

Minute of the Meeting of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council held in the North Walls School on Friday, 24 May 2019 at 18:45

Present:

G Robertson, C Bates, A Clark and R Thomson.

In Attendance:

- Councillor J Stockan.
- M Spence, Democratic Services Manager.
- K Dobrzynski, Island Link Officer.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from M Groat, A Sinclair, J Traynor and Councillors R Crichton and M Thomson.

2. Election of Office Bearers

A. Chair

Resolved that G Robertson should be appointed Chairperson of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council.

B. Vice Chair

Resolved that A Clark should be appointed Vice Chairperson of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council.

C. Planning Representative

Resolved that G Robertson should be appointed Planning Representative of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council.

D. Transport Representative

Resolved that C Bates should be appointed Transport Representative of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 8 March 2019 was approved, being proposed by A Clark and seconded by R Thomson.

4. Matters Arising

A. Island Link Officer

The Democratic Services Manager updated the meeting on the very recent appointment of Kim Dobrzynski, Island Link Officer for Hoy. Members were advised that the current office times and arrangements would remain in place meantime, but that a review of these arrangements would be undertaken in the near future with a possible option of offering evening availability, and it was:

Resolved to note this information and that Members were requested to give consideration on how they would like this role to develop in the future.

B. Ferry Service Consultative Forum

The Transport Representative reported that no further update had been received on the round trip on the morning run, but that the Outline Business Case review was scheduled for June 2019, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. St Colm's Grass Cutting 2019

Members were informed that the Playpark Group had now taken over the grass cutting of the St Colm's playpark. The Community Council had provided assistance, from the Seed Corn Fund, towards this maintenance in the past, and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

5. Correspondence

A. Inter-Isles Transport – Outline Business Case Progress

Correspondence had been received from the Transport Planner, Orkney Islands Council, inviting Community Council Chairs and Transport Representatives to a progress meeting on Wednesday, 19 June 2019 at which the consultants undertaking the study would give a presentation on progress, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

B. Inter-Isles Ferry Services Consultative Forum

Following consideration of correspondence from the Transport Planner, Orkney Islands Council, informing members that there would be a meeting of the Ferry Services Consultative Forum on Wednesday, 21 August 2019, it was:

Resolved to note that this meeting would clash with a transport meeting in Edinburgh so there was a possibility that it would be rescheduled.

C. Scapa Flow Visitor Centre and Museum

Following consideration of correspondence from the Cultural Services Manager, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding the current closure of Scapa Flow Visitor Centre and Museum, and informing members that the procurement exercise was ongoing, it was:

Resolved that R Thomson would post the contents of the email on the Hoy and Walls Community Council Facebook page.

D. Annual Grants 2019

Correspondence had been received from Democratic Services, informing members that the Community Council Annual Grant for 2019/2020 was £3,322 for the main capping limit, £662 for the additional capping limit and £642 for the additional island capping limit, and it was:

Resolved to note that the funding for 2019/2020 remained at the same rates as 2018/2019.

E. The Possible Improvement of the Island's Broadband

Following consideration of correspondence from a resident on the island regarding poor broadband connection, it was:

Resolved to suggest that the resident tries contacting EE or Cloudnet who both provide broadband services within Hoy.

6. Consultation Documents

A. Supplementary Guidance - Housing in the Countryside

Following consideration of the Orkney Islands Council consultation document on Housing in the Countryside – Supplementary Guidance, it was:

Resolved to note that any comments should be returned via the Clerk by 20 June 2019.

B. Winter Service Plan 2018/2019

Following consideration of the Orkney Islands Council Winter Service Plan 2018/2019 consultation document, it was:

Resolved that the Branch Road was no longer a school bus route and that Kings Road should be changed to a 2S category, and that these comments would be returned via the Clerk by 30 July 2019.

C. Arqiva - Proposed Communications Installation

Correspondence had been received from Arqiva Limited regarding a forthcoming prior approval planning submission for smart meter equipment, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided but that residents would be unable to enjoy smart meter technology due to the poor broadband speed.

