

Minute of the Meeting of Evie and Rendall Community Council held in the Evie Community School on Monday, 10 February 2025 at 19:30

Present:

Eoin R Marcus, Duncan Clarke, Elizabeth A Flett, Fiona Georgeson, Colin Gunn, Mark Hull and Jane Rawle.

In Attendance:

- Councillor Rachael King.
- Councillor Owen Tierney.
- Jackie Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer/Interim Clerk.
- Ms Melissa Spence, Burgar Hill Renewables.
- Mr Rob Collin, Greencat Renewables Ltd.
- Mrs Maureen Spence, Burgar Hill Renewables.

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1. Presentation by Burgar Hill Renewables

Members received a presentation from Ms M Spence and Mr R Collins on the possible repowering of Burgar Hill, the processes involved, possible outcomes and community benefits and the need for community engagement, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the presentation.

Ms M Spence, Mr R Collins and Mrs M Spence left the meeting at this point.

2. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Jean Stevenson and Duncan Tullock.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on Monday, 18 November 2024 was approved, being proposed by Mr Duncan Clarke and seconded by Mrs Fiona Georgeson.

4. Matters Arising

Resolved to note that there were no matters arising.

5. Correspondence

A. My Orkney

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding the MyOrkney online portal, where members of the public could report issues directly into the Council system, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the information.

B. Hammars Hill Energy – 2024 Community Benefit

After hearing a report from the Interim Clerk advising members that the annual community benefit had been paid into the Community Council account, it was:

Resolved to note that £13,300 community benefit had been paid into the Community Council account and that a letter of thanks should be sent to the developer.

C. AbilityNet Event

Following consideration of correspondence which had previously been emailed regarding the AbilityNet event, it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence.

D. Notes of Thanks

Resolved to notes of thanks for funding awarded had been received from Rendall Football Club, Evie Community Association, Rendall Kirk After School Club, Evie School, Harray Young Farmers, Kelly Reid, Orkney Pilgrimage, Gemma

Montgomery, S Tomalin, C Nicolson, Adam Watt, Yolande Phaithaisong, Alexander Hall, Aaron Ratter, Leah Wood, Chloe Wood and Rowan McAllister.

E. Webinar – Community Benefits

Following consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Development Centre advising members of webinars to be held in relation to community benefits from offshore and onshore renewable energy developments, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

F. Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Plan 2025-2028

Following consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Servicers regarding the consultation on the strategic plan for 2025–2028, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

6. Consultations

A. Verge Maintenance Plan 2025

Following consideration of the Verge Maintenance Plan 2025 members noted that there was to be one cut in September which was thought to be too late, and it was:

Resolved to request that the one cut be undertaken around the end of June early July.

B. Trees and Woodland Strategy and SEA Environmental Report for the OIC TWS

Following consideration of the Consultative Draft documents regarding the Orkney Islands Council Trees and Woodland Strategy and SEA Environmental Report for the OIC TWS, members were of the opinion that they did not have the knowledge to comment on the woodland strategy, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the documents however members did not feel they could comment, and that advice should be sought from groups and individuals in Orkney who had expertise in trees and woodlands.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 28 January 2025 copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £7,336.12.

B. Npower Fund

After consideration of the Npower Fund statement as at 28 January 2025 copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £53,403.30.

C. Burgar Hill Renewables Fund

After consideration of the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund statement as at 28 January 2025, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £10,082.77.

D. Hammars Hill Energy Fund

After consideration of the Hammars Hill Energy Fund statement as at 28 January 2025, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £45,274.80.

E. Community Council Grant Scheme

After consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 28 January 2025, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the OIC Main Capping Limit was over allocated and the OIC Additional Capping had £765 remaining for allocation.

F. Community Development Fund

After consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 5 November 2024, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £11,636.86 remained available for allocation.

G. Seed Corn Fund

After consideration of the Seed Corn fund statement as at 5 November 2024, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £3,395.00 remained available for allocation.

8. Financial Requests

A. International Island Games Legacy in Orkney

Following consideration of the letter received from the Island Games committee requesting assistance towards the cost of Evie Primary School making a banner for the Island Games, it was:

Resolved to award a grant of £200 towards the cost and that Community Council Grant Scheme assistance should be applied for on the cost.

B. D McGee – U16/18 Caledonia Club Bowl, Invergordon - 7 December

Following consideration of correspondence from D McGee requesting financial assistance towards the cost of M McGee travelling to the U16/18 Caledonia Club Bowl on 7 December 2024, it was:

Resolved:

1. To award a donation of £90 would be awarded towards his son's travel, which would be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.
2. To note that D McGee had reached the four trips for the quarter up to December therefore no funding could be awarded.

C. D McGee - SRU Training, Aberdeen - 14 December

Following consideration of correspondence from D McGee requesting financial assistance towards the cost of M McGee attending SRU Regional training on 14 December 2025, it was:

1. To award a donation of £90 would be awarded towards his son's travel, which would be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.
2. To note that D McGee had reached the four trips for the quarter up to December therefore no funding could be awarded.

