

Minute of the Meeting of Evie and Rendall Community Council held in Evie Community School, on Monday, 29 January 2018 at 19:30

Present:

E R H Marcus, C Gunn, Mrs E Flett, Miss F Georgeson, M J Leitch, J Stevenson and Mrs L Wilson.

In Attendance:

- Councillor R King.
- Councillor O Tierney.
- Police Officer S Hay, Police Scotland.
- Ms L Foot, Hoolan Energy.
- T Campbell, Hoolan Energy.
- Mrs L Leitch, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Councillors H Johnston and D Tullock.

2. Police Scotland Matters

After hearing an update from the Police Officer on crime statistics for Evie and Rendall and that the Orkney Drugs Dog charity was progressing well, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the discussion.

The Police Officer left the meeting at this point.

3. Update from Hoolan Energy

Representatives from Hoolan Energy had been invited to the meeting to provide members with an update on the proposed Costa Head Wind Farm. Distributed at the meeting was a summary of the history behind the project and where the development was at present time (attached as Appendix 1 to this minute). Members were reminded that the grid connection route design and application was a separate process to the wind farm planning application and was the responsibility of Scottish and Southern Energy Networks. Hoolan Energy had applied to the National grid for a grid connection of 20.4MW for each of their two Orkney projects and had received an offer with a grid connection date of October 2022. Members heard that early 2018 would see Scottish and Southern Energy Networks submitting a Needs Case application for Orkney transmission connection to Ofgem for approval. If planning was approved, then Hoolan Energy would prepare their Contract for Difference bid for support from the UK Government. Hoolan Energy advised that they were due to meet with Scottish and Southern Energy Networks on 5 February 2018. Members also debated whether or not there were planning conditions which prevented turbines being constructed within a certain distance of housing settlements. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the meeting with the Hoolan Energy representatives.

The Hoolan Energy representatives left the meeting at this point.

4. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 26 October 2017 was approved, being proposed by M Leitch and seconded by Mrs L Wilson.

5. Matters Arising

A. Disposal of Domestic Waste at Civic Amenity Sites

Councillor King informed members that the Council were aware of the issues of disposal of waste by commercial vehicles and that the situation was being monitored. Members heard that different models across the country were being looked at by the Council, with a permit system also being considered. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the report.

B. Flooding Issues in Evie

Members considered correspondence received in response to concerns over flooding in areas within Evie. Whilst members appreciated that there had been an unprecedented level of rain water, it was suggested that a culvert could be dug at the bottom of the road at Standpretty to join the new 4' drain at Evie School. After hearing that the Roads Department were aware of the situation, it was resolved:

1. To ask if the new drain at Evie School could be used for the overflow from Standpretty.
2. To monitor the situation.

C. West Mainland Tourist Brochure

Members heard that one delegate had attended a Sub Committee meeting to discuss the West Mainland Tourist Brochure. The Sub Committee had agreed for a further 25,000 copies of the tourist brochure to be printed to meet the demand for the tourist season ahead. Cost for printing was £3,200 which would be met from the five West Mainland Community Councils applying for £640 each in CC Grant Scheme. The format of the brochure would be reviewed again in time for the 2019 tourist season. The meeting also heard that the demand for the current brochure had been high, and they felt that this had been particularly due to the good, detailed map on the leaflet. Brochures had been distributed to the tourist sites and had not gone to the cruise liners and coaches as first anticipated, and it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk should apply for assistance through the Community Council Grant Scheme on a project cost of £640.
2. To note that the Sub Committee was due to meet on 28 February 2018 to discuss the brochure further.
3. To report at the next Sub Committee meeting Evie and Rendall Community Council's comments regarding the brochure map.

6. Correspondence

A. Temporary Broadband Services at Rendall Hall

Following consideration of correspondence from CloudNet IT Solutions, copies of which had been forwarded to members, seeking permission to access the Rendall Hall to install temporary antennas to provide broadband services, it was:

Resolved to note that members of Rendall Community Association had spoken with CloudNet and were happy for them to proceed with the installation.

