

# **Minute of the Meeting of Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council held in the Rousay Community School and via Microsoft Teams on Saturday, 2 September 2023 at 09:15**

## **Present:**

Mr Angus Firth, Mrs Zoe Flaws, Miss Alice Mainland, Mrs Carey Mainland, Mrs Carole Maguire and Mr Richard Tipper.

## **In Attendance:**

- Councillor Stephen Clackson (via Teams).
- Councillor Mellissa Thomson (via Teams).
- Mr Stuart Williams, Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre Development Trust Manager.
- Mrs Jenny McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer/Interim Clerk.

## **Order of Business**

1. Apologies.....	2
2. Adoption of Minute.....	2
3. Matters Arising.....	2
4. Correspondence .....	4
5. Financial Statements .....	4
6. Financial Requests .....	5
7. Consultations .....	6
8. Reports from Representatives .....	6
9. Publications .....	7
10. Any Other Competent Business.....	7
11. Date of Next Meeting .....	9
12. Conclusion of Meeting .....	9

## **1. Apologies**

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mrs Diana Compton and Councillor Heather Woodbridge.

## **2. Adoption of Minute**

The minute of the meeting held on 17 June 2023 was approved, being proposed by Mr Angus Firth and seconded by Mrs Carole Maguire.

## **3. Matters Arising**

### **A. Notice Boards**

Mrs Carole Maguire advised that she had arranged for someone to install the notice boards and that this would be done shortly. The Chair confirmed that they were still in storage at his property, and it was agreed that the contractor could use their own discretion as to where they were located, based on the suggestions of school, old pier restaurant, the post office and either in Frotoft or on Egilsay, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **B. Memorial/Path at Rousay Kirkyard**

Resolved to note that members were still awaiting contact from the contractor so that this project could be progressed, and to keep it on the agenda.

### **C. Historic Scotland Car Parks**

There was no update on this item, but it was agreed that a letter should be sent to Historic Environment Scotland, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would arrange for a letter to be sent regarding the insufficient space in car parks around HES sites on the island.

### **D. Laybys**

The Chair advised that he had recently met with the Council's Roads Inspector on Rousay to show him problem areas but also to point out the community councils' suggested places for laybys – three round the west side and one more between Kirkland and the war memorial. The inspector had agreed that these were valid sites but that he couldn't make any promises regarding installation. He had suggested to the Chair that the community council should ask that these be added to the list for consideration when the roads budget is decided for financial year 2024/2025.

Following further discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would ask that the suggested layby locations be passed to the relevant officers for consideration in relation to roads budget for the next financial year.

### **E. Rousay School Issues**

The Interim Clerk advised that the janitor post had been advertised but it was not known if anyone had been appointed. Members advised that the gutters had recently

been cleared, and that the problem with water in the community end had been resolved, including a leak. However, the light outside the school was still hanging and required to be fixed, despite multiple requests to repair it. Members also noted that there were other issues pertaining to windows and doors, and cracks, but that these would be monitored, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would add to the business letter to Democratic Services that the light outside the school still required to be repaired, and that Mrs Carole Maguire would also report that the repair was outstanding.

Mrs Carey Mainland joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

## **F. Signage/Abandoned Vehicles at Tingwall**

Members reported that there were still problems, especially over the summer period, with vehicle drivers being unaware of the requirement to reverse on to the ferry. It was agreed to ask again for signs to be considered and ask whether Orkney Ferries could put something on their website, or if they could advise people when they booked, that there was a requirement to reverse on to some ferries.

Members also noted that the situation with abandoned cars at Tingwall had improved, however two large trailers seemed to have been left there recently, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would add to the business letter that members would again like to pursue the idea of having improved signage at Tingwall to advise of the requirement for vehicles to reverse on to the ferry.
2. That Orkney Ferries would be asked if there was anything they could do to help educate people booking ferries about the requirement for vehicles to reverse on to some ferries.
3. To monitor the situation with regards to abandoned vehicles etc. at Tingwall Pier.

