

# **Minute of the Meeting of Stronsay Community Council held in Stronsay Community Centre and via Teams on Monday, 19 May 2025 at 19:15**

## **Present:**

Mrs L McQuaid, Mr D Stout, Ms M Bar-Tor, Mr D Blyth, Mr S Hourston and Ms S Whiteman.

## **In Attendance:**

- Councillor S Clackson.
- Councillor M Thomson (via Teams).
- Mr R Cunningham, Service Manager, Democratic Services and Communications.
- Mr C McAlpine, Island Link Officer (ILO)/Clerk.

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## **1. Apologies**

The meeting commenced immediately after a public meeting to elect a new Community Council member, and the Chair congratulated Ms M Bar-Tor on her appointment, and it was:

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mr J Seaton and Councillor H Woodbridge.

## **2. Election of Office Bearers**

### **A. Chairperson**

Following a secret ballot, it was:

Resolved that Mrs L McQuaid be appointed as Chair of Stronsay Community Council.

### **B. Vice Chairperson**

Following a secret ballot, it was:

Resolved that Mr D Stout be appointed as Vice Chairperson of Stronsay Community Council.

### **C. Transport Representative**

Resolved that Mr S Hourston be appointed as Transport Representative for Stronsay Community Council.

### **D. Planning Representative**

Resolved that the Island Link Officer be appointed as Planning Representative for Stronsay Community Council.

### **E. Stronsay Development Trust Co-opted Representative**

Resolved that Mr J Seaton be appointed as the Stronsay Development Trust Co-opted Representative for Stronsay Community Council.

### **F. Health and Care Representative**

Resolved that Mrs S Whiteman be appointed as Health and Care Representative for Stronsay Community Council.

## **3. Adoption of Minutes**

The minute of the meeting held on 24 February 2025 was approved, being proposed by Mr S Hourston and seconded by Mr D Blyth.

## **4. Matters Arising**

### **A. SDT – Local Place Plan**

Prior to the main matters arising, a presentation by representatives from Stronsay Development Trust took place, giving members an update on the Stronsay Local Place Plan 2025, and it was:

Resolved that Stronsay Development Trust would forward the details of the draft place plan to members for comment.

### **B. Village Play Park**

Members had previously been forwarded a response from the play park equipment manufacturer about concerns that had been raised about the rubber matting around the play park equipment and also information on the guarantee periods, and following consideration of the manufacturer's response and information on the suggested amount to be set aside for maintenance, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Vice Chair would visit the play park and fit additional cable ties to the matting if these were still needed.
2. That £150.00 would be set aside from the Stronsay Community Council General Fund for Village Play Park Maintenance.

### **C. Community Council Issues**

Members heard that information on the role of the Link Officer had been updated, that work was in progress to establish a Stronsay Community Council facebook page and that the vacancy for a Community Council member had been advertised along with details of the public meeting held to elect a new member, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **D. Storage of Community Generator**

Members heard that a funding source for a container to house the community generator had not been found and enquiries were ongoing, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

### **E. Welcome to Stronsay Sign**

Members heard that there were no objections to a Welcome to Stronsay sign being erected on an exterior wall of the Fish Mart as long as the necessary permissions were in place, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Island Link Officer would submit a planning application on behalf of Stronsay Community Council for the erection of a Welcome to Stronsay sign on an exterior wall of the Fish Mart.

2. That Stronsay Community Council would cover the cost of the planning application fee.

## **F. 20mph Speed Limit Lights**

Members heard that a response had been received from Roads Support in relation to members' queries on the speed signs near the school and that their concerns had been resolved, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

## **G. Stronsay Council Houses**

Members were provided with details of the Housing Officer's response to the concerns raised over the neglect and mess at some of the Council owned housing properties, and it was:

Resolved that the Chair would issue a reassuring public statement on issues, including housing, that are being addressed.

## **5. Slaughterhouse Report**

Members heard that two hydro invoices had been received, covering the period 15 February to 14 April 2025, and details were given of the slaughterhouse usage for 2024/2025, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

## **6. Fish Mart Report**

Members heard that the Fish Mart Subgroup had participated in a Teams meeting with officers to discuss the outcome of the 5 February 2025 Safety and Resilience Audit and the audit recommendations that needed to be implemented. The Subgroup members had also held the first quarterly review with the Fish Mart operators and problems continued with hydro invoicing, which members had been consulted on and agreement given that this should be referred back to the Energy Ombudsman. The operators had emailed members a profit and loss statement for the 2024/2025 financial year, and the current Subgroup members stood down and were replaced by Mrs L McQuaid and Ms M Bar-Tor, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **7. Reports From Representatives**

### **A. Stronsay Development Trust – Co-opted Representative's Report**

On behalf of the Stronsay Development Trust Co-opted Representative, members were given an update on Stronsay Development Trust initiatives, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **B. Transport Representative's Report**

Members heard that the Transport Representative had attended a meeting with Community Councils and Development Trusts representatives on the proposed plans for the new ferries, that passenger figures continued to be received for ferry and inter island air travel, that the Nordic Sea would be used for additional sailings during the summer and that tenders were being invited for dredging the channel leading to Stronsay harbour, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information provided.
2. That the Island Link Officer would ask if the passenger figures could be made public.

