

Minute of the Meeting of Harray and Sandwick Community Council via Microsoft Teams on Monday, 8 November 2021 at 19:00

Present:

Mr D Hamilton, Mr G Brown, Mrs E Grant, Mr K Groundwater, Mr C Kirkness, Mrs E Rendall and Mr G Sinclair.

In Attendance:

- Councillor H Johnston.
- Councillor D Tullock.
- Ms H Green, Interim Executive Director, Environmental, Property and IT Services.
- Mrs J McGrath, Interim Clerk/Community Council Liaison Officer.
- Mr T Hadley, Community Liaison Officer, Orkney Native Wildlife Project.

Order of Business

1. Apologies	2
2. Orkney Native Wildlife Project Presentation	2
3. Adoption of Minutes	2
4. Matters Arising	2
5. Correspondence	3
6. Consultations.....	4
7. Financial Statements	5
8. Applications for Financial Assistance.....	6
9. Publications	6
10. Any Other Competent Business - Footpath	7
11. Dates of Next Meetings	7
12. Conclusion of Meeting	7

1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mrs K Ritch and Councillor R King.

2. Orkney Native Wildlife Project Presentation

Members heard a presentation from the Community Liaison Officer, which focused on the aims of the project to try and eradicate stoats from the islands. Following the presentation and questions from members, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the presentation and discussion.

The Community Liaison Officer left the meeting at this point.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the general meeting held on 15 September 2021 was approved, being proposed by Mr C Kirkness and seconded by Mr G Sinclair.

4. Matters Arising

A. Festive Lighting

The Chair advised that due to supply issues, the new festive lights would not be available in time for this Christmas. However, this gave the community council an opportunity to revise or add to their existing order, and it was agreed that two more of each type of lights would be purchased for the Swartland Road.

Members also discussed arrangements for the placement of the Christmas tree next to the proposed new socket.

It was confirmed that the tree lighting ceremony would take place on Friday, 3 December and that members would meet the Wednesday before this to erect and decorate the tree. Scaled down arrangements would be in place again this year due to ongoing restrictions, and selection boxes would be purchased for the school children.

Sponsorship towards the tree was also discussed, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would advise relevant officers of the additional lights requested.
2. That members would arrange for a pipe to be sunk in the ground to hold the tree.
3. That the Interim Clerk would arrange for selection boxes to be purchased.
4. That the Interim Clerk would contact Dounby Co-Op regarding a donation towards the tree.

B. Harray Hall Car Park

Members discussed correspondence from the Roads Support Manager, a copy of which had been forwarded via email prior to the meeting. After a short discussion, it was agreed that members would like this to be looked into further, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Executive Director, Environmental, Property and IT Services, would take this matter up with the relevant Council section.

C. Manholes in Dounby Village

It was agreed that work was ongoing and that this was not a concern, and it was:

Resolved to remove this item from the agenda.

D. Union Jack Flag

The Interim Clerk advised that this was in hand, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would order a flag and that one could be borrowed from OIC meantime.

E. Dounby School Car Park

The Chair advised that no further complaints had been received, and it was:

Resolved to remove this item from the agenda.

5. Correspondence

A. Scottish Flood Forum Visit

Following consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Flood Forum, copies of which had been previously circulated, regarding a visit which had taken place in September, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Orkney Drugs Dog – Community Engagement

Members considered an email which had previously been circulated regarding potential engagement and drug awareness talks, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

C. OIC Resurfacing and Patching Works 2021/2022

Members considered correspondence from Roads Support, copies of which had previously been circulated, advising of the schedule for resurfacing and patching around roads in the two parishes over the coming months, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

D. Pentland Floating Offshore Windfarm Pre-Application Consultation Event

Following consideration of correspondence sent by Xodus, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding an online public consultation event hosted by Highland Wind Limited, it was:

Resolved to note that the event had taken place on 5 October.

E. VAO Young Person's Guarantee

Members discussed correspondence from VAO, copies of which had previously been circulated, which advised of the Young Person's Guarantee initiative, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

F. Scottish Flood Forum – Follow Up

Following consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Flood Forum with feedback from the engagement sessions held in September, copies of which had previously been sent round, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

G. ORSAS – 16 Days of Activism

Correspondence had been forwarded to members from Orkney Rape and Sexual Assault Service, regarding a campaign they were running, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

H. Winter Service Plan and Policy

Both the Winter Service Plan 2021/2022 and the Winter Service Policy 2021/2026 had been previously circulated to members, and it was:

Resolved to note the new plan and policy.

