

Minute of the Meeting of North Ronaldsay Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Friday, 30 October 2020 at 19:30

Present:

Mr I Deyell, Ms A Duncan, Mr P Donnelly, Mr M Holbrook, Mrs H Scott and Mr I Scott.

In Attendance:

- Councillor S Clackson.
- Councillor G Sinclair.
- Councillor H Woodbridge.
- Mrs M Spence, Democratic Services Manager.
- Ms S Moore, Clerk.

Order of Business

1. Apologies.....	2
2. Adoption of Minutes	2
3. Matters Arising.....	2
4. Election of Office Bearers and New Member	3
5. Correspondence	3
6. Financial Statements	4
7. Reports from Representatives	5
8. Publications	6
9. Any Other Competent Business - Scottish Water Works.....	6
10. Date of Next Meeting	6
11. Conclusion of Meeting	6

1. Apologies

Resolved to note that no apologies had been received.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the general meeting held on 27 January 2020, and the special meetings held on 17 February, 30 June, 3 August, 7 August, 23 August and 12 September 2020 were all approved, being proposed by Mr M Holbrook and seconded by Ms A Duncan.

3. Matters Arising

A. Scrap Cars

The Clerk reported that there were at least five cars ready to be sent for scrap, but Orkney Aggregates were still charging a gate fee. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask Orkney Aggregates how much it would cost to transport the scrap cars from Kirkwall Pier to their yard and to confirm the cost of the gate fee and that if the total cost of transport was too high, the scrap car scheme would be shelved until a later date, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Clerk would ask Orkney Aggregates how much it would cost to transport the scrap cars from Kirkwall Pier to their yard and to confirm the cost of the gate fee.
2. That, if the scrapping was to continue, the Clerk would inform the owners of these vehicles that the Community Council would pay the transport costs only and that they would be required to pay the gate fee.

B. Plastic Benches

Following discussion of plastic benches, it was agreed that funding should be allocated to have a concrete base laid and for installation of the benches. The Clerk agreed to put out an advert for someone to do the works, and the Chair and Mr P Donnelly agreed to advise on the specification for the concrete base. It was also agreed that the old benches would be advertised, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To set aside £750 from CCGS for a concrete base and installation of benches, subject to approval.
2. That the Clerk would put out an advert for someone locally to install the benches.
3. That the old benches would be advertised.

C. Nurse replacement

Following discussion of the Nurse Practitioner replacement, it was:

Resolved to wait for NHS Orkney to create an advert for the post.

D. Stiles

Following discussion of stiles around the shoreline, it was noted that the North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme had funding to put gates around the shore and were working with Mr O Gibb. Ms A Duncan agreed to advise the Project Officer that the stiles also needed attention, and would work with Mr O Gibb on finding the most appropriate stiles for each area of shoreline, and it was:

Resolved to note that the matter was still on-going.

E. Hut at Kirkyard

The Chair advised that he had bought and installed hinges onto the hut door, which was now secure but may still require painting. It was also reported that OIC had stated that they would carry out grave digging and would conduct a risk assessment on the dirt box before any repairs were made. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would contact OIC to take the matter regarding grave digging further, as members felt the proposed situation was unworkable.

4. Election of Office Bearers and New Member

Mr M Holbrook advised that he would be resigning from the Community Council on 30 November 2020. Members agreed that two new members should be sought and that a public meeting would take place when Covid-19 restrictions allowed. It was proposed by Mr P Donnelly and seconded by Mrs H Scott that the office bearers remain the same, and as there were no objections from the other members, it was:

Resolved:

A. That the status quo would remain in relation to Office Bearers.

B. That a public meeting would be held to elect to the two vacancies on the Community Council when Covid-19 restrictions allowed.

5. Correspondence

A. Conversation with the People of Scotland

Following consideration of correspondence from the Orkney Health and Care Project Officer, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding an invitation to events to gather information on experiences of health services during the pandemic, it was:

Resolved to note that Councillor H Woodbridge intended to attend that meeting and would report back at the next Community Council meeting.