B. NHS Orkney – Appointment of Non-Executive Directors

After consideration of correspondence received from NHS Orkney advising that they would be advertising for three non-executive members to join their board, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

C. Scottish Health Council – National Health and Social Care Standards Awareness Sessions

After consideration of correspondence received from the Scottish Health Council, inviting members to their National Health and Social Care Standards awareness sessions to be held on 30 and 31 January in Kirkwall, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

D. Thrive Renewables - Community Benefit Fund

Following consideration of correspondence received from Thrive Renewables, inviting applications for their Community Benefit Fund before the end of March 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

E. THAW Advisory Group – Electric Heating Fund

Following consideration of correspondence received from the THAW Advisory Group advising details of their Electric Heating Fund, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

F. Scottish Health Council – Voices Scotland Taster Session

After consideration of correspondence received from the Scottish Health Council, inviting members to their Voices Scotland Taster Session to be held on 31 January 2018 in Kirkwall, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

G. Local Energy Scotland – Webinar on Shared Ownership

After consideration of correspondence received from Local Energy Scotland, inviting members to participate in a webinar to discuss shared ownership on 22 February 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

H. Thank You Letters and Messages

After hearing from the Clerk that thank you letters and messages had been received in respect of financial assistance provided by the Community Council, it was:

Resolved to note that letters of thanks had been received from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club and Miss M McAllister, and messages of thanks had been conveyed by Miss J Pickles, Mrs L Sharpe and Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council.

I. Bag the Bruck 2018

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services, copies of which were distributed at the meeting, advising members of arrangements for the annual Bag the Bruck event to be held from 21 to 29 April 2018, it was resolved:

1. To note the correspondence.
2. That the Clerk should apply for assistance through the Community Council Grant Scheme on a project cost of £300.
3. That the £300 would be split equally between the groups applying to take part in the Bag the Bruck prior to the event date.

7. Update on Evie and Rendall Community Park

Members heard that the Park Group were now a registered charity. A very successful bingo night had risen over £1,100 toward the park. The meeting heard that preparations for the other fundraising ideas were in hand with members asked to note that voting for the group could be done in Tesco's through their Community Bags of Help scheme. The Chair also informed members that one quotation for the construction, project management and equipment of the new park had been received for the amount of £142,000, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the report.

8. Consultation – Winter Service Plan 2017/2018

Following consideration of the Winter Service Plan 2017/2018, copies of which had been previously circulated, members heard that the bus school route from the Mistra to Whitemire had not been ploughed as a priority one route. In addition, it was noted that the snow plough was leaving too high a ridge between tyre widths and, after discussion, it was resolved:

1. To note that the snow plough was not following the correct priority one route from the Mistra to Whitemire.
2. To note that on occasions the snow plough level was set too high and leaving an unnecessary ridge on the roads.

9. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 17 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £5,319.03.

B. Npower Fund

After consideration of the Npower Fund statement as at 17 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £37,411.11.

C. Burgar Hill Renewables Fund

After consideration of the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund statement as at 17 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £3,523.57.

D. Hammars Hill Energy Fund

After consideration of the Hammars Hill Energy Fund statement as at 17 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £28,144.60.

E. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 17 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval was £6.79.

F. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 17 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval was £6,480.30.

G. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund Statement as at 17 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £3,395.

10. Financial Applications

A. Rendall Football Club – Training Costs

M Leitch, Mrs E Flett and the Clerk declared an interest in this item and were not present during discussion.

Members resumed consideration of Rendall Football Club's application for financial support towards their training fees, and it was resolved:

1. That 50% of the training costs would be met from the Community Council for the amount of £512.53, to be met from general funds.
2. That the Community Council recommend to the Club to increase their charges and subscriptions.
3. That the Club are informed of the financial pressure the Community Council will be under in the next few years due to the new playpark and improvements to the Rendall Hall.

B. Ms R Ware – Rugby and Athletics Competitions

Following consideration of correspondence received from Ms R Ware applying for financial assistance towards the cost of her daughter taking part in two rugby competitions in Glasgow and Perth and in addition two athletics competitions to be held in Aberdeen, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the costs of each of the four events, giving a total of £300, which should be met from the Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

C. Evie Community School – Bus Hire

Following consideration of correspondence received from Evie School applying for financial assistance towards the price of bus hire for a class trip to Georth, costing £135, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £135 be given, upon receipt of proof of expenditure, which should be met from general funds.

D. Rendall Pipe Band – New Drums and Rain Capes

Following consideration of correspondence which had been received from the Rendall Pipe Band applying for financial assistance towards the cost new drums and rain capes, it was resolved:

1. That 50% of the costs would be met from the Community Council for the amount of £1,122.50 to be met from the Npower Fund.
2. That the Community Council recommend to the Pipe Band Club to increase their charges and subscriptions.
3. That the Pipe Band are informed of the financial pressure the Community Council will be under in the next few years due to the new playpark and improvements to the Rendall Hall.

E. C McAllister – Swimming Competitions

Following consideration of correspondence received from C McAllister applying for financial assistance towards the cost of his daughter taking part in four separate swimming competitions to be held in Inverness, Swansea and Edinburgh, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the cost of each trip, amounting to £300, which should be met from the Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

F. Evie Community School – Nethybridge Trip 2018

M Leitch and the Clerk declared an interest in this item.

