

Minute of the Meeting of Stromness Community Council held in the Town House, Stromness, on Monday, 26 August 2019 at 19:00

Present:

P McLaughlin, K Bevan, K Donald, E Knight, J Park, W Mackay and J Mowat.

In Attendance:

- Councillor R Crichton.
- Councillor J Stockan.
- R Merriman, Stromness Community Development Trust.
- S Craigie, Clerk.
- One member of the press.

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1. Apology

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been intimated on behalf of G Deans.

2. Police Matters

The police representative was unable to attend the meeting. However, he had forwarded the following update:

- The Orkney Drug Dog continued to work well in the local community.
- The PSYV (Police Scotland Youth Volunteers) was still going strong with high level of regular attendance. They had recently supported police with leaflet drops in areas regarding ongoing enquiries.
- Northern Division of Police Service of Scotland would soon be taking up the use of Mobile Working. Officers would be using mobile devices as part of their operational duties.

Resolved that the information be noted.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 25 June 2019 was approved, being proposed by E Knight and seconded by W Mackay.

4. Matters Arising

A. Market Green Fencing Stabs

Following consideration of correspondence received from the Sport and Leisure Service Manager, copies of which had been circulated, regarding safety concerns raised in connection with the some of the fencing stabs, it was:

Resolved to note that the Active Schools Co-ordinator had advised that the condition of the posts and fence would be monitored and if safety concerns were found, work would be carried out to resolve them.

B. Jack Renton - Proposed Plaque

After consideration of correspondence received from Democratic Services in connection with the proposed erection of a plaque, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note:

1. That the Planning Manager, Orkney Islands Council, had confirmed that the property where the proposed plaque was to be erected was a Listed B building.
2. That a Listed Building Consent application and Advertisement content required to be submitted for the erection of the plaque.
3. That there was no fee for Listed Building Consent, however, there may be a fee for Advertisement Consent.

4. That the Clerk would investigate the standard plaque size and get quotes for the cost.

5. That the wording for the plaque that had been agreed at the meeting held on 25 June 2019 should follow the same format as other plaques, such as Eliza Fraser's.

C. Financial Requests – Orkney Yole Association

Due to the timing of meetings, the following had been agreed by members via emails over the summer.

Following consideration of correspondence received from Orkney Yole Association, copies of which had been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards publishing a book on Orkney Yoles, it was:

Resolved:

1. To request a grant of £590 from the Seed Corn Fund.
2. That confirmation that the above application to use £590 of Stromness' allocated Seed Corn funding towards publishing a book on Orkney Yoles was approved by the Economic Development Section, Orkney Islands Council, on 25 July 2019.
3. That the grant awarded was in respect of the following qualifying category:
 - Costs associated with publishing a book on Orkney Yoles. Evidence of costs must be provided once the book is published.

D. Campsite Sign at Foot of Back Road

Following an update from Councillor R Crichton, who had been in contact with the relevant section, confirmed that there were two signs for the campsite at the bottom of the Back Road. One attached to the wall on the Back Road, with the other on North End Road attached to a lamp post pointing towards the Back Road. Members still felt that these signs were easily missed, and it was:

Resolved that Councillor Crichton would raise the matter again with the relevant section.

E. Town Map

Following an update from the Chair regarding the progress regarding the town map, it was:

Resolved to note:

1. That the new Town Map was now in place.
2. That the Chair had emailed I Ashman requesting an invoice for his work.

F. Property at Springfield Crescent/Franklin Road

Following an update from Councillor R Crichton, it was:

Resolved to note that the owners of the property had been contacted and the stones had now been removed.

G. Stromness Town Hall

Resolved that the Clerk should raise the matter of upgrading Stromness Town Hall's heating system and toilet facilities with the relevant department.

H. Right of Way Access – Warebeth Road/Gaudiesback

Following an update from Councillor R Crichton, it was:

Resolved that this matter was ongoing as it was not on the Council's list of public rights of way.

5. Intergenerational Opportunities

Resolved to note that as G Deans was not present there was nothing to report.

6. Stromness: Pride in Our Community

Following an update from E Knight and after discussion, it was:

Resolved to note:

1. That this item should remain on the agenda.
2. That a Working Group to bring together ideas should be formed.
3. That a possible date for Stromness: Pride in Our Community Week would be May 2020.
4. That J Park would contact Stromness Primary School to see if this would be something that could link into Primary 2's Our Home/Our Town project or if it would link into an Activity that the school may like to become involved in.

