

Minute of the Meeting of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council held in the Garden Room, King Street Halls, Kirkwall on Monday, 12 March 2018 at 19:00

Present:

Tom Rendall, Cathleen E Hourie, James Currie, David L Flett, Christopher Gee, Christine E Harcus, Robert F Leslie, Rikki A Lidderdale, Alastair M MacLeod and John R Mowat.

In Attendance:

- Councillor David Dawson.
- Councillor Andrew Drever.
- Councillor Barbara Foulkes.
- Councillor John T Richards.
- Councillor John A R Scott.
- Garry Burton, Sport and Leisure Service Manager.
- Sergeant Derek Robb, Police Scotland.
- One member of the local press.
- Hazel Flett, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Steven Metcalf and Alan Ryrie and Councillors Sandy G Cowie, Norman R Craigie, Steven B Heddle, W Leslie Manson, Steve Sankey and Gwenda M Shearer.

2. Police Matters

Sergeant Derek Robb answered members' questions on various policing matters including littering, as well as discussion surrounding reducing plastic waste, the drugs dog and parking, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

Councillor John Ross Scott joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

3. Kirkwall BID

Although there was no one present from Kirkwall Business Improvement District (BID) Limited to give a progress update, it was:

Resolved to note that the rebalot had been successful and Kirkwall BID would continue for a further five years.

4. Adoption of Minutes

The Minute of the Meeting held on 15 January 2018 was approved, being proposed by Christine Harcus and seconded by Alastair MacLeod.

5. Matters Arising

A. Scotland's Tree of the Year

After hearing an update from the Chair, it was resolved:

1. To note that the application for the care award had been successful.
2. To note that the Community Council had to submit a report to The Woodland Trust, by the end of the year, on use of the care award and promotion of the Big Tree.
3. To note the various suggestions regarding promotion, including planting seedlings and involving schoolchildren.

B. Flooding in Kirkwall

The Community Council had been invited to a meeting with representatives from Orkney Islands Council and Scottish Water on 8 March 2018, and it was:

Resolved to note the comprehensive presentation given by Scottish Water in that a number of desk-based models were being investigated, with a view to a large-scale project being undertaken, within the next five years, to alleviate flooding in central Kirkwall, although some remedial works may be undertaken in the interim.

The Sport and Leisure Service Manager joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

C. Hanging Baskets

After hearing a report from the Chair on testing the brackets and insurance cover, it was resolved:

1. To note that the brackets had been tested, as part of a contract placed by Orkney Islands Council, in November 2017, although the outcome of the testing was still awaited.
2. To note that the Community Council may be requested to pay a contribution towards the testing of the brackets.
3. That the Community Council should continue the scheme to provide floral hanging baskets in the town centre during 2018 for private businesses and households only, on the same basis as 2017.
4. That a grant of £1,800 be awarded towards the provision of hanging baskets, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved.
5. That the Clerk should make the necessary arrangements to secure a contract for the provision of hanging baskets during 2018.
6. That powers be delegated to the Chair and Vice Chair to accept a tender for the provision of hanging baskets.
7. That the Chair and Vice Chair should contact the successful tenderer to agree the length of time the hanging baskets should remain on the buildings.

D. Defibrillators

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Heart Group regarding a database for defibrillators in Orkney, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that Councillor Andrew Drever would raise the matter of co-ordinating a database with the Community Safety Partnership and report back in due course.

6. Correspondence

A. Bag the Bruck

Following consideration of correspondence from the Liaison Officer regarding the annual Bag the Bruck event, copies of which had been circulated, it was resolved:

1. To note that the 2018 event would be held between 21 and 29 April 2018.
2. To note that the Clerk had received one application for assistance from The Rotary Club.

3. That a total grant of £300 be offered and split equally between any organisations applying to the Community Council, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved.

B. Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Overprovision Assessment

Following consideration of correspondence from the Liaison Officer regarding a consultation on the assessment of overprovision of licensed premises, or any particular description of licensed premises, within the locality of the licensing board, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the consultation.

C. Kirk Green

Following consideration of correspondence from the Liaison Officer regarding a proposal to nominate the Kirk Green as part of the Centenary Fields programme, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a presentation from the Sport and Leisure Service Manager, Orkney Islands Council, it was:

Resolved that the Community Council should not support nomination of the Kirk Green as a Centenary Field, as the proposed designation would not offer any further protection to the area not already available, given its close association with the conservation area and St Magnus Cathedral, an A listed building, and the Community Council considered there were other more suitable locations in Orkney with stronger links to WW1 which might benefit more from designation as a Centenary Field.

The Sport and Leisure Service Manager left the meeting at this point.

7. Financial Statements

A. General – 1 April 2017 to 20 February 2018

Following consideration of a financial statement for the period 1 April 2017 to 20 February 2018 in respect of the Community Council's General Fund, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 20 February 2018 of £6,968.85.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of a financial statement in respect of the Community Council Grant Scheme for 2017 to 2018, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the financial statement.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of a financial statement in respect of the Community Development Fund, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the financial statement.

8. Policy on Financial Assistance

After hearing a report from the Chair regarding recommendations from the Finance Sub-committee on a review of the policy on financial assistance, it was:

Resolved that the existing policy be retained, with the exception of multiple trips, where the amount was reduced to £10 per trip, which should be capped at a maximum of £100 per financial year for each individual applicant.