## **G. Milk Deliveries**

Resolved that there was no update and to monitor the situation with regards to milk deliveries in Rousay.

## **H. Post-boxes and Postal Service**

In relation to the discussion above regarding milk deliveries, members also queried what was happening in term of the island postal service, as it was believed that a new postmaster had been appointed.

Members also advised that there was a bag over the Frotoft post box and that the Wester one had completely disappeared, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would make enquiries as to what had happened to the Wester post box, and why the Frotoft one had a bag over it.

## **4. Correspondence**

### **A. Transport Timetables for Summer 2024**

The Transport Representative had been posted copies of the draft timetables for summer 2024, which were based on the current timetable with no changes proposed. Members had also received the information via email, ahead of the consultative forum meeting on 13 September, and it was:

Resolved that any comments should be passed to the Transport Representative ahead of the meeting on 13 September.

### **B. Poppy Wreaths**

Correspondence regarding the purchase of poppy wreaths had previously been circulated to members. It was suggested to liaise with Robert Friel, who helped organise the Remembrance Sunday event, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would contact Robert Friel to find out how many wreaths were required.
2. That the community council were willing to cover the cost, subject to CCGS approval.

### **C. Scottish Health Council Member Recruitment**

Members had previously been sent information regarding the recruitment of members to the Scottish Health Council, and it was:

Resolved to note that the deadline for applications had been 31 July.

### **D. Community Led Local Development**

Members had previously been sent information regarding a CLLD grant, and it was:

Resolved to note that the deadline for expressions of interest had since passed.

### **E. Scottish Water ACM 2023**

Members considered correspondence from Scottish Water, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding their annual ACM, and it was advised that a new Chief Executive was in place, and it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence.

## **5. Financial Statements**

### **A. Annual Accounts**

Members had been provided with copies of the annual accounts for Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council for the end of financial year 2022/2023, and it was:

Resolved to note the annual accounts for 2022/2023.

## **B. General Account**

Following consideration of the General Finance statement as at 8 August 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £33,578.74.

## **C. Community Council Grant Scheme**

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 8 August 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval in the main capping limit was £2,631.08, the balance remaining in the additional capping limit was £623, and the island capping limit balance remaining was £719.

## **D. Community Development Fund**

Following consideration of a statement for the Community Development Fund as at 8 August 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £5,427.80.

## **E. Seed Corn Fund**

Following consideration of a statement for the Seed Corn Fund as at 8 August 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that £9,035 remained available for allocation.

# **6. Financial Requests**

## **A. Rousay Rainbows**

Members discussed a request from 1<sup>st</sup> Rousay Brownies and Rainbows, copies of which had previously been circulated, for financial assistance towards uniform and resources, and it was:

Resolved to make a general fund donation of £30.20 towards uniform and resources.

## **B. Rousay School Christmas Gifts**

Members discussed a request from Rousay School, copies of which had previously been circulated, for financial assistance towards the cost of purchasing Christmas gifts for all the children in the school and nursery, totalling 16 children, and it was:

Resolved to make a general fund donation of £500 towards the gifts.

## **7. Consultations**

### **A. Women's Aid Orkney**

Members had previously been forwarded information on a survey on domestic violence towards older women, and it was:

Resolved that members could still complete this survey if they wished to.

### **B. Review of Statement of Alcohol Licensing Policy**

Members had previously been sent information on an OIC consultation on the review of Statement of Alcohol Licensing Policy, and it was:

Resolved to note that the deadline for comments had now passed.

### **C. Visitor Levy Bill**

Members had previously been sent information on the Visitor Levy Bill consultation, calling for views, and it was:

Resolved to note that the consultation would remain open until 15 September.

### **D. Draft Procurement Strategy**

Members had previously been forwarded an OIC consultation on their draft Procurement Strategy, and it was:

Resolved to note that the deadline for comments had passed.

