

Item: 11

St Magnus Cathedral Sub-committee: 17 March 2026.

1. Recommendations

It is recommended:

1.1.

That the Committee approves the attached minute as a true record.

1.2.

That the Committee considers the recommendations at paragraphs 1 and 3.

2. Appendix

Draft Minute of the Meeting of the St Magnus Cathedral Sub-committee held on 17 March 2026.

Minute

St Magnus Cathedral Sub-committee

Tuesday, 17 March 2026, 11:30.

Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall.



Present

Councillors Kristopher D Leask, Mellissa-Louise Thomson, Graham A Bevan, Alexander G Cowie, W Leslie Manson, Raymond S Peace and Duncan A Tullock.

Lord Lieutenant Elaine Grieve.

Clerk

- Katy Russell-Duff, Committees Officer.

In Attendance

- Lorna Richardson, Director of Infrastructure and Organisational Development.
- Gareth Waterson, Director of Enterprise and Resources.
- Sweyn Johnston, Head of Enterprise and Economic Growth.
- Kenny MacPherson, Head of Property and Asset Management.
- Inga Burton, Service Manager (Sustainable Regeneration and Arctic).
- Shonagh Merriman, Service Manager (Corporate Finance).
- Veer Bansal, Solicitor.
- Gwyn Evans, Strategic Projects.
- Fran Hollinrake, Curator.
- Annie Theuson, Visitor Services Officer.
- India Whitwell, Sustainable Regeneration Funding Manager.

- Les Donaldson, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, The Friends of the Society of St Magnus Cathedral.
- Alistair Bruce, St Magnus Cathedral Representative (for Item 1).

Declarations of Interest

- No declarations of interest were intimated.

Chair

- Councillor Kristopher D Leask.

1. Visitor Experience Overview

After consideration of a report by the Director of Enterprise and Resources, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Head of Enterprise and Economic Growth, the Sub-committee:

Resolved to **recommend to the Council** that the Director of Enterprise and Resources should review the donation facilities and retail offering within St Magnus Cathedral, consider options for consolidation and streamlining, liaise with relevant stakeholders, and present recommendations to the St Magnus Cathedral Sub-committee, in due course, on how the offering could be most effectively rationalised.

2. Exclusion of Public

On the motion of Councillor Kristopher D Leask, seconded by Councillor Mellissa-Louise Thomson, the Sub-committee resolved that the public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting as the business to be considered involved the disclosure of exempt information of the classes described in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended.

3. St Magnus Cathedral Organ Restoration

Under section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public had been excluded from the meeting for this item on the grounds that it involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 6, 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

After consideration of a report by the Director of Enterprise and Resources, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Service Manager (Sustainable Regeneration and Arctic), the Sub-committee:

Resolved to **recommend to the Council** that the Director of Enterprise and Resources should submit, to the Policy and Resources Committee, a Stage 2 Capital Project Appraisal in respect of the proposed restoration of the Cathedral organ.

The above constitutes the summary of the Minute in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 section 50C(2) as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

4. Quinquennial Report and Current Programme of Works

Under section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public had been excluded from the meeting for this item on the grounds that it involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 6, 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

After consideration of a report by the Director of Infrastructure and Organisational Development, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Head of Property and Asset Management, the Sub-committee:

Noted the Quinquennial Inspection Report and Recommendations, attached as Appendix 1 to the report by Director of Infrastructure and Organisational Development.

5. Conclusion of Meeting

At 12:17 the Chair declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: (Chair's signature).