

Minute of the Meeting of Eday Community Council held Eday Heritage Centre and via Teams on Thursday, 5 February 2026 at 19:30

Present:

Mr A Garson, Mr M Cockram, Mr A Jones, Mrs L Garson and Mr H Thomson.

In Attendance:

- Councillor M Thomson.
- Councillor H Woodbridge (via Teams).
- Mrs J McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer (via Teams).
- Mrs R Allen, Clerk.

- One member of the public.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Ms M Byers.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of meeting of Eday Community Council held on 13 November 2025 was adopted, being proposed by Mr H Thomson and seconded by Mr A Garson.

3. Matters Arising

A. Harbour Masterplan

Mr H Thomson advised that community consultation had been due to be held, and that he had planned to attend but that nobody had arrived to meet with them. Members were disappointed as they felt that their views were not being considered in the planning of this project, and it was:

Resolved to note the discussion and that there was no further update at this time.

B. Isles Haulier

Following discussion regarding various items that had been raised in the community including paying for home deliveries, pricing schedule and service differences between islands, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the community had been invited to advise the community council of any problems, issues and good stories regarding haulage to the island that they wished taken up with the haulier, and that the Clerk had received only one feedback response.
2. That another request would be put in the Eday Sound to ask for more feedback that can be submitted anonymously.

C. Eday Daily Flights

Resolved to note that the Transport Representative had not been able to attend the special meeting on 3 December but that this issue was still being discussed in relation to a third aircraft timetable.

D. Eday Surgery

After receiving an update from the Community Council Liaison Officer regarding the concerns about Eday Surgery, it was:

Resolved:

1. To suggest that information regarding the doctor's visits be coordinated with the publication of each new issue of Eday Sound, so that it may be advertised to all residents accordingly.

2. That Councillor M Thomson, during her next meeting with John Daniels, ask questions regarding the most suitable arrangement to provide reception duties at the surgery and suggest they consider training somebody from the island.

4. Correspondence

A. IJB Service User Representative

Members had previously been sent information from a representative of the Integration Joint Board, asking for notes of interest from anyone who would like to join the board as a Service User representative, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

B. Nordic Sea Timetable 29 December – 31 January

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Ferries regarding the winter timetable for the Nordic Sea, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the winter timetable for the Nordic Sea continues until summertime.
2. That it would be beneficial if the Nordic Sea could arrive in Kirkwall an hour earlier, which allows people for more time in town, and that community feedback on that would be appreciated.
3. To note that secondary education for Eday children in Sanday was being discussed with the Director of Education, Communities and Housing and that further updates would be provided.

C. Eday TRICE Meeting

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services, copies of which had previously been circulated, in relation to a proposed meeting of all three anchor community organisations in Eday, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that one Community Council member would like to attend the meeting.
2. To note that it was proposed that North Isles Councillors should also be invited to help with sourcing funding and general advice.

D. Transport Forum Meetings

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

5. Consultation Documents

A. EMEC – Section 36 – Fall of Warness

Correspondence in relation to the European Marine Energy Centre – Section 36 – Fall of Warness, EMEC had previously been sent round members, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

B. HES - Properties and Collections Strategy

Correspondence in relation of Historic Environment Scotland - Properties and Collections Strategy had been previously sent round members and it was:

Resolved to note the copy of correspondence.

C. Neven Point Wind Limited – Landing Point Development

Correspondence in relation to a landing point development by Neven Point Wind Limited had been previously sent round members, and it was:

Resolved to note the copy of correspondence.

D. Draft Winter 2026 - 2027 Ferry Timetables

Correspondence in relation Consultation Draft Winter 2026 -2027 Ferry Timetables had been previously sent round members, and it was:

Resolved to note the copy of correspondence.

E. SEPA – Safeguarding Scotland’s Water Environment

Correspondence in relation to “Safeguarding Scotland’s Water Environment” consultation had been previously sent round members, and it was:

Resolved to note the copy of correspondence.

F. EMEC – Fall of Warness Tidal Test Site EIA Section 36 consent Application

Correspondence in relation to a EIA Section 36 consent application had been previously sent round members, and it was:

Resolved to note the copy of correspondence.