### **E. 20mph Speed Limits Islands Schools**

A consultation had been circulated again regarding the proposal for 20mph limits around island schools. It was noted that a response had already been provided, however there was some additional discussion around the extent of the proposed limit, the lights, and the general issue of parking around the school, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the community council's previous comments remained, but they felt the lights were not required, and that the area of the 20mph limit should be reduced to closer to the school at the west side.
2. To ask, via the business letter to Democratic Services, if consideration could be given to providing more parking at the side/back of the school and marking off the corner appropriately.

## **8. Reports from Representatives**

### **A. Planning**

Members were advised that there had not been any new applications relating to the community council area recently.

A discussion also took place around the length of time it was taking for planning applications to be processed, and it was:

Resolved to note the comments.

## **B. Transport**

The Transport Representative advised that there had recently been issues with the Eynhallow and that she felt the communication from Orkney Ferries had not been satisfactory. Members agreed that they would like to see the MV Shapinsay remain on the Rousay routes until the end of the summer timetable.

Councillor Mellissa Thomson advised that the Scottish Government Transport Minister had been in Orkney a few weeks previously and had visited the ferries to see them first hand. She suggested that it would be good to get all isles community councils together to discuss what would happen if more than one ferry was to break down at the same time. It all boiled down to needing new boats.

Members asked if crowdfunding had been considered, with tourists encouraged to contribute. This may highlight the cause more widely. It was agreed that the isles needed to work more collectively, and it was:

Resolved to note the discussion.

## **C. Health and Care**

The Health and Care representative advised that she had not attended the last meeting but that the next one was on 17 October, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **9. Publications**

The following publications had previously been circulated to members and were noted:

- VAO Newsletter – June, July and August 2023.
- VAO Training and Funding Update – July 2023.
- Letter from School Place – June, July and August 2023.
- Police Scotland Area Command Newsletter – June and August 2023.
- NHS Good to Share Bulletin.
- Orkney Ferries Statistics – April, May, June and July 2023.

## **10. Any Other Competent Business**

### **A. Orkney Ferries Statistics**

Following consideration of the statistics provided as part of the publications sent on to them, members asked if it would be possible to receive data on how many people were turned away when trying to book on to the ferry. It was suggested that there

could be some timetable tweaks to free up capacity. Councillor Mellissa Thomson offered to speak to the Orkney Ferries Manager and invite him to the next meeting, and it was:

Resolved that the Orkney Ferries Manager would be sent an invite to attend the next meeting of the community council.

## **B. Verges**

The Chair advised that following queries regarding the verges, it had been confirmed that they would be cut in September, and it was:

Resolved to note the update.

## **C. Waste Bins**

Members advised that there were one or two sites, namely Midhowe and Saviskaill, where the bins were regularly overflowing, and one at the kirkyard where the waste blows back out of the bin.

Members asked if it would be possible to have an extra bin placed beside the recycling bins for people to dispose of their bags after emptying into recycling.

The Chair asked if the community council could buy a bin and put it at the end of the boardwalk, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would ask if it would be possible for the bins at Midhowe and Saviskaill to be emptied more regularly.
2. That the Interim Clerk would ask if consideration could be given for an extra waste bin at the recycling centre for waste bags etc.
3. That the Interim Clerk would investigate prices for a waste bin.

## **D. Parking at Rousay School**

Members queried what would happen and who would be liable if someone was to have an accident outside Craigearn or outside the school where there are no markings, following a blind corner. The white lines are there however this is a regular parking spot for people using the school and there have been near misses before, when people have misjudged the corner coming towards the school from the north. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would ask for clarification on who is responsible for this area of land and whether parking should be permitted.

## **E. Clerk Role**

Members asked if a new clerk would be recruited to the role, and suggested putting an advert out locally, and it was:

Resolved that Democratic Services would try to recruit to the role, advertising in the Review and on posters locally.

## **11. Date of Next Meeting**

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

Resolved to note that the next meeting of Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council would be held on Saturday, 25 November 2023 at 09:15, at Rousay Community School and via Teams.

## **12. Conclusion of Meeting**

With there being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 10:45.