

Minute of the Meeting of Birsay Community Council held via Zoom on Thursday, 19 November 2020 at 19:30

Present:

Mr R Delday, Mr M Hay, Mr D Scarth and Mr S Spence.

In Attendance:

- Councillor H Johnston.
- Councillor R King.
- Councillor O Tierney.
- Councillor D Tullock.
- Mrs J Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer/Interim Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been intimated on behalf of Miss K Coghill and Mr A Spence.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 13 August 2020 was considered by members and subsequently approved, being proposed by Mr D Scarth and seconded by Mr R Delday

3. Matters Arising

A. Foreshore from Ministry Huts to Zanzibar

Members discussed the possible provision of parking on the foreshore and the benefit it would be to the area. The Chair advised members that the previous Chair had made investigations regarding costings, and it was:

Resolved that the Chair would contact the previous Chair regarding this.

B. Slip at Buckquoy

The Chair advised members that he would contact the previous Chair regarding the Slip, and it was:

Resolved that the Chair would provide an update at the next meeting.

C. Draft Plan for Dounby

Members agreed that, due to the ongoing pandemic, it was unlikely that this project had been progressed, and following further discussion, it was:

Resolved that an update would be sought on any progress made.

D. Birsay Marker Stone

The Chair advised members that the Birsay Marker Stone had been repaired, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report.

E. Potholes/Flooding - Sabiston Mill

Members were advised that concerns regarding road conditions had been raised by the Chair at the Community Resilience Group meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note that the situation had been raised and to await a response.

F. Flooding at the Palace

Following discussion regarding previous flooding at the Palace and the repairs that had been undertaken which appeared to have helped the situation, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the discussion.

G. Hall Association

Mr S Spence advised members that the Association did not have any concerns at present, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the report.

H. Recognition Plaque at The Old Manse

Following consideration of correspondence from the residents of The Old Manse, copies of which had previously been circulated, providing further information on the wording on the plaque and possible planning permissions, it was:

Resolved:

1. That members noted that contents of the correspondence.
2. That the project would be eligible for Community Council Grant Scheme assistance.

I. West Mainland Tourist Brochure

Following consideration of correspondence from the Evie and Rendall Community Council Clerk advising members of the cost of £90 due for amendments to the West Mainland Tourist Brochure, it was:

Resolved to note that Community Council Grant Scheme assistance had been agreed on Birsay Community Council's share of the cost and that the invoice had been paid.

4. Correspondence

A. Christmas Tree Lighting

After hearing a report from the Chair advising members that the Chair of Harray and Sanday Community Council had arranged for the delivery of the tree and selection boxes for the school children and that the tree would be lit on 4 December at 18:30, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the content of the report.
2. That Birsay members would assist with the erection of the tree on 2 December.
3. That an application should be submitted for Community Council Grant Scheme assistance on eligible costs.
4. To note that Harray and Sandwick Community Council would approach the local Co-op regarding financial assistance towards the cost of the tree.

B. Remembrance Day Wreath

Following consideration of correspondence from Birsay, Harray and Sandwick Church requesting financial assistance towards the cost of a remembrance wreath, previously agreed by email, it was:

Resolved to note that members had agreed to fund the cost of the remembrance wreath.

C. Waste and Recycling Services

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council, copies of which had previously been emailed, providing a background information on the waste and recycling process, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the content of the correspondence.
2. To note that members agreed that the fortnightly waste recycling was good.
3. That the Interim Clerk should ascertain if additional recycling bins were provided free of charge.

D. Festive Lighting

Members considered correspondence from Orkney Islands Council advising on proposed changes regarding festive lighting. It was proposed to recommend that Roads' Revenue Festive Lighting budget cover the initial cost of the replacement and erection in year one, with the community taking responsibility for removal, storage, maintenance and replacement from there on, and it was:

Resolved that additional information should be sought from Orkney Islands Council regarding the upkeep and connection of the lights.

E. Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind Energy

Following consideration of correspondence regarding the sectoral marine plan for offshore wind energy, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

F. Awards for Community-led Built Environment Projects

Following consideration of correspondence regarding the Awards for Community-led Built Environment Projects, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

G. Kirkyard Grass Cutting Tenders

Following discussion regarding the annual Kirkyard grass cutting tenders, it was:

Resolved:

1. To advertise inviting tenders for the Kirkyard Grass cutting.
2. That a deadline for tenders should be set prior to the next meeting.
3. That any tenders received would be opened at the next meeting.

5. Financial Statements

A. General Fund

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

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £4,138.82 as at 6 November 2020.

B. Birsay Energy Fund

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

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £15,106.42 as at 6 November 2020.

C. 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 £2,373.23, and the balance in the additional capping limit was £669.00 as at 6 November 2020.

D. Community Development Fund

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

Resolved to note that £8,138.37 remained available for approval as at 6 November 2020.

E. Seed Corn Fund

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

Resolved to note that £21.64 remained available for approval as at 6 November 2020.

6. Financial Requests

A. Roond About Birsay Newsletter

Members had considered funding for the Roond About Birsay Newsletter by email and agreed that an application should be submitted for Community Council Grant Scheme assistance on the cost, and it was:

Resolved to note that the application had been successful.

B. Financial Request – T Flett

Resolved to note that T Flett had withdrawn his request for financial assistance.

7. Consultations

A. HIAL Air Traffic Management Strategy: Impact Assessment: Local Consultation

Following consideration of the HIAL Air Traffic Management Strategy: Impact Assessment: Local Consultation, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that no comments were to be submitted.

B. Local Housing Strategy

Following consideration of the Local Housing Strategy mid-term consultation survey, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved that members had no comments to make.

C. Islands Communities Impact Assessments

Following consideration of the Islands Communities Impact Assessments (ICIAs), copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved that members had no comments to make.

8. Publications

Resolved to note that the following publications had been received and made available to members:

- VAO Newsletter - June to October 2020.
- VAO Training and Funding Update - February to July 2020.

9. Any Other Competent Business

A. Benches at the Whalebone

Members noted that the benches at the Whalebone had not been removed for the winter, and it was:

Resolved that the Chair would contact Mr A Spence.

B. Benches and Picnic Tables

Members discussed the possible provision of benches at Sandgeo and the carpark at Marwick, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would source prices for benches and picnic tables.

C. Marwick Brae

Members discussed concerns regarding pedestrian safety with the lack of pavement and no street lighting at the blind corner beyond Marwick Brae, and it was:

Resolved to request that this be given consideration by Orkney Islands Council and in particular in the Dounby Village Plan.

D. Grit Bins

Members discussed a previous request for the provision of grit bins at the Howe Road and noted that they had not been provided, and it was:

Resolved to ask again if two grit bins could be provided at the Howe Road.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Resolved that the next meeting of the Birsay Community Council would be held on Thursday, 18 February 2020 either online or at the Birsay Community Centre.

11. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 20:40.