

# Minute of the Meeting of Firth and Stenness Community Council held via Zoom on Thursday, 29 April 2021 at 19:30

## Present:

Mrs W Dunnet, Mr N Macleod, Mr V Muir and Mrs A Stevenson.

## In Attendance:

- Councillor R King.
- Councillor O Tierney.
- Councillor H Johnston.
- Sergeant R Morris, Police Scotland.
- Mr I Heggie, Clerk.
- Mrs J McGrath Community Council Liaison Officer.

## Order of Business

1. Apologies.....	2
2. Police Scotland Matters.....	2
3. Adoption of Minutes.....	2
4. Matters Arising.....	2
5. Correspondence.....	4
6. Financial Statements.....	5
7. Financial Requests.....	5
8. Consultation Documents.....	5
9. Publications.....	6
10. Any Other Competent Business.....	6
11. Date of Next Meeting.....	7
12. Conclusion of Meeting.....	7

## **1. Apologies**

Resolved to note that apologies had been received from Mr R Hourston and Mr M Lynch, and Councillor D Tullock.

## **2. Police Scotland Matters**

Members heard that there had been a small spate of damage to the nursery play area at Firth Primary school. Various options were discussed as to how to address this problem, which included CCTV cameras and the production and distribution of flyers to encourage teenagers to get involved with their outdoor classroom project which was intended to be a community project.

Following further discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

The Police Scotland representative left the meeting at this point.

## **3. Adoption of Minutes**

The minute of the meeting held on 25 February 2021 was approved, being proposed by Mr V Muir and seconded by Mrs A Stevenson, subject to the following amendments:

- Item 4D should read “Christmas Decorations Storage”.
- Item 8B Should read “Resolved that members were encouraged to submit feedback to DEFRA and the Scottish Government consultations”.
- Item 10D Should read “Resolved that the Clerk should contact Friends of Firth School (FOFs) regarding a possible donation”.

## **4. Matters Arising**

### **A. Zurich Insurance 2021/2022**

Members voted to ratify the insurance offered by Zurich, and it was:

Resolved to note that members approved the insurance offer.

### **B. Firth Park Grass Cutting Tender**

Members voted to ratify the decision on the choice of tenderers, and it was:

Resolved that Isbister Brothers be awarded the tender for the years 2021 to 2023.

### **C. Securing Wreath, Finstown War Memorial and Firth Park Donation box**

Members discussed the offer by Mr A Tait to design and install a bracket to secure wreathes at the war memorial at a cost of £75.00. Members further discussed the installation of a donation box at Firth Park, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That Mr M Lynch would be informed that members had voted to approve the cost but would initially like to view the design of said holder before construction and installation.
2. That Mr M Lynch should be asked to report back at the next meeting regarding the donation box.

#### **D. Christmas Decorations and Storage**

Members discussed various issues regarding the selection of new, storage and possible re-distribution of the older Christmas decorations to people who had contributed them.

Members also heard that there was to be a further decision made by Orkney Island Council regarding the above, and it was:

Resolved that Democratic Services would feedback to members after the final decision has been made. This would allow members the choice of decorations to be displayed. It was further resolved that Mrs W Dunnet would contact those people who had contributed decorations in the past.

#### **E. Happy Valley Roof**

Members heard from several attendees. They heard that several stakeholders are involved in accessing funds to assist in the repair and upkeep of Happy Valley. They also heard that the access road was in a bad state of disrepair. Members also heard that sustainability is very important to future developments, and it was:

Resolved to await the outcome of future meetings between stakeholders.

#### **F. Importing Stone and Road Use**

Members discussed the increase in lorries delivering the imported stone to Cursiter quarry. They further then discussed the nature of the road layout and its dangers, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk write to Democratic Services to find out if anything can be done to change priority or widen the narrow part of Heddle Road which is approximately 150 metres from the main road junction, to improve road safety.

#### **G Replacement Bin Charges**

Members were informed the £25 charge for damaged bins had now been retracted, and it was:

Resolved to note information provided.

#### **H. Friends of Firth School Easter Donation**

Members voted to ratify the donation of £200. They also heard the Friends of Firth School were very grateful for the donation, and it was:

Resolved to note that members had previously approved the donation of £200.

## **I. Dog Waste Bin**

Members heard that there were no plans to install a dog waste bin on the Firth to Rendall road and that dog walkers should be encouraged to pick up their dogs' waste and deposit it in another bin, and it was:

Resolved to note information provided.