7. Correspondence

A. Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony 2019

Following consideration of correspondence received from Democratic Services, copies of which had been circulated, regarding the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony 2019, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the date set for the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony was Wednesday, 27 November 2019.
2. That the Chair, in conjunction with the Clerk, would update the Event Management Plan.

B. Bonfire Night Arrangements

Following consideration of the Event Management and Contingency Plan, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Chair, in conjunction with the Clerk, would update the Event Management and Contingency Plan.

8. Consultations

A. Application for Consent for Section 36 of The Electricity Act 1989 (as Amended) – EMEC Billia Croo Wave Test Centre

Following consideration of the consultation document regarding the application for consent for section 36 of The Electricity Act 1989 (as Amended) at EMEC Billia Croo Wave Test Centre, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that no comments had been received prior to the closing date of 16 August 2019.

B. Learning Disability Strategy 2019 to 2024

Following consideration of the consultation document regarding the Learning Disability Strategy 2019 to 2024, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that no comments had been received prior to the closing date of 26 August 2019.

C. Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc – Marine (Scotland) Act 2010

Following consideration of the consultation document regarding Marine (Scotland) Act 2010: The Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note:

1. That a pre-application consultation event would be held in Stromness on Thursday, 12 September 2019.
2. That comments to the consultation should be received no later than 4 October 2019.

D. What's Next for Stromness Place Plan Report

Following an update from the K Bevan and following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note:

1. That Stromness Community Council had responded to the draft What's Next for Stromness Place Plan Report.
2. That, following community partners feedback, a further draft of the What's Next for Stromness Place Plan report was due to be circulated.

3. That Stromness Community Development Trust would be holding a meeting prior to the date for final submissions for the report, to which members of Stromness Community Council would be invited.

9. Publications

A. Orkney Marine Planning Update

Following consideration of the Orkney Marine Planning Update for June 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the publication.

B. Community Planning News – Summer 2019

Following consideration of the Community Planning News – Summer 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the publication.

10. Reports from Community Council Representatives

A. MARS

The MARS representative informed members that he had again reported a broken dog waste bin at Downie's Lane. He also queried why the white lines on the road not been replaced since the surface dressing in June. Councillor Crichton confirmed that he would contact the relevant section, and it was:

Resolved that the information be noted.

B. Stromness Community Business Forum

The Stromness Community Business Forum representative informed members that the Forum had not met during the Summer. She confirmed that it had been a successful summer. The extended time for the Shop Along the Street had received positive feedback, and it was:

Resolved that the information be noted.

C. Stromness Community Development Trust

The Stromness Community Development Trust representative introduced R Merriman, who had recently joined as Development Officer.

The Development Officer confirmed that the playpark at Guardhouse Park was now underway. Funding for bushes for the park had been applied for.

Regarding the Christmas lights – the final decision was still to be made on the proposal submitted by Colin Begley. It was hoped that some of the new lights would be in place for Christmas 2019, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Playpark Sub-committee

The Playpark Sub-committee representative confirmed work on the new playpark had now begun, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

11. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 14 August 2019, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £8,859.49.

B. Sea Haven Account

After consideration of the Sea Haven Account statement as at 14 August 2019, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £9,824.62 of which:

- £3,607.90 would be held to be released once the Christmas lights had been purchased for the town.
- £5,000 which was ring-fenced for redevelopment of the playpark at Guardhouse Park.
- £100 which had been donated from Stromness Drama Club towards purchasing a new flag but as the money was not ring-fenced if replacing the flag did not go ahead the money would be put towards another worthwhile community project.
- £1,050.72 to be solely used for the upkeep and maintenance of the stage.

C. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2019/2020 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 14 August 2019, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval was £720.40.

D. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 14 August 2019, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval was £3,699.54.

E. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund Statement as at 14 August 2019, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £2,673.78.