D. SFRS – Draft Strategic Plan 2019-2022

Correspondence had been received from Scottish Fire and Rescue Service informing members of the formal consultation of the draft Strategic Plan 2019-2022, and it was:

Resolved to note that feedback could be provided online before 18 July 2019.

E. National Islands Plan

Correspondence had been received regarding the Islands Plan which sets out how Scottish Government, local authorities and other public agencies might work to improve outcomes for island communities, and it was:

Resolved to provide feedback to the Clerk for submission before the deadline of Monday, 10 June 2019.

F. Orkney Health and Care – Draft Strategic Plan

Correspondence had been received from Orkney Health and Care regarding the draft Strategic Plan - Planning for our Future, and it was:

Resolved to note that feedback was invited before 9 August 2019.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 14 May 2019 and discussion thereof, it was resolved:

1. To note that the estimated balance for 2018/2019 was £12,230.62.
2. To note that this figure included two grants from SSEN and that the previous Island Link Officer would be asked for an update on installation of hook up points at the School.
3. To note that the estimated balance for 2019/2020 was £16,758.46.
4. To obtain full details of the Aggregates refunds shown on the final statement for consideration at the next meeting.
5. To write to Orkney Islands Council to say thank you for the wreaths provided for the Longhope Lifeboat commemoration.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

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

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £2,902 in the main capping limit, £662 in the additional capping limit and £539.82 in the island capping limit.

C. Community Development Fund

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

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £4,935.04.

D. Seed Corn Fund

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

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval of £3,658.47.

8. Financial Request – Bag the Bruck

Following consideration of the number of bags of rubbish collected as part of the Bag the Bruck initiative in both Hoy and Graemsay, it was:

Resolved to donate £60 each to Longhope Lifeboat Guild, North Walls Community School, North Walls School, RSPB and Graemsay Community Association for taking part in Bag the Bruck 2019.

9. Publications

Resolved to note that there were no publications made available at this meeting.

10. Any Other Competent Business

A. Walls War Memorial

After consideration of a letter from Brian Budge requesting that the name of James Smith, Walls, be added to the Walls War Memorial, it was resolved:

1. That C Bates would respond to Brian Budge confirming that his request had been agreed to.
2. That quotes would be requested from James Dowell & Son and John G Corse for adding the name to the Walls Memorial.

B. Pontoons

There had been no update on the provision of pontoons, and it was resolved:

1. To request that the Head of Marine Services Engineering and Transportation provide an update on when pontoons would be located in Hoy.
2. That, if pontoons were not be made available then a request for the equivalent sum should be requested as an alternative outcome.

C. Orkney Ferries

Members discussed the securing of motorcycles on board the ferries and advised that Northlink use pieces of old carpet to provide the additional padding underneath straps. Members suggested that this information should be communicated to Orkney Ferries for consideration, and it was:

Resolved to write to Orkney Ferries thanking them for agreeing to secure motorcycles with rattan straps but advising that additional protection from damage was still necessary.

D. Road Repairs

Following discussion regarding the repair of road surfaces and road visibility issues in Hoy, it was resolved:

1. To request barrels of tar instead of cold tar be supplied for road repairs in the future.
2. That the Clerk would request an update on the very uneven road surface near the Longhope shop and ask that this road surface be repaired next time suitable plant was in Hoy.
3. That the Clerk would put a message in the "Blether" asking residents to cut back trees or shrubs that overhang the road verges to ensure visibility on roads were not being obstructed.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council would be held on Friday, 18 August 2019 in the Graemsay Community Hall, commencing at 18:45.

Further dates were also set, as follows:

Friday, 21 June 2019 - Finance meeting at North Walls School.

Friday, 11 October 2019 - General meeting at North Walls School.

Friday, 17 January 2020 - General meeting at North Walls School.

Friday, 13 March 2020 - General meeting at North Walls School.

Friday, 22 May 2020 - General meeting at North Walls School.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:25.