

Minute of the Meeting of North Ronaldsay Community Council held in the Lighthouse Visitor Centre and via Teams on Monday, 21 August 2023 at 19:30

Present:

Mr I Deyell, Mr P Donnelly, Ms A Duncan, Mr C Kerlake, Mrs L Paterson, Mrs H Scott and Mr I Scott.

In Attendance:

- Councillor S Clackson (via Teams).
- Councillor M Thomson (via Teams).
- Councillor H Woodbridge (via Teams).
- Mrs H Green, Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure.
- Mr A Rodwell, Head of Improvement and Performance.
- Ms H Galland, Clerk.

Order of Business

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Apologies | 2 |
| 2. Election of Office Bearers | 2 |
| 3. Adoption of Minutes | 2 |
| 4. Matters Arising | 2 |
| 5. Correspondence | 4 |
| 6. Consultation Documents..... | 4 |
| 7. Financial Statements | 4 |
| 8. Financial Requests | 5 |
| 9. Reports from Representatives | 6 |
| 10. Publications | 7 |
| 11. Any Other Competent Business..... | 7 |
| 12. Date of Next Meeting | 7 |
| 13. Conclusion of Meeting | 8 |

1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mr E Barclay and Mrs J Montgomery.

2. Election of Office Bearers

Following a secret ballot, the following positions were accepted:

- Chair - Mr P Donnelly.
- Vice Chair - Mrs H Scott.
- Transport Representative - Mr C Kerslake.
- Planning Representative- Mrs L Paterson.
- Development Trust Representative- Mrs A Duncan.
- Health and Care Representatives - Mr P Donnelly and Mrs H Scott.
- Yarn Company Representatives - Mr P Donnelly and Mrs H Scott.
- Community Association Representative - Mrs A Duncan.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The newly elected Chair then took control of the meeting. The minute of meeting held on 29 May 2023 was adopted, being proposed by Mrs A Duncan, and seconded by Mr I Deyell.

4. Matters Arising

A. Rabbit Damage Tender

Members were advised that there had been two tenders for the work at the Old Kirkyard and that Burial Services had chosen Mr N Paterson's proposal. Work was expected to be conducted by the end of the month, and it was:

Resolved to note the information and that further work would be needed to control the rabbits colonising the kirkyard and was ongoing.

B. Cattle Floats

It was reported that the Head of Improvement and Performance had contacted the community council with a view to getting the issue of cattle floats resolved, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That a 2-stage approach would be undertaken - the first stage to agree immediate terms so that floats could be used now, and the second stage to agree the finer detail for their ongoing usage.
2. That the Head of Improvement and Performance would arrange a Teams meeting with the Chair and Transport Representative on Wednesday, 23 August to arrange the first Special Meeting.

3. That the Head of Improvement and Performance would speak to Democratic Services to arrange the Special Meeting within the next 2 weeks of the current meeting.

4. To note that farmers will, as a matter of necessity, begin to use the trailers immediately, but that this does not mean that NRCC have accepted any responsibility for them, until a meeting resolves these issues.

C. Ferry Timetable/Transport Issues

The ongoing issues from past meetings were raised, and it was noted that the Air and Ferry Services Consultative Forum meeting was due to be held on 13 September, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Clerk would write to Democratic Services, with the Councillors included, to insist that these issues are put on the agenda for the Air and Ferry Services Consultative Forum meeting.

2. That the Clerk would write a separate letter to be forwarded to the Air and Ferry Services Consultative Forum as there had not been adequate responses or relaying of information on the issues included in previous business letters.

3. That the content of the letters be approved by all community council members.

D. ANP Update

Despite contradictory information circulating on island, it was confirmed that no one had been recruited to fill the role of permanent island medic, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that locums would continue to provide, as far as possible, continuous cover.

2. That the CC Health and Care representatives will be attending a stakeholder meeting of emergency services, the date of which was yet to be confirmed.

3. That the issue of first responders should be raised again at the stakeholder meeting, with regard the SFRS currently providing this service, but not necessarily on call at all times due to lack of crew.

E. Remembrance Sunday Wreath

The Members were in agreement to purchase one wreath, subject to CCGS approval, and it was:

Resolved the clerk order 1 wreath for North Ronaldsay to be delivered to Mr I Scott.

5. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received and forwarded and were noted as the contents and/or deadlines had expired:

- OHAL Committee - Call for Members (sent 9 June).
- SSEN Communities Resilience Fund - deadline 31 July (sent 29 June).
- Orkney Ferries - Letter re Co-op response to chilled goods (emailed 29 June).
- OIC - Revised air timetable for Sunday 24 and 31 December (emailed 28 June).
- NHS Orkney ANP for North Ronaldsay update (emailed 21 July).
- VAO AGM - 3 August (emailed 13 July).
- Invitation to join Scottish Health Council - deadline 31 July (emailed 18 July).
- Community Led Local Development Funding - deadline 31 July (emailed 24 July).
- Liam McArthur MSP - provision of ear plugs to passengers on inter isles planes (emailed 28 July).

