

Minute of the Blended Meeting of St Andrews and Deerness Community Council held in St Andrews Primary School and via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 23 August 2023 at 19.30

Present:

Mr L Flett, Mrs N Linklater, Mrs L McAdie, Mr I Rendall and Mr P Thomas.

In Attendance:

- Councillor J Moar.
- Councillor R Peace.
- Ms H Green. Corporate Director Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure (via Teams).
- Mrs J McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer.
- Mrs J Lennie, Clerk.

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1. Apologies and Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the new member, Mrs Nikki Linklater, who had been elected at the public meeting held prior to the meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mr T Craigie and Councillor G Skuse.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 22 March 2023 was approved, being proposed by Mr L Flett and seconded by Mr I Rendall.

3. Matters Arising

Resolved to note that there were no matters arising from the previous agenda.

4. Consultation Documents

A. Orkney Area Licensing Board - Review of Statement of Alcohol Licensing Policy

Following consideration of the Orkney Area licensing Board – Review of Alcohol Licensing Policy, which required a response by 25 August 2023, it was:

Resolved to note this information and that members could submit a response to the Clerk before the response deadline.

B. Draft Procurement Strategy 2023-2028

Following consideration of the OIC Draft Procurement Strategy 2023-2028, which required a response by 31 July 2023, it was:

Resolved to note this information and no response had been received by the Clerk.

C. Scottish Government – Visitor Levy Bill

Following consideration of the Scottish Government – Visitor Levy Bill, which required a response by the extended deadline 15 September 2023, it was:

Resolved to note this information and that members could submit a response by the response deadline, 15 September 2023.

D. SSEN Transmission Community Benefit Fund Consultation

Following consideration of the SSEN Transmission Community Benefit Fund Consultation, which required a response by 13 August 2023, it was:

Resolved to note this information and that no response had been received by the Clerk.

5. Correspondence

A. Women's Aid Orkney

Following consideration of correspondence from Women's Aid Orkney inviting members to complete a short survey regarding Domestic Abuse in Older Women, it was:

Resolved to note this information.

B. Poppy Wreaths – Remembrance Sunday

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services regarding the purchase of poppy wreath/s for the community, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk advise East Mainland Church that this Community Council would purchase, annually, two poppy wreaths for the Remembrance Sunday Service at Deerness Kirkyard and St Andrews Kirkyard.

C. Orkneycommunities.co.uk – Online AGM

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkneycommunities.co.uk inviting participation in their online AGM, it was:

Resolved to note this information.

D. Scottish Government – Net Zero Scotland

Following consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Government inviting members to participate in an online workshop regarding “How we can best tackle climate change in Orkney?”, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

E. WHP Telecoms – 4G Tower at Upper Stove, Deerness

Following consideration of correspondence from L McArthur MSP regarding an update from WHP Telecoms on timescale for completion of the 4G tower upgrade and activation at Upper Stove, Deerness, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

F. Scottish Health Board Council (SHBC) – Member Recruitment

Following consideration of correspondence from the SHBC inviting members to apply for two positions on the SHCB, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

G. Scottish Island Passport (SIP) – Latest News and Survey

Following consideration of correspondence from SIP providing an update and requesting that members complete a survey, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

H. Community Led Local Development (CLLD)

Following consideration of correspondence from CLLD advising that the CLLD grant scheme was now open for applications until the deadline 31 July 2023, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

I. Scottish Water – ACM 2023

Following consideration of correspondence from Scottish Water inviting members to participate in the ACM 2023 on 29 August 2023, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

J. Variation of Premises License – Deerness Stores, Deerness

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services regarding a Variation of Premises License application from Deerness Stores, Deerness for the relocation of Off-sale Alcohol Display in the shop, it was:

Resolved that Clerk advise Democratic Services that members approved the Variation of Premises License application for Deerness Stores.

K. The Crofting Commission

Following consideration of correspondence from the Crofting Commission regarding encouraging new efficiencies in the application process from 1 September 2023 and encouraging applications via the digital online portal, it was:

Resolved to note this information.

L. Thank You Letters

Following consideration of thank you letter received from Ms S Delday, St Andrews Community Association, for financial assistance provided, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

6. Financial Statements

A. 2022/2023 General Finance

After consideration of the 2022/2023 General Finance statement as at 31 March 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £15,078.57.

B. 2022/2023 Ayrenergy Ltd Fund

Following consideration of the 2022/2023 Ayrenergy Ltd Fund Statement as at 31 March 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £10,511.46.

C. 2022/2023 Community Council Grant Scheme (CCGS)

Following consideration of the 2022/2023 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 31 March 2023, it was:

Resolved to note, that in the 2022/2023 financial year, projects totalling £2,147.00 had been awarded grant assistance from the CCGS.