Following consideration of correspondence from Evie Community School applying for financial assistance towards the cost of two pupils participating in the annual trip to Nethybridge in April 2018, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards each of the two pupils, amounting to £150, to be met from the Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

G. Firth Primary School – Nethybridge Trip 2018

Following consideration of correspondence from Firth Primary School applying for financial assistance towards the cost of two pupils from Rendall participating in the annual trip to Nethybridge in April 2018, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards each of the two pupils, amounting to £150, to be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

H. Stenness Community School – Nethybridge Trip 2018

Following consideration of correspondence from Stenness Community School applying for financial assistance towards the cost of one pupil from Evie participating in the annual trip to Nethybridge in April 2018, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the cost of the trip, to be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

I. Stromness Academy – 2018 Geography Trip to Switzerland

Following consideration of correspondence from Stromness Academy applying for financial assistance towards the cost of five pupils travelling to Switzerland for a geography trip in 2018, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £150 be given towards each of the five pupils, amounting to £750, to be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

J. C McAllister – Swimming Competition in Sunderland

Following consideration of correspondence received from C McAllister applying for financial assistance towards the cost of his daughter taking part in a swimming competition to be held in Sunderland, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the cost of the competition, to be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

K. Rendall Football Club – Match against Thurso Academicals

Following consideration of correspondence received from Rendall Football Club applying for financial assistance towards the cost of travelling to Caithness, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £266.40 would be made once the game had been played against Thurso Academicals.

L. Road Repairs Scheme – Kelda, Rendall

After consideration of correspondence which had been received from Mrs P Harvey requesting assistance towards the cost of road repairs, and after hearing that an application for Kelda had been made in 2015 even though some of the materials had been used on the road to Tower, it was:

1. That the householders at Tower, Rendall could apply for road repairs if they wished to and would not need to submit an application to the Community Council.
2. That Mrs Harvey would be able to reapply in 2020, once 5 years had passed since the last application.

M. Mrs L Wilson – Netball Competition in Aberdeen

Mrs L Wilson declared an interest in this item of business.

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mrs L Wilson applying for financial assistance towards the cost of her daughter taking part in a netball competition to be held in Aberdeen, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the cost of competition, to be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables fund.

N. Evie Primary School – Bus Hire

Following consideration of correspondence received from Evie School, copies of which were distributed at the meeting, applying for financial assistance towards the price of bus hire and admission costs for a class trip to Queenamuckle and Fernvalley for the amount of £164, it was:

Resolved that a total donation of £164 be given, upon proof of expenditure, which should be met from general funds.

O. C McAllister – Swimming Competitions in Aberdeen

Following consideration of correspondence received from C McAllister, copies of which were distributed at the meeting, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of his daughters taking part in two separate swimming competitions to be held in Aberdeen, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the cost of each trip, amounting to £150, which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables fund.

P. Stromness Academy – S2 Trip to Hoy

Mrs L Wilson, M Leitch and the Clerk declared an interest in this item.

Following consideration of correspondence which was received at the meeting from twelve Stromness S2 pupils who lived in Evie and Rendall applying for financial assistance towards the cost of their trip to Hoy in May, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £25 be given to each of the twelve pupils towards the cost of their trip, to be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

11. Publications

Publications from Orkney Police, Orkney Arts Forum, NHS Scotland and Police Scotland were made available at the meeting.

12. Any Other Competent Business

A. Road Concerns

Concern at the dip in the road just below the Old Evie Kirk before the bridge was raised at the meeting. Subsidence on the left-hand verge when heading from Evie to Rendall had occurred in two different locations, one being past the Sub Station, opposite a house directly on the road side, and the other subsidence was further on. Following discussion, it was resolved:

1. That the concerns would be noted in the business letter to Democratic Services.

2. That the residents who had raised the issues would be asked to also report the problem to the Roads Department.

3. That Councillor Tierney would also look into the road concerns and also feedback to the Roads Department.

B. Donation of Christmas Tree

Following an email which had previously been sent to members advising that the Community Council had been approached by a local resident who would like to gift a rooted Christmas tree to the Evie School, it was:

Resolved that this kind gesture be accepted.

C. Abandoned Creels

It was noted that there were a large number of creels which had been abandoned along the shoreline with at least 90 being counted from the Aikerness toilets to the bottom of the St Magnus Way walk. Since no-one present knew if they could be reported, it was:

Resolved that Councillor Tierney would try and find out if they could be removed, and by whom.

13. Dates of Next Meetings

Members agreed that future meetings would be held on Monday, 26 March and Monday, 18 June 2018, both commencing at 19:30 in the Evie Community School.

14. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting concluded at 21:25.