After a discussion about the recent delivery of earplug post receiving correspondence on the matter of ear plug provision to passengers, it was:

Resolved to ask Transport Manager for a dispensing container and explanatory poster for the airfield waiting room, advising passengers who would like earplugs to help themselves.

6. Consultation Documents

The following consultation documents had been received and forwarded to members since the last meeting, and were noted, or members advised to complete independently, unless otherwise indicated:

- OIC 20mph Consultation for Finstown (7 July)
- Women's Aid Survey June 2023.
- Orkney Islands Area Licensing Board – Review of Statement of Alcohol Licensing Policy - Deadline 25 August (emailed 28 June).
- OIC Draft Procurement Strategy 2023-2028 - Deadline 31 July (emailed 28 June).
- OIC 20mph Speed Limit around isles schools - Deadline 31 July (emailed 13 July).
- Scottish Parliament - Visitor Levy Bill - Deadline 15 September (emailed 10 August).
- Scottish Government - Permitted Development Rights Review – Phase 3 (emailed 10 August).

7. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

Members considered the General Finance statement as at 28 July 2023, copies of which had been previously circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £19,333.41.

B. Turbine Fund

Members considered the Turbine statement as at 28 July 2023, copies of which had been previously circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £21,644.80.

C. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the CCGS statement as at 28 July 2023, copies of which had been previously circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the main capping limit had £737.52 remaining for approval, £743.00 remained in the additional capping limit and the island capping limit had £719.00 remaining.

D. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 28 July 2023, copies of which had been previously circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that total available for allocation was £3656.00.

E. Seed Corn Fund

Following the request from the previous meeting, asking if it would be possible to close this fund and reallocate the remaining funding, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that OIC were still looking into whether this was possible.
2. To note the total still available for allocation was £232.00.

8. Financial Requests

A. Playground Restoration/Equipment

Mr C Kerslake declared an interest in this matter and did not take part in discussion thereof.

Members considered a request from NRCA, copies of which had previously been circulated, asking for financial assistance of £1,000 towards play park equipment. After a discussion about what funding had already been collected and what future funding was available, it was:

Resolved:

1. To suggest Mr C Kerslake seek advice from VAO and not try to go it alone in application writing or seeking alternative funders.
2. To request confirmation that OIC are responsible for insurance of a permanent fixture playpark.

3. To request confirmation that planning permission will not be required.
4. To request confirmation that OIC are responsible for ongoing maintenance and future removal of condemned equipment.
5. That the Clerk would write to Mr Kerlake to inform him that NRCC unanimously support a playpark and will provide £1,000 towards its funding.
6. That the Clerk apply to OIC for CCGS funding of £1,000.

B. VAO Membership Renewal

Members considered the request to renew the membership of VAO for financial year 2023/2024, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk will make an application to OIC for its payment, subject to CCGS approval.

9. Reports from Representatives

A. Transport Representative

It was noted that a significant discussion had been held during matters arising, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the new Transport Representative would participate in an online meeting the following day with the Chair and the Head of Improvement and Performance.
2. That the new Transport Representative and Chair would arrange attendance at the Air and Ferry Services Consultative forum meeting on 13 September 2023.

B. Planning Representative

Resolved to note the report that there were no new planning applications relevant to North Ronaldsay since the last meeting.

C. North Ronaldsay Development Trust Representative

It was reported that Sheep Fest 2023 had been a success with more volunteers participating and more dyke rebuilt than ever despite being reduced to a week-long event. It was additionally reported that R Rendall had been appointed to be the building contractors for Trebb, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Health and Care Representative

Resolved to note that matters pertaining to this had already been discussed elsewhere in the meeting.

E. Yarn Company Representative

Resolved to note that there was nothing to report from the newly appointed representatives.

10. Publications

The following publications had been made available to members, and to others by being available online from source or on request, and were noted:

- Loganair Statistics June 2023.
- Letter from School Place - June 2023.
- VAO Training and Funding Update - June and July 2023.
- VAO Newsletter - May and June 2023.
- SEPA Newsletter June and August 2023.
- NHS Orkney Newsletter - June 2023.
- Orkney Ferries Statistics - June 2023.
- Police Scotland Newsletter - June 2023.

11. Any Other Competent Business

A. Rabbit Tender

It was asked whether the work done at the kirkyard would involve ridding it of rabbits, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would contact Burial Services to confirm what work exactly they expected from the on-island contractor and how dealing with the ongoing rabbit issue might best be addressed.

B. Roads Inspection

A late correspondence informed members that Road Inspectors were due to be visiting the island on 24 August 2023, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Clerk would forward the list of roads with significant issues to them, via Democratic Services, prior to their arrival.
2. That the Clerk would again ask OIC if the lane/road up to the community centre/school were adopted or to get a definitive answer on who is responsible for the dangerous potholes on its surface.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of North Ronaldsay Community Council would be held on Monday, 23 October 2023 at a venue to be agreed nearer the time.

13. Conclusion of Meeting

The incoming Chair thanked all the new representatives, and all members expressed thanks to Mr I Deyell for his dedication to the role of Chair for many years.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 22:10.