the signs still needed to be erected, and Mrs Carole Maguire informed members that she had found a contractor to undertake the work, and it was:

Resolved that the signs be placed at the school, on the Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre Development Trust old pier restaurant, the post office and either in Frotoft or on Egilsay.

B. Kirkyard Matting

Mrs Carole Maguire explained that a response had been received, explaining that there was no matting to be used and that community councils should purchase their own, and it was:

Resolved that this matter would be removed from the agenda of future meetings, and discussed if any residents bring it to the attention of members.

C. Memorial/Path at Rousay Kirkyard

Members were advised that Mrs Zoe Flaws had been in touch with a local stonemason regarding benches at the kirkyard and he was keen to help but was quite busy at present. Ideas had been sent to the stonemason, and it was:

Resolved to keep this item on the agenda.

D. Grit Boxes

Miss Alice Mainland was not in attendance, however, had submitted a price list and map where the grit boxes were located on Rousay, and it was:

Resolved to fund the purchase of 25 scoops from CCGS, up to a total of £170.

E. Vermin Eradication

Members discussed that this was not something that residents now tend to ask for, and that it is complicated to provide proof of purchase of the items, and it was:

Resolved to remove this matter from the agenda of future meetings and cancel the grant scheme category 131601.

F. NHS Representative

Mrs Zoe Flaws, the representative attending the virtual NHS meetings, updated members that there were very little developments, and it was:

Resolved that Mrs Zoe Flaws would continue to attend meetings and provide feedback at future community council meetings.

G. Car Parks

Mrs Carole Maguire suggested that the car parks for local attractions were not big enough for the volume of tourists that visit, and it was:

Resolved that Democratic Services would be asked to enquire as to who is responsible for car parks for Historic Scotland sites and find out if they can be enlarged, especially Midhowe.

H. Laybys

Further to the suggestion at the last meeting by Miss Alice Mainland, that additional passing places be investigated, it was suggested that members to speak to the Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure, and it was:

Resolved for the Clerk to put in the business letter about the need for additional passing places.

4. Correspondence

A. Rousay Funerals

Members discussed correspondence from Miss Alice Mainland regarding funerals taking place at Rousay School. An email from Democratic Services was read to members, advising that all activity needs to be arranged through the school and the Community Association, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Scottish Online Conference for Community Councillors

Members discussed correspondence inviting members to join an online event on the 10 June 2023, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

C. Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Biosecurity Plan - Draft Submission

Members discussed the two documents that had been suggested to be put to residents regarding biosecurity on the islands, and it was:

Resolved to write back and suggest option A be put into The Review.

D. Annual Grants from Orkney Islands Council

Members discussed correspondence regarding the annual grants payment to be made to community councils, and it was:

Resolved to note that the grant provided to Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council for 2023/2024 was £4,899.55.

5. Financial Statements

A. General Account

Following consideration of the General Finance statement as at 1 June 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £28,993.56.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 1 June 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval in the main capping limit was £1,330.89, the balance remaining in the additional capping limit was £623, and the island capping limit balance remaining was £719.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of a statement for the Community Development Fund as at 1 June 2023, 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 1 June 2023, it was:

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

6. Financial Requests

A. Egilsay Community Association – Match Funding

Members discussed the request for match funding after Bag the Bruck in April, and it was:

Resolved not to agree to the match funding, and to request more information about what the group need in terms of support for additional beach clean ups. Members commended their actions and recognised it was a significant amount of bruck collected.

7. Consultation - Boundaries Scotland – Scottish Parliament Consultation on Provisional Proposals for Constituencies

Members discussed the consultation, outlining the proposed changes to constituency boundaries, although noted that the Orkney Islands boundary is protected by legislation, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

8. Reports from Representatives

A. Planning

The Planning Representative advised that there were 3 new planning applications, but nothing to be concerned about, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report.

B. Transport

The Transport Representative explained there was a delay in getting the MV Shapinsay for the summer season, and there will be an update on the 26 June 2023. Further to this, it was reported that the Tingwall office was not always manned, the phone was not diverted, and emails can go unanswered. Councillor Thomson suggested speaking to the Ferries Manager and inviting him to a meeting. Members were also updated that the next Transport Forum was due to take place during the week commencing 14 August 2023, and it was:

Resolved that Councillor Mellissa Thomson would speak to the Ferries Manager and invite him to the next Community Council meeting.

9. Publications

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

- Letter from School Place – April and May 2023.
- VAO Funding Opportunities - April and May 2023.
- ORSAS Quarterly Newsletter - June 2023.

10. Any Other Competent Business

A. Rousay School

Alongside the issues with the additional passing places, members requested that the following items that needed addressed were added to the business letter:

- Outside lights.
- Hot water in the school.
- Could the school flat be made habitable?

- The Janitor role.

Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that these items be added to the business letter.

B. Verges

Members queried when the verges were likely to be cut, and it was:

Resolved that Democratic Services would enquire and feed this information back.

C. Signage at Tingwall

Mrs Zoe Flaws suggested that there be some signage to aid visitors with how to park ahead of boarding the boat, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk put in the business letter regarding the possibility of having a sign, asking cars to be parked ready to reverse on to the boat.

D. Fly tipping

Members heard that fly tipping was increasing around Rousay, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Clerk would put in the Review a reminder that bin day is Thursdays, and there are 4 bulky collections across the year.

2. That Democratic Services would inform members who to contact if the recycling bank was full.

E. Milk Deliveries

Members briefly discussed what could be done, since the milk deliveries had stopped, and it was:

Resolved that if anyone had any ideas, they to bring them to the next meeting.

F. Information Sharing – Egilsay

Mr Angus Firth had received an email to request that anything discussed at meetings relating to Egilsay be shared with the community association. Members discussed the email, and it was:

Resolved to forward the final minutes to Egilsay Community Association, and to suggest that as the meetings are public, their attendance is welcome either in person or via Teams.

11. Date of Next Meeting

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

Resolved to note that the next meeting of Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council would be held on Saturday, 2 September 2023 at 09:15, at Rousay Community School and via Teams.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

With there being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 10:25.