D. D McGee – U13 Caledonia Challenge , Moray - 18 January

Following consideration of correspondence from D McGee requesting financial assistance towards the cost of F McGee attending U13 Caledonia Challenge on 18 January 2025, it was:

Resolved to award a donation of £90 each totalling £180, which would be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

E. D McGee – U18 Caledonia Youth Bowl, Inverness - 25 January

Following consideration of correspondence from D McGee requesting financial assistance towards the cost of M McGee attending Saltire Energy Boy's U18 Caledonia Youth Bowl and Plate on 25 January 2025, it was:

Resolved to award a donation of £90 each totalling £180, which would be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

F. D McGee – U18 Caledonia Youth Bowl, Invergordon - 8 February

Following consideration of correspondence from D McGee requesting financial assistance towards the cost of M McGee attending the Saltire Energy Boy's U18 Caledonia Youth Bowl and Plate on 8 February 2025, it was:

Resolved to award a donation of £90 each totalling £180, which would be met from the Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

G. S Tomalin - Swimming - North District 8 February – 8 March

Following consideration of correspondence from S Tomalin requesting financial assistance towards the cost of A Tomalin attending two dates for the North District Age Group Championships in Aberdeen on 8 February and 8 March 2025, it was:

Resolved to award a donation of £90 per person for both trips totalling £360, which would be met from the Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

H. G Boniface – Volleyball, Edinburgh - 26 January

Following submission of an application of the above application, the applicant advised the trip had been cancelled and therefore withdrew the application, and it was:

Resolved to note the application had been withdrawn.

I. C Nicolson – Rugby, 5 trips - January/February 2025

Following consideration of correspondence from C Nicolson requesting financial assistance towards the travel for daughter C Nicolson attending five training and games for the U18 Caledonia Region Squad, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that one travel grant had previously been awarded in the January-March quarter.
2. To award £90 towards three trips totalling £270, which would be met from the Bugar Hill Renewable Fund.

J. Road Scheme

1. P Lillie, Walkerhouse Cottage, Evie

Following consideration of a joint application for the five properties on the Woodwick Road for Road Scheme assistance from P Lillie/S Leask, G Peters/H Wailoo; C McInnes; M Austin and E Wallen, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £1,500 be awarded to road repairs, and that the cost should be met from the Npower Fund.

2. N Baker, Festival, Evie

Following consideration of a Road Scheme application from Mr Baker, it was:

Resolved to contact Mr Baker advising on the criteria of the scheme and to ascertain how he wished to proceed.

3. J Pickles, Brooklyn, Rendall

Following consideration of a Road Scheme application from J Pickles, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £300 be awarded to road repairs, and that the cost should be met from the Npower Fund.

4. M Montgomery, Garson, Rendall

Following consideration of a Road Scheme application from M Montgomery, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £300 be awarded to road repairs, and that the cost should be met from the Npower Fund.

K. Evie Primary School

Following consideration of an application from Evie Primary School requesting assistance towards thirteen pupils attending the Hoy trip, it was:

Resolved to award a donation of £30 per pupil totalling £390, which would be met from Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

L. G Phaithaisong, Gymnastics, 10 November 2024

Following consideration of correspondence from G Phaithaisong requesting financial assistance towards the cost of M Phaithaisong attending gymnastics competition on 10 November 2024 in Inverness, it was:

Resolved to award a donation of £90, which would be met from the Bugar Hill Renewables Fund.

9. Publications

The following publications had previously been forwarded to members:

- VAO Newsletters – December 2024, January 2025.
- VAO Training and Funding Update – December 2024, January 2025.
- VAO Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund.
- ORSAS Quarterly Newsletter – January 2025.

10. Any Other Competent Business

A. Evie Play Park – Annual Inspection

The Interim Clerk advised members that the annual inspection of the play park had been carried out, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report and that arrangements should be made for a meeting of the play park committee.

B. Local Place Plan

Councillor Rachel King raised the possibility of preparing a local place plan for the Evie and Rendall areas and, following discussion, it was:

Resolved to arrange a special meeting and invite the Service Manager, Development and Marine Services, along to provide information on the benefit of having a local place plan.

C. Kirkyard Maintenance

Members agreed to advertise inviting tenders for the annual grass cutting of the kirkyards and that powers should be delegated for the opening, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That tenders should be invited for the grass cutting.
2. That powers be delegated to Mrs Flett, Mr Harcus and Mrs Georgeson to open the tenders following the closing date.
3. That the weeds and moss on the paths would be monitored.

11. Dates for Future Meetings

Resolved to note that the next meeting of the Evie and Rendall Community Council would be held in the Evie School and via Teams at 19:30 on Monday, 28 April 2025, having been changed from 21 April 2025, and thereafter the following dates:

30 June 2025.

15 September 2025.

24 November 2025.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:45.