

Minute of the Meeting of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council held on Monday, 6 July 2020 at 19:00 via Microsoft Teams

Present:

Kim Burns, Lorraine A Craigie, David L Flett, Christopher Gee, Moyra Gordon, Christine E Marcus, Cathleen A Hourie, Robert F Leslie, Rikki A Lidderdale and Tom Rendall.

In Attendance:

- Councillor Sandy G Cowie.
- Councillor Norman R Craigie.
- Councillor David Dawson.
- Councillor Steven B Heddle.
- Councillor W Leslie Manson.
- Councillor John T Richards.
- Councillor John A R Scott.
- Councillor Gwenda M Shearer.

- Mrs H Flett, Clerk.

- Temporary Sergeant Hugh Mooney, Police Scotland.
- Adam Stanger, Community Council Liaison Officer.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Steven Metcalf and John R Mowat, and Councillor Andrew Drever.

2. Election of Office Bearers

A. Chair

After a secret ballot for the position of Chair, the result of which was as follows:

- Lorraine Craigie – 1 vote.
- Rikki Lidderdale – 4 votes.
- Tom Rendall – 4 votes.

Lorraine Craigie was eliminated from the process and, following a further secret ballot, the result of which was as follows:

- Rikki Lidderdale – 5 votes.
- Tom Rendall – 4 votes.

Resolved that Rikki Lidderdale should be appointed Chair of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council.

B. Vice Chair

After a secret ballot for the position of Vice Chair, the result of which was as follows:

- Davie Flett – 3 votes.
- Moyra Gordon – 1 vote.
- Robert Leslie – 2 votes.
- Tom Rendall – 3 votes.

Davie Flett withdrew from the process, Moyra Gordon was eliminated from the process and, following a further secret ballot, the result of which was as follows:

- Robert Leslie – 5 votes.
- Tom Rendall – 4 votes.

Resolved that Robert Leslie should be appointed Vice Chair of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council.

Christine Marcus joined the meeting at this point.

C. Planning Representative

After a brief discussion regarding the Planning Representative, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should be re-appointed as the Planning representative.

3. Appointments

A. Finance Sub-committee

After a brief discussion regarding the Finance Sub-committee, it was:

Resolved that the following members should be appointed to the Finance Sub-committee:

- Chair.
- Vice Chair.
- Christine Harcus.
- Tom Rendall.

Robert Leslie left the meeting at this point.

B. Kirkwall Places and Spaces Sub-group

After a brief discussion regarding this Sub-group, it was:

Resolved that, as the Kirkwall Places and Spaces project was now complete, no appointments were required.

C. Wellbeing Orkney Advisory Board

After a brief discussion regarding this Advisory Board position, it was:

Resolved that, as the project was complete, no appointment was required to the Wellbeing Orkney Advisory Board.

4. Police Scotland Matters

Temporary Sergeant Hugh Moonie gave a short update on relevant Police Scotland matters including the response to the Covid-19 pandemic, changes to working practices as a result of Covid-19 restrictions, police staffing within Orkney, the summer campaign including drink and drug driving, and working with the Orkney Drug Dog charity, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

Temporary Sergeant Hugh Moonie left the meeting at this point.

5. Adoption of Minute

The minute of the meeting held on 16 March 2020 was approved, being proposed by Cathleen Hourie and seconded by Moyra Gordon.

6. Matters Arising

A. Shrub Bed at Scapa Junction

Following consideration of the lack of progress with works and/or funding regarding the shrub bed at the Scapa junction, it was resolved:

1. That Cathleen Hourie should continue to pursue the possibility of funding from the Robertson Group.

2. Should no progress be made by autumn, Christine Marcus and Cathleen Hourie with assistance from Councillor Norman Craigie, should cut back all the bushes and look to turning the bench round so that it was facing down towards the hospital and New Scapa Road.

B. Town Centre Funding

Following consideration of correspondence from Councillor John Richards regarding potential projects for Town Centre funding, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the deadline for applications had been extended again to 31 March 2021.

2. That the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council requesting that one of the two bins further along from where the burger van was situated opposite Ayre Mills, which was not so well used, be relocated to double the capacity at the car park.

C. Care Home, Kirkwall

Councillors Leslie Manson and Steven Heddle provided an update on the recent decision of Orkney Islands Council to proceed with a 40 bed replacement care facility in Kirkwall, with the potential to increase capacity by design, noting that the development still required the approval of the Integration Joint Board, and it was:

Resolved to note that a 40-bed replacement care facility would be developed on the lower half of the field lying between the Pickaquooy Centre and Glaitness Road.

D. Future of Peedie Breeks Nursery

Following consideration of correspondence from the Liaison Officer advising of the recent decision of Orkney Islands Council to establish an interim service, build a new early learning and childcare facility at Orkney College and seek a private business to run a high quality service, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that Orkney Islands Council would now prepare a plan, work with the Care Inspectorate and source staff, a building and equipment to establish a quality service that could be funded in part from public grant.

E. Bag the Bruck

The Clerk advised that, as the annual Bag the Bruck event had been cancelled, no claims would be made on any grants awarded, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

F. Westray Community Council – Complaints to O2 and Vodafone

Following consideration of correspondence from O2 and Vodafone in response to the Community Council's support for the complaint made by Westray Community Council regarding network coverage, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should seek an update from Alistair Carmichael MP, who had also contacted the mobile phone companies regarding network coverage in Orkney.