G. SEPA - Flood Risk Management Plan

Correspondence in relation to SEPA’s Flood Risk Management Plan consultation had been previously sent round members, and it was:

Resolved to note the copy of correspondence.

6. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

Following consideration of the General Fund statement as at 21 January 2026, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £12,509.51.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

After consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 21 January 2026, it was:

Resolved to note that the main capping limit was fully allocated, that there was £724.92 in the additional capping limit, and that the Island capping limit was fully allocated.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 21 January 2026, it was:

Resolved to note that £7,167.11 remained for allocation.

7. Financial Requests - Road Aggregate Scheme

After consideration all the notes of interest for Road Aggregate Scheme assistance, it was:

Resolved:

A. That each applicant can receive £30 per tonne bag up to £200 per application.

B. That applicants must provide receipts by the end of March 2027.

C. That the closing date for applications be extended for another fortnight, until 23 February 2026.

D. That the remaining funding in CCGS reference 22109 be utilised for this scheme.

8. Reports from Representatives

A. Transport

Resolved to note that congratulations and thanks be extended to those involved in securing funding for the new boats.

B. Planning

Resolved to note that a planning application had been submitted for a landing point development at Backland Pier.

C. Health and Care

Resolved to note that there were no updates at the time.

9. Publications

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

- Letter from School Place – November and December 2025, January 2026.

- VAO Newsletter – December 2025.
- Scottish Rural Action – December 2025.
- NHSO - Near me Appointments.
- Orkney Ferries Statistics – November and December 2025.
- SCDA Orkney District Information.

10. AOCB

A. Grass Cutting Tenders

It was advised that information should shortly be forthcoming regarding the confirmed number of cuts being paid for by OIC following the recent consultation with community councils, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the number of cuts for the new cemetery should remain at 8, and that the community council would pay for any additional cuts in the old cemetery required to keep cuts at 4 per year.
2. That an advert for the tender would be drawn up and put on display locally/in the Eday Sound.
3. That the community council-owned mower and strimmer would be sent to MLM for an annual service and maintenance this month, to be paid for via CCGS.
4. To note the update from the Community Council Liaison Officer that the mowing of the school grounds was the responsibility of the school and the janitor.

B. Weight Restrictions at the Pier

Members agreed that they remained concerned about the weight restrictions at Eday pier. It was suspected that the suggested limits were not always being enforced and that there was no signage at the pier warning of the weight restrictions. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Harbour Authority be requested to provide appropriate signage and to ensure that staff and boat crews were fully aware of the weight restrictions.
2. That Councillor M Thomson would speak to relevant officers regarding this issue.

C. Update from Councillor H Woodbridge

Councillor H Woodbridge had joined the meeting, and the following update was provided:

1. Ferry Replacement Programme – funding has been confirmed to purchase three ferries. An update will be provided in due course regarding where the ships will be built and how long construction will take.

2. Inter-Island Air Services – there were currently 2 aircraft types being considered, but no decision had been made yet. The timetable is still ongoing; the community feedback is appreciated.

3. Request from Symeon Grayson - the timings for island departures have changed, and passengers are now requested to arrive 15 minutes earlier to ensure that all safety checks are performed smoothly and without issue.

Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the update provided.

D. Scottish Water Leaks

Following the suggestion that further investigation was required to inspect the Scottish Water infrastructure on the island, it was:

Resolved to note the discussion but that there were no updates at the time.

E. Parking on the Road by the Council Houses

It was noted that cars were often parked on the road by the council houses. Although this was not illegal, members were of the opinion that for safety reasons it would be more appropriate for vehicles to be parked in the car park provided for the council houses, and it was:

Resolved that the Chair would speak to the tenants of the council houses and request that they park in the designated car park.

F. Fertiliser Boat

Following enquiry by Mr M Cockram regarding the arrival of the fertiliser boat and the weight limits on the pier, it was:

Resolved that further update will be provided by Councillor M Thomson.

G. Anonymous Letter to Councillor M Thomson

Councillor M Thomson advised that she had received a letter from a member of the public relating to local issues, however it had been sent anonymously, and it was:

Resolved that no response could be provided either by Councillor M Thomson or the community council as the correspondent was anonymous.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of dates for the next meeting, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Eday Community Council would be arranged by the Clerk following consultation with Democratic Services and community council members.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 22:25.