## **J. Rennibister Donation**

Members voted to ratify the addition into the minutes of 25 February 2021 recording the £1,000 donation to Orkney foodbanks from our annual goodwill donation from the Rennibister turbine, and it was:

Resolved to note that members approved the adjustment of minutes.

## **5. Correspondence**

### **A. Orkney Native Wildlife Project Update**

Following consideration of correspondence, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding the project update at March 2021, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

### **B. MIS Remote and Rural Scotland Research – Kirkwall**

Following consideration of correspondence, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding the work of MIS Remote and Rural Scotland Research, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

### **C. CLAN Centre Open**

Following consideration of correspondence, copies of which had previously been circulated, advising that the CLAN centre was open for face-to-face appointments again, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

### **D. Healthcare Improvement Scotland Board Vacancy**

Following consideration of correspondence, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding the Healthcare Improvement Scotland Board Vacancy, it was:

Resolved to note that no members had applied.

### **E. Community Renewal Fund**

Following consideration of correspondence, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding a new fund to assist growth post-pandemic, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **F. Orkney Regional Marine Plan - Community Council Update**

Following consideration of correspondence regarding the Orkney Regional Marine Plan, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **6. Financial Statements**

### **A. General Finance**

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 14 April 2021 and discussion thereof, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance remaining for approval was £11,966.04.

### **B. Rennibister Wind Turbine Community Fund**

After consideration of the Rennibister Wind Turbine Community Fund statement as at 14 April 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance remaining for approval was £5,000.

### **C. Community Council Grant Scheme**

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 14 April 2021 and discussion thereof, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £2,153.98.

### **D. Community Development Fund**

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 14 April 2021 and discussion thereof, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for allocation was £3,534.95.

## **7. Financial Requests**

Resolved to note that there were no financial requests to consider.

## **8. Consultation Documents**

### **A. Easing of Covid-19 Restrictions on Islands**

Following consideration of a Scottish Government consultation which had been received, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding easing restrictions, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided and that members choices had been submitted by email to the Scottish Government's email address.

## **B. HITRANS - E-cargo Bikes**

Following consideration of correspondence received from the Regional Transport Partnership group, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was

Resolved to note the information provided and that members had no ideas for how to make use of the E-cargo bikes in their area.

## **C. Orkney Partnership - Community Priorities**

Following consideration of consultations received from Orkney Partnership, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding community priorities, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided and that members had no comments to submit.

## **D. Hoy North and Centre Online Consultation Event**

Following consideration of a consultation on the planned replacement of two 33kV submarine electricity cable which run between the Orkney Mainland and Hoy North and Hoy Centre, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided and that no members had attended the event.

## **9. Publications**

The following publications had been circulated previously, and were noted by members:

- VAO – March 2021 Volunteering Summary.
- Triage Newsletter - March 2021.
- VAO Training and Funding Update - March 2021.
- VAO Newsletter March 2021.

## **10. Any Other Competent Business**

### **A. Addition of Name to Firth War Memorial**

Members discussed correspondence from Mr D McLaughlin, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding the addition of the name of Mr N Isbister to the war memorial in Finstown, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should contact Mr D McLaughlin to inform him that members had no objections to the addition, subject to the approval from the appropriate bodies.

### **B. Security Cameras within Schools**

Members had a lengthy discussion regarding the siting of CCTV cameras within Firth Primary School to deter vandalism to the nursery play area, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would contact Democratic Services to seek advice on this matter.

### **C. Easing of Covid-19 Restrictions and Future Meetings**

Members discussed the possibility of a date for face-to-face meetings, and the Community Council Liaison Officer advised that they would issue advice once more information had been provided by the Scottish Government, and it was:

Resolved to note that Democratic Services would monitor the situation and inform members of future meeting possibilities.

### **D. St Magnus Festival – Firth Park**

Members heard that there may be various events to be held in Firth Park and that stakeholders responsible will be in contact with the Chair, and it was:

Resolved that the Chair would inform members of possible up-coming events.

### **E. Damage and Repair to Firth Park**

Members heard how recent damage to Firth Park was repaired by a local member of the community and that Allans of Gillock had supplied the material free of charge. Members also heard that both parties had received a letter of thanks from the Community Council, and it was:

Resolved to note information provided.

## **11. Date of Next Meeting**

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

Resolved that the next meeting of Firth and Stenness Community Council would be held on Thursday, 24 June 2021 (perhaps via Zoom depending on tier rules), commencing at 19:30.

## **12. Conclusion of Meeting**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:00.