

Minute

General Meeting of the Council

Tuesday, 1 July 2025, 10:30.

Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall.



Present

Councillors Graham A Bevan, Stephen G Clackson, David Dawson, P Lindsay Hall, Steven B Heddle, Rachael A King, Kristopher D Leask, James R Moar, Janette A Park, Raymond S Peace, Gillian Skuse, Jean E Stevenson, Ivan A Taylor, Owen Tierney, Duncan A Tullock and Heather N Woodbridge.

Present via remote link (Microsoft Teams)

Councillors W Leslie Manson, John A R Scott, Gwenda M Shearer and Mellissa-Louise Thomson.

Clerk

- Gavin Mitchell, Head of Corporate Governance.

In Attendance

- Oliver D Reid, Chief Executive.
- Hayley Green, Director of Infrastructure and Organisational Development.
- Gareth Waterson, Director of Enterprise and Resources.
- James Wylie, Director of Education, Communities and Housing.
- Andrew Groundwater, Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development.
- Lorna Richardson, Head of Infrastructure Services.
- Katy Russell-Duff, Committees Officer.

Observing

- Frances Troup, Head of Community Learning, Leisure and Housing.
- Ross Cunningham, Service Manager (Policy and Communications).
- Matthew Wylie, Team Manager (Roads Support).

Apology

- Councillor Alexander G Cowie.

Declarations of Interest

- No declarations of interest were intimated.

Chair

- Councillor Graham A Bevan, Convener.

1. General Meeting of the Council

Minute of Meeting held on 7 May 2025

On the motion of Councillor Graham A Bevan, seconded by Councillor Heather N Woodbridge, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the General Meeting of the Council held on 7 May 2025 as a true record.

2. Local Review Body

Minute of Meeting held on 13 May 2025

On the motion of Councillor Owen Tierney, seconded by Councillor David Dawson, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Local Review Body held on 13 May 2025 as a true record.

3. Local Review Body

Minute of Meeting held on 14 May 2025

On the motion of Councillor Owen Tierney, seconded by Councillor Duncan A Tullock, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Local Review Body held on 14 May 2025 as a true record.

4. Planning Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 28 May 2025

On the motion of Councillor Owen Tierney, seconded by Councillor David Dawson, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 28 May 2025 as a true record.

5. Development and Infrastructure Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 3 June 2025

On the motion of Councillor Kristopher D Leask, seconded by Councillor Mellissa-Louise Thomson, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 3 June 2025 as a true record.

The Council thereafter resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the Minute of the Meeting of the Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 3 June 2025.

6. Education, Leisure and Housing Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 4 June 2025

On the motion of Councillor Gwenda M Shearer, seconded by Councillor Ivan A Taylor, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Education, Leisure and Housing Committee held on 4 June 2025 as a true record.

The Council thereafter resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the Minute of the Meeting of the Education, Leisure and Housing Committee held on 4 June 2025.

7. Monitoring and Audit Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 5 June 2025

On the motion of Councillor P Lindsay Hall, seconded by Councillor Stephen G Clackson, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Monitoring and Audit Committee held on 5 June 2025 as a true record.

The Council thereafter resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the Minute of the Meeting of the Monitoring and Audit Committee held on 5 June 2025.

8. Policy and Resources Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 17 June 2025

On the motion of Councillor Heather N Woodbridge, seconded by Councillor Graham A Bevan, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 17 June 2025 as a true record.

The Council thereafter resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the Minute of the Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 17 June 2025.

9. Development and Infrastructure Committee

Minute of Special Meeting held on 19 June 2025

On the motion of Councillor Kristopher D Leask, seconded by Councillor Mellissa-Louise Thomson, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Special Meeting of the Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 19 June 2025 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 19 June 2025.

10. Planning Committee

Minute of Meeting held on 25 June 2025

On the motion of Councillor Owen Tierney, seconded by Councillor Duncan A Tullock, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 25 June 2025 as a true record.

11. Policy and Resources Committee

Minute of Special Meeting held on 26 June 2025

On the motion of Councillor Heather N Woodbridge, seconded by Councillor Graham A Bevan, the Council resolved to approve the Minute of the Special Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 26 June 2025 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 26 June 2025, as a true record.

12. Notice of Motion

The Council had for consideration the following Notice of Motion:

“I Councillor James Moar would like to put forward a Notice of Motion to the next general meeting to change the timing of the verge cutting from the end of September and October as went through D and I on the 10 of September 2024 to sometime in late July, the reason being mainly for the safety of pedestrians and drivers on Orkney’s roads. I do not believe that there will be the savings for the council with this policy of safety cuts being carried out all through the summer after complaints from members of the public and a final cut probably into October. As for the flowers on the verges our council staff are very good at lifting the cutters on these areas.

Proposer: James R Moar.

Countersigned by S G Clackson, Duncan A Tullock, Raymie Peace, P L Hall, Owen Tierney, John A R Scott, D Dawson and Steven Heddle.”.

After receiving procedural advice from the Head of Corporate Governance, the Council:

Noted:

12.1. That Standing Order 17.5 provided that the Chief Executive would not accept a Notice of Motion which was contradictory to a previous decision or resolution of the Council, within 12 months from the date of that resolution.

12.2. That Standing Order 17.6 provided that the Chief Executive, might, however, accept a Notice of Motion, in terms of Standing Order 17.5, if the Motion was countersigned by at least six other Members.

12.3. That the Notice of Motion referred to above was countersigned by eight other Members.

12.4. That, accordingly, the Notice of Motion was procedurally competent, in that:

- It was received in the requisite timeframe.
- It was signed by an Elected Member and countersigned by at least six other Elected Members.
- It was accompanied by a report from the Director of Infrastructure and Organisational Development on the implications of the suggested course of action contained in the Notice of Motion.

12.5. That, in order for the Motion to be considered at this Meeting, Standing Order 23.1, which stated that a motion or amendment shall not be competent if it was contradictory of a previous decision or resolution of the Council made within 12 months of the date of adoption of that resolution or decision, required to be suspended.

As insufficient members voted for the suspension of Standing Orders, the Council noted:

12.6. That the Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor James R Moar outlined above, could not be considered.

13. Conclusion of Meeting

At 10:40 the Convener declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: Graham A Bevan.