D. 2022/2023 End of Year Accounts

Following consideration of the 2022/2023 audited End of Year Accounts as at 31 March 2023, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

E. 2023/2024 General Finance

After consideration of the 2023/2024 General Finance statement as at 2 August 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £17628.08.

F. 2023/2024 Ayrenergy Ltd Fund

Following consideration of the 2023/2024 Ayrenergy Ltd Fund Statement as at 2 August 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £20,511.46.

G. 2023/2024 Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2023/2024 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 2 August 2023, it was:

Resolved to note, that in the 2023/2024 financial year, that there was £2,823.50 available in the main capping limit only from the CCGS.

7. Financial Requests

A. St Andrews Bowling Club (SABC)

Following consideration of correspondence received from SABC advising that another source of funding had been secured to replace the three new bowling mats and that they wished to withdraw their financial application accordingly, it was resolved:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Education Grant Applications

Following consideration of four education grant applications, it was:

Resolved:

1. To award a £500 education grant each to Miss Kaitlyn McKinney, Miss Ann Lennie, Ms Michelle Morris and Miss Jenna Scott totalling £2,000.
2. That the Clerk would amend the Ayrenergy account and reduce the allocation for the education grant from £4,000 to £2,000 accordingly.

C. Travel Assistance

1. Mr Fraser Cooper

Members considered correspondence from Mr F Cooper requesting travel assistance for his participation in a swimming competition, the North Development Meet in Inverness on 24 and 25 June 2023, it was:

Resolved to grant Mr Fraser Cooper travel assistance of £40.

2. Mr Findley and Mr Aiden Cooper

Members considered correspondence from Mr Findley and Mr Aiden Cooper requesting travel assistance for their participation in the football squad at the 2023 Island Games in Guernsey, it was:

Resolved to award Mr Findley and Mr Aiden Cooper travel assistance of £70 each totalling £140.

3. Miss Ana and Miss Elin Scott

Members considered correspondence from Miss Ana and Miss Elin Scott requesting travel assistance for their gymnastic training in a top facility in Largs, it was:

Resolved to grant Miss Ana and Miss Elin Scott £40 travel assistance each, totalling £80.

D. Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council

Following consideration of correspondence from Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council regarding their request for funding towards the production costs of the 2023 Bonfire and Fireworks display in Kirkwall. Following some discussion Mr L Flett proposed £200 and this was seconded by Mrs L McAdie. Mr P Thomas proposed £150 and this was seconded by Mr I Rendall, and it was:

Resolved, unanimously, to withdraw all proposals and opt for £175 funding for the Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council 2023 Bonfire and Firework display in Kirkwall, subject to eligibility under CCGS.

E. St Andrews SWI

Members considered correspondence from St Andrews SWI requesting financial assistance towards the cost of holding the St Andrews Children's Halloween party, and it was:

Resolved to award a grant totalling £83 to St Andrews SWI, subject to eligibility under CCGS.

8. Publications

The following publications had been made available for members to view and were noted:

- VAO – Newsletter - June and July 2023.
- VAO - Training and Funding Update – June and July 2023.
- NHS Healthcare Improvement Scotland – Information Bulletin.
- Scottish Rural Action June and July 2023 Newsletter.
- Police Scotland – Orkney Area Command – CC Newsletter.

9. Any Other Competent Business

A. Verge Issues in Tankerness

Mr I Rendall advised that he wished to raise concerns with the lack of verge cutting in Tankerness, in particular around the back of Tankerness, and advised that, annually, two cuts of verges was not adequate. He also raised concerns regarding visibility at the Millhouse Junction, Tankerness and advised that verge cuts were required in either direction to improve visibility and advised that the trees were not the only issue at this junction. He further advised that the junction to the multiple houses at Skibbowick, Tankerness had visibility issues due to tree overgrowth and asked if this could be addressed with the property owner/s. Mrs L McAdie advised that the Roads Support team, OIC can write to property owners requesting that they cut back tree/foilage growth and if not done they would be charged by OIC for them doing it. Mrs L. McAdie and Ms H Green advised that verge cutting would be beginning very shortly and that any member of the public could report issues directly to Customer Services, OIC and safety cuts can be carried out at any time. Councillor R Peace advised that this is a health and safety issue, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk report the issue with verge overgrowth in Tankerness; in particular around the back of Tankerness and additionally, at two specific junctions; the Millhouse Junction and the Skibbowick Junction, Tankerness with tree/foilage overgrowth also leading to visibility and health and safety issues.

B. St Andrews Kirkyard – Shed Doors

Mr I Rendall advised that the St Andrews Kirkyard shed doors, prior to winter, requires a coat of paint/preservative. It was also noted that this could be reported to Customer Services, OIC by a member of the public, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk reports to Democratic Services that, prior to winter, the shed doors in St Andrews Kirkyard require painting/preservative.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Resolved that the next meeting would be held on 15 November 2023 in St Andrews Primary School at 19:30.

11. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 19:51.