B. Act of Remembrance

Following consideration of correspondence received from Democratic Services, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding Remembrance Day, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

C. Refund of Grants Awarded

Following discussion of correspondence received from Democratic Services regarding refund of grants, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

D. Island Communities Impact Assessment

Following discussion of correspondence received from the Scottish Government regarding a survey on Island Communities Impact Assessments, copies of which had previously been circulated, members agreed that individuals can complete the survey and if there were any points they felt needed to be made on behalf of the Community Council, they would contact the Clerk, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

E. Waste and Recycling Services

Following discussion of the correspondence received from Democratic Services regarding the Waste and Recycling Services, members advised that they felt the new system was better than the old one but could not see why the same system could not be modified to include plastic recycling. While on the subject of waste, the Chair informed members that new regulations had come into place that required the scrap wire and scrap metal skip to be certificated for lifting. The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with the same company that tests Orkney Ferries' equipment and they advised that the island's current lifting arrangement was not suitable and advised that they either buy new skips or buy a lifting cradle. This cradle would cost approximately £1,700 plus VAT and would likely stay on the ferry. It was suggested that the cost of this cradle could be split between North Ronaldsay and Papay Westray as they would be in the same situation. The Clerk agreed that she would correspond with Papa Westray Community Council to that effect, and would ask OIC to look into the matter further and investigate the possibility that they or even Orkney Ferries could fund or part fund the cost of the cradle, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the waste and recycling services were starting to return to normal.
2. That the Clerk would contact OIC and ask if it would be possible to get another bin, similar to the ones already in use, for plastic recycling.
3. That the Clerk would contact OIC and Papa Westray Community Council regarding the lifting cradle.

6. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 22 October 2020 and discussion thereof, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance in the General Fund was £13,722.26.

B. Turbine Fund

Members considered the Turbine Fund statement as at 22 October 2020, and it was reported that North Ronaldsay Trust had been provided with a loan from the Community Council, which was due to be paid back, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the balance in the Turbine Fund of £9,116.
2. That the Clerk would contact the Chair of North Ronaldsay Trust regarding the repayment of the loan.

C. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 22 October 2020, it was:

Resolved to note the balances remaining were £989.28, £527.40 and £648 in the main, additional and island capping limits respectively.

D. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 22 October 2020, it was:

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

E. Seedcorn Fund

Following consideration of the Seedcorn Fund Statement as at 22 October 2020, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £122.

7. Reports from Representatives

A. Transport Representative

The Transport Representative advised that he had missed the Consultative Forum meeting regarding the ferries but attended the meeting regarding flights. He had previously informed the Council that Papa Westray wanted to take one of North Ronaldsay's Saturday flights, which was shared in the summer timetable. The Community Council wrote back that they did not consent to giving up one of their flights. He reported that, as it stood, there would be no change to the summer timetable. It was also agreed that the North Isles Councillors would take the previously raised subject of the Golden Mariana visiting North Ronaldsay during foggy weather to relieve the backlog of travellers on North Ronaldsay to the relevant officers for discussion. Lastly, it was also discussed that North Ronaldsay had gone two weeks without a ferry and Councillor S Clackson agreed that he would take this matter forward and initiate an OLECG meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the discussion.

B. Planning Representative

Resolved to note that the Planning Representative had nothing to report.

C. North Ronaldsay Trust Representative

It was reported that, since the last meeting the Trust had made changes to their Memorandums and Articles, but they had not been able to hold a meeting because of the Covid-19 restrictions. The Trust had applied for funds to help islanders during Covid with fish and chip nights, etc, and had also applied for funding to purchase Treb, which was still an ongoing process. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the update.

8. Publications

The following publications were made available to members:

- VAO – Connect with Professor Andrew Gumley.
- VAO – Training and Funding Update - October 2020.
- Orkney Ferries - Statistics – June and July 2020.
- Loganair – Statistics - June to September 2020.
- Letters from School Place – August, September, and October 2020.

9. Any Other Competent Business - Scottish Water Works

It was reported that Scottish Water were to install a temporary tank to keep the island supplied with water while they work on a more permanent solution, but in order for this tank to be used, it had to be cleaned and sanitised. Scottish Water were planning to employ contractors from England to conduct the cleaning. Members asked the Clerk to contact the local Scottish Water operative to ask if local contractors could be employed instead to reduce the risk of Covid to the island, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would contact Scottish Water in this regard.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of North Ronaldsay Community Council would be held on Friday, 15 January 2021, via Teams, commencing at 19:30.

11. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 22:00.