## **C. Planning Representative's Report**

Members had previously been notified of planning application 25/050/PP, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **D. Health and Care Representative's Report**

Members heard that the Health and Care Representative had attended a Joint Isles Health and Care meeting on 4 March 2025 where additional support for GPs was raised, the early discharge of patients from hospital, and the charge for telecare, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

# **8. Consultations**

## **A. Winter Service Plan 2025**

Members had previously been forwarded the OIC consultation on the Winter Service Plan 2025 with comments requested by 30 June 2025, and it was:

Resolved that members had no comment to make on the Winter Service Plan 2025.

## **B. Sustainable Aviation Test Environment (SATE) Survey**

Members had previously been forwarded information on a SATE Survey with a closing date for responses 30 April 2024, and it was:

Resolved that members had no comment to make on the Consultation Sustainable Aviation Test Environment Survey.

## **9. Correspondence**

### **A. Northern Isles Freight Vessels Replacement Project – Public Events and Key Stakeholder Meetings**

Members had previously been forwarded information on the Northern Isles Freight Vessels Replacement Project – Public Events and Key Stakeholder Meetings and comments made by members were forwarded for consideration, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

### **B. Consultation Response – Visitor Levy and Public Engagement**

Members had previously been consulted on the Visitor Levy and Public Engagement and their responses were forwarded for consideration. In response, the reply from the Team Manager, Sustainable Tourism Enterprise and Economic Growth, had been forwarded to members, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

### **C. Orkney Community Connect**

Members had previously been forwarded correspondence from Orkney Community Connect regarding new trial bus services. Posters advertising the service were also put on public display, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

### **D. Island Games – Sports Schedule**

Members had previously been forwarded information on the draft competition schedule for the Island Games, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **E. Verge Maintenance Plan 2025 – Community Council Comments**

Members had previously been forwarded Roads Support's responses to Community Council comments on the Verge Maintenance Plan 2025, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **F. My Place Awards: Celebrating Placemaking Efforts in Scotland**

Members had previously been forwarded details from the Scottish Civic Trust Communications and Events Officer of the national My Place Awards, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

### **G. Parish Cup Ferry Timetable Change**

Members had previously been forwarded information on a proposed change to the East side ferry timetable to accommodate the Parish Cup. Members had no

objection to the proposed timetable change, and this had been forwarded to Orkney Ferries, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

## **H. Rothiesholm Beach Road**

Members had previously been consulted about a request for Community Council owned aggregate to be used to fill potholes in the road and car park at the Rothiesholm beach, and their agreement to this had been forwarded to Roads, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

## **I. Ferry Replacement Programme - Update**

Members had previously been forwarded a briefing note to communities on the Ferry Replacement Programme, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

## **J. Orkney Towns Fund Update**

Members had previously been forwarded information on the Orkney Towns Fund, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **K. Island Games - Road Closures**

Members had previously been forwarded a road closure letter, sent to Community Councils on behalf of the Corporate Director Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **L. SEPA Online Information Session for Communities**

Members had previously been forwarded a response from Public Affairs, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) to comments members had made on SEPA's online information session for communities on a proposed Environmental Performance Assessment Scheme, and it was:

Resolved to note the response from the Scottish Environment Protection Agency to members comments on the online information session for communities.

# **10. Financial Statements**

## **A. General Finance**

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 1 May 2025, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £1,330.09.

## **B. Fish Mart Account**

After consideration of the Fish Mart account statement as at 1 May 2025, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £11,867.47.

## **C. Slaughterhouse Account**

After consideration of the Slaughterhouse account statement as at 1 May 2025, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £10,604.15.

## **D. Community Council Grant Scheme**

Following consideration of the 2024/2025 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 1 May 2025, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval in the main capping limit of £492.65, £28.30 in the additional capping limit and £307.63 in the island capping limit.

## **E. Community Development Fund**

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 1 May 2025, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for allocation of £14,292.54.

## **11. Publications**

The following publications had been forwarded to members and were noted:

- Voluntary Action Orkney - Newsletter - February and April 2025.
- Loganair North Isles Flight Statistics for Year 2024-2025 and April 2025.
- Orkney Ferries Statistics – March and April 2025.

## **12. Any Other Competent Business**

### **A. Stronsay West Pier**

Members heard that the end section of the west pier remained closed for use, creating a shortage of berthing places and an update on the situation was requested, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Island Link Officer would request an update on the closed off section of the west pier.
2. That a representative from Harbours would be invited to the next Stronsay Community Council meeting.



3. That the Island Link Officer would locate and forward members previous information on Stronsay Community Council's request for a harbour pontoon.

## **B. Orkney Islands Council MyOrkney Cards**

Members heard that Orkney Islands Council had produced a MyOrkney card giving details of how to report problems and request help from the Council, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

## **C. Stronsay Housing**

Members were asked if a representative from Housing should be invited to a Community Council meeting to answer questions on housing in Stronsay, and it was:

Resolved that a decision on whether to invite a representative from Housing to a Community Council meeting would be decided at a later date.

## **D. Our Budget Challenge**

Members heard that the survey results from Orkney Islands Council Our Budget Challenge were available for circulation between members, available from the Chair, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

## **13. Date of Next Meeting**

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Stronsay Community Council would be held on Monday, 23 June 2025, commencing at 19:00 in Stronsay Community Centre.

## **14. Conclusion of Meeting**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:12.