

Minute

Special General Meeting of the Council

Monday, 31 May 2021, 14:00.

Microsoft Teams.



Present

Councillors J Harvey Johnston, Stephen G Clackson, Alexander G Cowie, Norman R Craigie, Robin W Crichton, David Dawson, Andrew Drever, Barbara Foulkes, Steven B Heddle, Rachael A King, W Leslie Manson, John T Richards, Stephen Sankey, John A R Scott, Gwenda M Shearer, Graham L Sinclair, James W Stockan, Magnus O Thomson, Duncan A Tullock and Heather N Woodbridge.

Clerk

- Gavin Mitchell, Head of Legal Services.

In Attendance

- John W Mundell, Interim Chief Executive.
- Gavin Barr, Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure.
- Stephen Brown, Chief Officer/Executive Director, Orkney Health and Care.
- Gillian Morrison, Executive Director.
- James Wylie, Executive Director of Education, Leisure and Housing.
- Gareth Waterson, Head of Finance.
- James Buck, Head of Marine Services, Transportation and Harbour Master.
- Karen Greaves, Head of Executive Support.
- Laura Cromarty, Transportation Manager.
- Hazel Flett, Senior Committees Officer.

Observing

- Hayley Green, Head of IT and Facilities.
- Andrew Groundwater, Head of HR and Performance.
- David Hartley, Communications Team Leader (for Item 1).
- Rebecca McAuliffe, Press Officer.

Not Present

- Councillor Owen Tierney.

Declaration of Interest

- Councillor David Dawson – Item 2.

Chair

- Councillor J Harvey Johnston, Convener.

1. Development and Infrastructure Committee

Minute of Special Meeting held on 18 May 2021

On the motion of Councillor Graham L Sinclair, seconded by Councillor Andrew Drever, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Special Meeting of the Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 18 May 2021 as a true record.

The Council thereafter resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the Minute of the Special Meeting of the Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 18 May 2021, subject to the following item of amendment:

Inter-Island Fare Structure

Councillor Stephen G Clackson referred to the recommendations of the Development and Infrastructure Committee relating to the proposed new inter-island fare structure and, seconded by Councillor Magnus O Thomson, moved an amendment that the matter be referred back to the Development and Infrastructure Committee for further consideration.

Councillor Magnus O Thomson left the meeting at this point.

The result of a recorded vote was as follows:

For the Amendment:

Councillors Stephen G Clackson, Robin W Crichton and Steven B Heddle (3).

For the Motion (the recommendations contained in the Minute):

Councillors Alexander G Cowie, Norman R Craigie, David Dawson, Andrew Drever, Barbara Foulkes, J Harvey Johnston, Rachael A King, W Leslie Manson, John T Richards, Stephen Sankey, John A R Scott, Gwenda M Shearer, Graham L Sinclair, James W Stockan, Duncan A Tullock and Heather N Woodbridge (16).

The Motion was therefore carried.

Councillor Robin W Crichton, seconded by Councillor W Leslie Manson, moved a further amendment, notice of which had been given, that the discount on the books of 50 tickets should remain at 50%.

The result of a recorded vote was as follows:

For the Amendment:

Councillors Stephen G Clackson, Alexander G Cowie, Norman R Craigie, Robin W Crichton, David Dawson, Barbara Foulkes, Steven B Heddle, Rachael A King, W Leslie Manson, John T Richards, Stephen Sankey, John A R Scott, Gwenda M Shearer, James W Stockan, Duncan A Tullock and Heather N Woodbridge (16).

For the Motion (the recommendations contained in the Minute):

Councillors Andrew Drever, J Harvey Johnston and Graham L Sinclair (3).

The Amendment was therefore carried.

The Council thereafter resolved:

1.1. That Option 7, as outlined in section 5 and detailed at Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure submitted to the Special Meeting of the Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 18 May 2021, which represented a 38% reduction on the existing adult and vehicle fare structure, with a further 25% discount for elderly and disabled passengers, be approved as the new fare structure for inter-island ferry services, to be implemented by Orkney Ferries Limited during June 2021.

1.2. That the sale of multi books of tickets by Orkney Ferries Limited should cease from June 2021, with the exception of the books of 50 tickets, the sale of which should be extended until 31 March 2022.

1.3. That, from June 2021, the discount on the books of 50 tickets should remain at 50%.

1.4. That the expiry date for books of 50 tickets sold from June 2021 be reduced from 500 days to 365 days, with the exception of any extensions defined by COVID-19 measures.

1.5. That existing books of 50 tickets should be accepted until the point of expiry, or until extension dates defined by COVID-19 measures.

1.6. That continuation of availability of books of 50 tickets beyond 31 March 2022 be reviewed, by February 2022, following consultation with isles Community Councils and island communities using those services.

1.7. That the concessionary rate applied to passengers be amended from 60 years and above to 65 years and above, increased in increments over a period of five years from 60 to 65, to bring the concession into line with the Local Concessionary Travel Scheme operated by the Council.

1.8. That the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure should undertake a review of the revised passenger and vehicle fares for inter-island ferry services, post COVID-19 and, once fully established, consider the impact on residents, visitors and businesses, and thereafter submit a report, to the Development and Infrastructure Committee, detailing the findings of the review.

1.9. That, following implementation of the new fare structure in respect of passengers and vehicles for inter-island ferry services, the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure should undertake a review of the commercial tariff, and thereafter submit a report, to the Development and Infrastructure Committee, detailing the findings of that review.

2. Policy and Resources Committee

Minute of Special Meeting held on 19 May 2021

Councillor David Dawson declared a non-financial interest in Item 6 of the Minute of the Special Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 19 May 2021, however as the specific item was not discussed, he did not leave the meeting.

On the motion of Councillor James W Stockan, seconded by Councillor W Leslie Manson, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Special Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 19 May 2021 as a true record.

The Council thereafter resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the Minute of the Special Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 19 May 2021.

3. Conclusion of Meeting

At 15:07 the Convener declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: Harvey Johnston.