G. HIAL ATMS Plans

Following consideration of correspondence from the Chair of the Uist Association of Community Councils and the Vice Chair of Benbecula Community Council regarding HIAL's planned changes to air traffic control at their airports, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Chair should liaise with Councillor David Dawson to obtain contact details for local air traffic controllers and representatives of HIAL, with a view to both parties presenting their views at the next meeting.

H. Financial Requests

The Clerk had received correspondence from the undernoted individuals and/or groups advising that events, for which the Community Council had provided financial assistance, had been cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions, and therefore no claims would be made:

- Orkney Climbing Club – Scottish Development Climbing Finals, Glasgow, March 2020.
- Papdale Primary School – P7 activity trip to Lagganlia, June 2020.
- Orkney Folk Festival – 21 to 24 May 2020.
- Netball Orkney – individual participation in district games in Aberdeen, 14 March 2020.

I. Verge Maintenance Plan

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council outlining consultation responses to the verge maintenance plan, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

J. Best Kept War Memorial Competition

Following consideration of correspondence from the Kirkwall Branch of the Royal British Legion advising of the cancellation of the Best Kept War Memorial Competition for 2020, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

7. Correspondence

A. Pedestrian Shortcut at Meadow Park, Scapa Trail and Green Plaque

Following consideration of correspondence from D Murdoch regarding a pedestrian short cut from Meadow Park towards the Bignold Park Road, via Flett Drive, the need for a proper pedestrian connection between Foreland Road and the Scapa Trail and a request for a green plaque on Broad Street to mark the murder of Captain James Moodie in 1725, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that, as the footpath between Meadow Crescent and Flett Park had not yet been adopted, the developer would need to agree to open the footpath and provide a letter of indemnity.
2. That the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council requesting what plans, if any, were in place for crossing the ditch so that pedestrian access from Foreland Road could be joined up with the Crantit Trail.
3. That the Clerk should write to D Murdoch declining the request for a green plaque to mark the murder of Captain James Moodie.

Robert Leslie rejoined the meeting during discussion of this item.

B. Orkney Native Wildlife Project

Following consideration of correspondence from Samantha Ranscombe, Community Engagement Officer, providing details of year one of the Orkney Native Wildlife Project, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

C. Proposed Extension to St Olaf's Kirkyard

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council advising that work had progressed on the proposed extension to St Olaf's Kirkyard to provide approximately 1,000 lairs, and that a planning application was now being prepared for submission, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

Councillor Sandy Cowie left the meeting during consideration of this item.

D. Community Councils – Planning Procedures and Covid-19

Following consideration of correspondence from the Improvement Service advising on engagement with community councils and the Scottish Government's ongoing commitment to early, effective community engagement and inclusion, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

8. Annual Grants

Following consideration of correspondence from the Democratic Services Manager advising of the allocations of grant to community councils for 2020/2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

A. To note that the annual grant to Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council for financial year 2020/2021 amounted to £6,687.46.

B. To note that the Community Council Grant Scheme capping limit was set at £3,355 for financial year 2020/2021.

9. Community Council Insurance

Following consideration of correspondence from the Liaison Officer regarding community council insurance for 2020/2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

A. To note that the premium was less than 2019/2020 and included fireworks events which previously attracted a separate premium.

B. That the premium for 2020/2021, amounting to £328.02, be met from the Community Council Grant Scheme.

10. Accounts for Year Ended 31 March 2020

Following consideration of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the final certified accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020.

11. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

Following consideration of the General Finance statement for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 31 March 2020 of £6,380.21.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2019/2020 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 31 March 2020, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £0.27.

C. General Finance

Following consideration of the General Finance statement for the period 1 April to 28 June 2020, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 28 June 2020 of £12,851.79.

D. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2020/2021 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 28 June 2020, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £3,355.

12. Financial Requests

A. Papdale Primary School

Following consideration of correspondence from Papdale Primary School requesting financial assistance towards the cost of P6 pupils' activity trip to Hoy in September 2020, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that as per the policy which states that travel within Orkney was no longer eligible for assistance, no assistance be provided.

B. Women's Alcohol Dependency Support Group

Following consideration of correspondence from Women's Aid Orkney requesting financial assistance towards a women's alcohol dependency support group, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Women's Aid Orkney advising that whilst the Community Council supported the project in principle, the organisation should contact all community councils in Orkney, not just the three named, and that any financial assistance provided would be on the basis of one year only, as the Community Council was not in a position to provide multi-year approvals.

13. Consultation – Winter Service Plan

Following consideration of a consultation document from Orkney Islands Council reviewing the Winter Service Plan, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to make no comment.

14. Publications

The following publications had been sent to the Clerk and were forwarded to members via email:

- VAO Newsletters – March, April, May and June 2020.
- VAO – Training and Funding Updates – March, April, May and June 2020.
- Paths for All – 2 April 2020.
- SSE – Looking Forward Report Overview 2020-2021.

- Scottish Rural Action – May Newsletter.
- Scottish Water Newsletter – Keeping Scotland's Water Flowing – May 2020.

15. Any Other Competent Business - Walliwall Quarry

Following representations from a member regarding safety at Walliwall Quarry, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising of concerns regarding access by the public, particularly children, to Walliwall Quarry and the possibility of builders being able to dispose of inert materials at that location.

16. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council be held on Monday, 17 August 2020, venue to be confirmed, with Microsoft Teams as fallback, commencing at 19:00.

17. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:26.