

Minute of the Meeting of Orphir Community Council held in Orphir Community School on Tuesday, 27 May 2025 at 19:30

Present:

Mr M Clouston, Mrs B Clubley, Mr A Marwick and Mr N Sclater.

In Attendance:

- Councillor K Leask.
- Councillor I Taylor.
- Mrs J McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer/Interim Clerk.

Order of Business

1. Apologies	2
2. Adoption of Minute	2
3. Matters Arising	2
4. Correspondence	3
5. Consultations	3
6. Financial Statements	4
7. Requests for Financial Assistance	4
8. Publications	5
9. AOCB - Scorradaile Road Post Box	5
10. Dates of Next Meeting	5
11. Conclusion of Meeting	5

1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Councillors S Cowie and L Manson.

2. Adoption of Minute

The minute of the meeting of Orphir Community Council held on 25 March 2025 was adopted, being proposed by Mr M Clouston and seconded by Mr A Marwick.

3. Matters Arising

A. Bus Shelter, Smoogro Road End

The Chair advised that work had started on the foundations and levelling off of the area, and that once the layby was put in, the shelter would be erected on the site, and it was:

Resolved to note the update from the Chair.

B. Orkneyinga Saga Centre Refurbishment

The Chair advised that he planned to speak to the contractor in mid-August to discuss a start date for the project, as the contractor may wish to commence work earlier than October. It was agreed that the target date for completion of the joinery work would be the end of the year, and then the painting/decorating phase would begin, with carpets laid, before planning for the resources to be installed. The Chair advised that he would also liaise with Dr C Batey, and it was:

Resolved that the Chair would speak to the contractor and liaise with Dr C Batey and report back to the next meeting.

C. Road Speed Limits and Road Safety

It was advised that the site audit had been returned to the school, and that it had been quite comprehensive. Members agreed that it was good that this had been done and that it would be a start to addressing safety issues. It was also reported that projected pupil numbers needed to be figured out, to know how many pupils would need transport, and that the evidence in the site audit should help with this, and it was:

Resolved to note the update.

D. OIC Winter Treatment Contracts

Members considered a response from Roads Support, advising that there was usually only one gritter covering the Hobbister, Clowally and Scorrabrae roads, and that the Council had a digger which gets sent out to areas that require clearing. Members advised that they would like one gritter to cover the Orphir area, and explained that during the recent poor weather event, no snow plough had been through the area before 08:00, and that it had caused an issue for days. They felt it was such a busy route that some priority should be given. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the information and monitor the situation next time there was snow.

4. Correspondence

A. Verge Maintenance Plan

Members noted that CC comments had been responded to by Roads Support regarding the Verge Maintenance Plan for 2025 and that only one cut was scheduled, and it was:

Resolved to note the responses.

B. Ward Hill Turbine

Following correspondence from a member of the public regarding the planning permission for the Ward Hill Turbine, consultation within the community and the level of community benefit, members agreed that a public meeting should take place and that the community council should also support the comments around the level of community benefit. They felt that due to the proximity of the turbine to the village, perhaps a higher level should be provided, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would feed these comments back to the developer and also comment via the OIC Planning portal, on the live application.

C. Orkney 2025 – Council Service Changes

Following correspondence from the Head of Neighbourhood Services regarding arrangements for waste and recycling collection during the Island Games, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Orkney 2025 – Island Games Road Closures

Following correspondence from Gordon Deans, Chair of Orkney 2025, with notification of road closures for road events during the games, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

5. Consultations

A. Winter Service Plan 2025

Members had previously been sent the consultation on the winter service plan, and it was:

Resolved to note that any comments could be forwarded to the Interim Clerk prior to the deadline of 30 June 2025.

B. SATE Survey

Correspondence had previously been sent to members regarding a survey from the Sustainable Aviation Test Environment team, who were running a survey to gain understanding of what communities would like to see from Scotland's sustainable aviation sector, and it was:

Resolved to note the survey, which was now closed for comments.

6. Financial Statements

A. General Fund

Following consideration of the general fund statement for Orphir Community Council as at 19 May 2025, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £23,006.55.

B. Orkneyinga Saga Centre

Following consideration of the Orkneyinga Saga Centre fund statement as at 19 May 2025, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £48,521.91.

C. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 19 May 2025, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining approval for the 2024/2025 period in the capping limit was £28.12, and the 2025/2026 statement would be available in due course when grants were confirmed.

D. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 19 May 2025, it was:

Resolved to note that there was £18,755.42 available to allocate to projects.

E. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement as at 19 May 2025, it was:

Resolved to note that there was £2,606 available to allocate to projects.

7. Requests for Financial Assistance

A. Orphir Community School – Bag the Bruck

Following consideration of correspondence from Orphir Community School, copies of which had previously been circulated to members, asking for sponsorship towards their participation in the Bag the Bruck, it was:

Resolved to award £300, subject to CCGS funding.

B. S Garson – Fencing Tournament

Following consideration of correspondence regarding M Dundas attending the Glasgow Open Fencing Tournament on 5-6 April, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to award a donation of £50 from the General Fund.

8. Publications

- VAO - Newsletter – March and April 2025.
- VAO - Training and Funding Update – April and May 2025.
- Orkney Island Games Sports Schedule.
- Scottish Rural Action – Newsletter – April 2025.

9. AOCB - Scorradales Road Post Box

The Interim Clerk advised that correspondence had been received from Royal Mail regarding the removal of the post box on Scorradales Road. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would respond to the consultation asking for the reasoning for removing the box and advising that members would prefer to the post box to remain in that location.

10. Dates of Next Meeting

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

Resolved that the next meeting of Orphir Community Council would be held on Tuesday, 26 August 2025 at 19:30 in Orphir Community School.

11. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:10.