9. Applications for Financial Assistance

A. Kirkwall Grammar School

Following consideration of correspondence from Kirkwall Grammar School requesting financial assistance towards the Under 15 team travelling to a training session in Manchester in May 2018, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £320 be awarded, subject to confirmation that 14 pupils attended the event.

B. National Youth Brass Band of Scotland

Following consideration of correspondence from L Spence requesting financial assistance towards her son's attendance at the Easter and Summer courses of the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be awarded in respect of each course, subject to confirmation of attendance.

C. Papdale Primary School

Christopher Gee declared an interest in this item and was not present during discussion thereof.

Following consideration of correspondence from Papdale Primary School requesting financial assistance towards the P7 trip to Lagganlia in May 2018 and the P6 trip to Hoy in September 2018, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £400 be awarded.

D. 1st Kirkwall Company Boys Brigade

The Clerk had received correspondence from the 1st Kirkwall Company Boys' Brigade requesting financial assistance towards the annual camp at Kinloch Rannoch Outdoor Centre from 13 to 18 August 2018, copies of which had been circulated, and it was:

Resolved that a grant of £350 be awarded, subject to confirmation that the 16 named participants had attended.

E. NHS Orkney

Following consideration of correspondence from NHS Orkney requesting funding or sponsorship of various areas within the new hospital and healthcare build, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to defer consideration of the request in order that further information could be obtained, including other organisations asked to contribute, any target levels of financial assistance and what, if any, assistance other community councils were providing.

F. Orkney Folk Festival

Following consideration of correspondence from the Orkney Folk Festival requesting financial assistance towards the 36th festival to be held from 24 to 27 May 2018, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £250 be awarded, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved.

Councillor Andrew Drever left the meeting at this point.

10. Planting at Cattie Maggie's

Following consideration of correspondence from A MacLeod regarding further planting of shrubs along Cattie Maggie's bridleway, copies of which had been circulated, it was resolved:

A. That a grant, up to a maximum of £100, be awarded, to meet the cost of shrubs, trees and equipment as proposed by Alastair MacLeod, subject to assistance from the Community Development Fund being approved.

B. That the Clerk should order the plants and equipment and, following delivery, contact Alastair MacLeod, who would arrange planting.

11. Consultation Documents

A. Winter Service Plan 2017/2018

Following consideration of a consultation document from Orkney Islands Council regarding the winter service plan 2017/2018, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to make no representations.

B. Verge Maintenance Specification

Following consideration of a consultation document from Orkney Islands Council regarding the verge maintenance specification, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to make no representations.

12. Meetings Attended by Members

A. New Residential Care Facility at Soulisquoy

Orkney Islands Council had arranged a public exhibition and engagement session in respect of the new residential care facility at Soulisquoy, held in the St Magnus Centre on 23 January 2018, and it was:

Resolved to note that James Currie and Christine Marcus had attended the event and were pleasantly surprised at the level of planning and consultation on the proposed design of the overall site.

B. Your Kirkwall

The next series of community events in relation to Your Kirkwall had been held in the Kirkwall and St Ola Community Centre on 25 and 27 January 2018, and it was:

Resolved to note that Cathleen Hourie and Robert Leslie had attended the series of community events which, again, were well received by all those who attended, including engagement with young people.

C. Kirkwall THI

The consultants appointed to lead the Kirkwall Townscape Heritage Initiative Interpretation Project had organised a public drop-in event at the St Magnus Centre on 15 February 2018, and it was:

Resolved to note that the Community Council had not been represented.

D. Other Meetings

John Mowat gave a short presentation on meetings he had attended, namely the Orkney Digital Forum, the Orkney Cloud Forum and a pre-season cruise meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

13. Publications

The Clerk had received the following publication which was made available to members:

- The Orkney Partnership – Community Planning News January 2018.

14. Any Other Competent Business

A. St Magnus Lane Toilets

After hearing representations from Councillor John Ross Scott, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council pressing for the St Magnus Lane toilets to be open on a 24/7 basis.

B. Paths in Warrenfield Area

Following representations from Cathleen Hourie regarding maintenance of paths within the Warrenfield area, it was:

Resolved that Councillor John Richards should keep the Community Council advised of any progress with maintenance of paths within the Warrenfield area, as Orkney Islands Council's annual budget of £50,000 was for Orkney, as a whole.

C. Green Plaques

Following representations from the Chair regarding previous decisions of the Community Council to erect green plaques commemorating Chrissie Costie and Patrick Craigie, it was:

Resolved that, as the previous supplier was no longer operating, the Clerk was unable to progress the previous decisions on green plaques, although the Art Machine should be contacted to see if an alternative type of plaque could be sourced.

D. Road Equivalent Tariff and Visitor Tax

Following representations from Christopher Gee regarding the proposed implementation of Road Equivalent Tarriff and the potential for increased visitors, particularly with promotion of the North Coast 500 route, it was:

Resolved to note the position.

15. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of a date for the next meeting, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting should be held on Monday, 30 April 2018, with the proposed date for June being brought forward from 25 June to 18 June 2018.

16. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 21:15.