I. Broadening our Coverage

Members considered correspondence from the Orcadian, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding coverage of community news and events, and it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence.

6. Consultations

A. 30 MPH Speed Limit – Various Roads in Orkney

Following consideration of a consultation document received from Orkney Islands Council on a proposal to introduce a new Traffic Regulation Order on various roads in Orkney, including Swartland, Vetquoy and Hillside Roads in Dounby, copies of which had previously been circulated to members, it was:

Resolved to note that the consultation had closed but that members' thoughts on limits in these areas had been well communicated to Roads in the past.

B. Short-term Lets Regulations

Members had previously been sent a copy of the Scottish Government consultation on the regulation of short-term lets, and it was:

Resolved to note that members had made no comments.

C. Local Transport Strategy

Members considered information, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding a consultation on the Local Transport Strategy, and it was:

Resolved that members had no feedback to give at this time.

D. Introduction of Memorial Permit

A consultation had been circulated to members via email prior to the meeting, regarding a proposal by Orkney Islands Council to introduce a Memorial Permit, and it was:

Resolved to note that members had no comments to make.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Fund

Following consideration of the General Fund statement, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £11,296.71 as at 1 November 2021.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the financial statement for the Community Council Grant Scheme, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for approval in the main capping limit was £2,809.01, and the balance in the additional capping limit was £676 as at 1 November 2021.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the financial statement for the Community Development Fund, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for allocation was £2,500 as at 1 November 2021.

D. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the financial statement for the Seed Corn Fund, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for approval was £9,640 as at 1 November 2021.

8. Applications for Financial Assistance

A. OASC – North District Age Group Championships Part 1

Following consideration of a financial request from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, copies of which had previously been circulated, for funding towards Kieran Bradley, Bradley Cormack and Leah Robertson taking part in the North District Age Group Championships Part 1 at Inverness Leisure Centre on 9 and 10 October 2021, it was:

Resolved to award a general fund donation of £50 per swimmer towards the trips, totalling £150.

B. OASC – North District Age Group Championships Part 2

Following consideration of a financial request from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, copies of which had previously been circulated, for funding towards Kieran Bradley, Bradley Cormack, Leah Robertson and Eve Wood taking part in the North District Age Group Championships Part 2 at Inverness Leisure Centre on 13 and 14 November 2021, it was:

Resolved to make no contribution as all swimmers listed had already received the maximum funding available for this financial year.

C. Sandwick Community Association – Christmas Dinner and Party

Following consideration of a previously circulated financial request from Sandwick Community Association for funding towards Christmas Dinners for the senior citizens in the parish, as well as a children's Christmas party, it was:

Resolved to award a general fund donation of £200 towards the children's party, and a CCGS donation of £250 towards the Christmas Dinners, subject to approval.

D. Harray SWI – Children's Christmas or Easter Party

The Chair advised that he had received a financial request from Harray SWI, who had requested funding towards holding a Christmas party for the children of the parish of Harray, in conjunction with the Harray Mothers and Toddlers group. If a Christmas party was not possible, they proposed an Easter party, and it was:

Resolved to award a general fund donation of £200 towards the party.

9. Publications

The following publications had been received and made available to members via email:

- VAO Newsletter – September and October 2021.
- VAO Training and Funding Update – September and October 2021.
- Scottish Water – Autumn Newsletter.

- Alistair Carmichael MP – Newsletter – 24 September, 29 October and 5 November 2021.
- NHS Healthcare Improvement Scotland – Newsletter - September 2021.
- Police Scotland Orkney Area - Newsletter – October 2021.

10. Any Other Competent Business - Footpath

Councillor H Johnston advised that he had recently been approached by a constituent who had been walking the main road between the end of the Northbigging Road and Dounby School, where there was no footpath. He pointed out that this was a very popular walking route and suggested that if there was ever any money for improvements such as footpaths or pathways, he would fully support an application for funding. Members agreed that we should be encouraging walking and cycling, and agreed to note down having a pathway at this location as an aspiration of the Community Council and local area, and it was:

Resolved to note down the aspiration to have an improved pathway along the main road into Dounby from the end of the Northbigging Road.

11. Dates of Next Meetings

Resolved that the next meeting of Harray and Sandwick Community Council would be held either online or in the Milestone Church, Dounby, on Wednesday, 26 January 2022, commencing at 19:00.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 20:00.