12. Financial Requests

A. Stromness Youth Football Club – Assistance towards Costs Incurred for Pitch and Hall Hire

Following consideration of correspondence received from Stromness Youth Football Club, copies of which had been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards costs incurred for pitch and hall hire, it was:

Resolved:

1. That, on this occasion, the request for financial assistance towards costs incurred for pitch and hall hire be refused.
2. That the Clerk should contact Stromness Youth Football Club to enquire about the costs incurred in connection with the purchase and delivery of the full-size goal posts mentioned in their application, as the Community Council may be minded to make a donation.

B. Orkney Amateur Football Association – 101 Milne Cup - Shetland

Following consideration of correspondence received from Orkney Amateur Football Association, copies of which had been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of eight Stromness residents attending the 101 Milne Cup in Shetland on 27 July 2019, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £13 be granted, to be funded from the Community Council's General Account, towards each of the eight named Stromness residents once confirmation had been received by the Clerk that they had been selected to play for the team and were 18 years or younger.

C. Girlguiding Association – Glasgow – 31 August 2019

Following consideration of correspondence received from Girlguiding Orkney, copies of which had been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of one Stromness resident attending the Girlguiding Scotland's concert "Tartan Gig 2019" to be held in Glasgow on 31 August 2019, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £13 be given towards the cost of attending the Girlguiding Scotland's concert "Tartan Gig 2019" to be held in Glasgow on 31 August 2019

D. Show Jumping and Cross-country Event – Scotsburn – 8 September 2019

Following consideration of correspondence received from a Stromness resident, copies of which had been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of her daughter attending a show jumping and cross-country event in Scotsburn on 8 September 2019, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £13 be given towards the cost of attending a show jumping and cross-country event in Scotsburn on 8 September 2019.

E. Orkney Amateur Swimming Club – Wick Far North Meet – 25 August 2019

Following consideration of correspondence received from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, copies of which had been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of four Stromness residents attending the Wick Far North Meet on 25 August 2019, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £13 for each of the four Stromness residents, totalling £52, be given towards attending the Wick Far North Meet on 25 August 2019.

13. Any Other Competent Business

A. Fire, Maet and Ale Festival

Following consideration of correspondence received from G Crichton and following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note:

1. That while in support of the proposed festival which was felt should not impact on the community bonfire, Stromness Community Council could not have a major input into the event.
2. That G Crichton should be directed to the relevant section of the Council to apply for road closures, burn sites, etc.

B. Shopping Week

A member queried who was responsible for taking the bunting down that had been erected for Shopping Week, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Chair would feedback to the Shopping Week Committee regarding removing the bunting and request that in future years the bunting be taken down by the end of August at the very latest.
2. To note that it should be emphasised to the organisations requesting to use the canopy that the canopy was heavy and therefore strength was needed when volunteering to erect and dismantle it.

C. GMB Garden

A member informed the meeting that weed killer was required for the GMB Gardens, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Wall at John Street

A member enquired what was happening regarding the wall that had been damaged recently by a car on John Street. Councillor Stockan confirmed that the damage

sustained had proved challenging and would require an engineer's study in order to fix the damage, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

E. Trees/Shrubs – Outertown Road

A member raised safety concerns regarding trees/shrubs encroaching the road from a property on the Outertown Road, and it was:

Resolved that Councillor Crichton would consult with the relevant department of the Council regarding this matter.

F. Catering Van – Stromness Bonfire

A member had been approached by the owner of a fast food outlet whether they could attend Stromness Bonfire and, following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. That J Park should contact the owner of the fast food outlet let them know that Stromness Community Council had no objections to them attending.
2. That should the fast food outlet that had attended last year wish to return, both owners should be notified of the others intended presence at the event.

G. Former Stromness Primary School Gardens

A member commented on the poor state of the former Stromness Primary School Gardens, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

H. Eventide Club Doors

A member commented on the poor state of the Eventide Club doors, and it was:

Resolved that Councillor Crichton would bring this to the relevant section of the Council's attention.

I. New Names for former Stromness Primary/Old Academy

Councillor Stockan informed members of the proposed new names for the former Stromness Primary/Old Academy buildings and requested that if there was any strong objection to let him know so he could feed it back, and it was:

Resolved to note that Stromness Community Council had no objections to the proposed names for the buildings.

14. Date of Next Meeting

That the next meeting of the Stromness Community Council would be held on Monday, 7 October 2019 in the Town House, Stromness, commencing at 19:00.

15. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:54.