

Minute of the Meeting of Orphir Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Thursday, 19 August 2021 at 19:30

Present:

Mr M Clouston, Mr A Dundas, Mr A Marwick, Mr D Marwick and Mr N Sclater.

In Attendance:

- Councillor S Cowie.
- Councillor J Richards.
- Mrs P Damvelt, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mr A Dixon and Councillor L Manson.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 18 February 2021 was approved, being proposed by Mr N Slater and seconded by Mr M Clouston.

3. Matters Arising

A. Bus Shelter - Germiston Road

Following the previous update from the Men's Shed regarding the bus shelter build that would be funded by Community Council Grant Scheme, it was also reported that an OIC HiTRANS shelter had recently been erected at the end of Germiston Road. It was agreed that another could go at Smoogro Road end, but that the CC would need to check ownership of the land at the end of Smoogro Road and inform the landowner at Germiston what was planned, as this had previously been discussed with them. Members agreed that they found that children walking on the road was deemed unsafe, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Chair would let members know when the Men's Shed was operational and ready to start the work.
2. To note that the Chair was looking at a possible new location at either Scorradaile Road or Smoogro Road.
3. That the Clerk would check land ownership with Democratic Services.

B. Community Council Vacancy

Update on previous request of procedure needed to be followed to elect a new member to Orphir Community Council, it was:

Resolved that the Chair would put an advert on the Orphir Community News website.

4. Orkneyinga Saga Centre

A. Lease Agreement Update

Due to the sensitive nature of this item, it was discussed in private.

Following discussion on matters relating to the lease, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would contact Democratic Services for more information.

B. Upgrade of Video and Audio Equipment - HES Press Release

Members discussed the plans of being fully operational by 2022. While HES funding was available until then, work would depend on the outcome of the lease and further clarification on the clause. After a brief discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. That members would wait for further clarification before contacting David Griffith regarding work at the Orkneyinga Saga Centre.
2. The Chair would contact contractors for availability.
3. That members would get together to discuss the refurbishment and audio-visual proposal to get the project going.

5. Correspondence

A. Creative Networks - Mapping Business for Creative organisations and individuals

Following consideration of an email which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Surface Dressing Update

Members discussed an update on Orkney Islands Council's Surface Dressing plans, copies of which had previously been circulated, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Level 0 Covid-19

Members discussed correspondence regarding Orkney Islands moving to level 0 of Covid restrictions, an email on which had previously been circulated, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Bus Shelter

Members had previously been forwarded information regarding bus shelter availability, and that one could be supplied for the end of the Germiston Road as previously requested, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

E. Scottish Island Passport App

Members had previously been circulated information on the Scottish Island Passport app which would allow users to explore the diverse landscapes and communities on 72 of Scotland's inhabited islands, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

F. Winter Service Plan - Final Comments

Members noted that last comments had been sent to Democratic Services about concern in the community over road safety for local key workers in particular, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

G. Connecting Scotland

Members noted information, which had previously been circulated via email, on the Connecting Scotland project, for people who can't access online because they don't have the confidence, kit and connectivity at home. Connecting Scotland is working to change this by keeping Scotland connected, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

H. Leslie Manson update Saga Centre

Members were provided with an update on the Orkneyinga Saga Centre contract clause and the responsibilities of OIC and OCC. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

I. Orkney.com - opening Saga Centre

Orkney.com had advised that there had been members of the public interested in knowing when the Orkneyinga Saga Centre would reopen, through an email which had previously been circulated, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

J. Island Community Fund

Members discussed an email which had previously been circulated regarding a £2m support fund for island communities, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

K. Update on Waste Services, OIC

Members had been forwarded the latest update on changes to the waste services arrangements, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

L. Hi-TRANS E-Cargo bikes

Information regarding last available e-cargo bike had previously been circulated to members via email, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

M. Surf Awards

Information regarding the Surf Awards had previously been circulated to members via email, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

N. Community Development Fund

Information regarding the CDF, which aims to support projects which will provide benefit to, or be available to, the community, providing long-lasting community benefit, had previously been circulated to members via email, and it was

Resolved that the clerk was to investigate further into the application.

6. Consultations

A. Wind Farm Consultation

Members had been notified that Orkney Islands Council was consulting with the public and with key stakeholders on a 'location-specific' community benefit scheme for 'Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project, and it was:

Resolved that no comments were to be forwarded.

B. HES Framework Consultation

Members had been previously sent a consultation on the, HES proposed changes and restructure for refreshed grant programmes, and it was:

Resolved that no comments would be forwarded.

C. Scottish Sea Farms - Scapa Flow Expansion Proposals

Members heard that Scottish Sea Farms were considering proposals to expand two farms in Scapa Flow, namely Bring Head and Toyness, and it was:

Resolved that no comments were to be forwarded.

D. Orkney Local Flood Risk Management Plan

Information had previously been forwarded to members regarding phase 2 of the consultation where draft objectives and actions to manage flooding in target areas were to be added, and it was:

Resolved that no comments were to be forwarded.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Finance and Saga Centre 2020/2021

Following consideration of the financial statements as at 6 August 2021, it was:

Resolved to note the balances of £21,592.31 in the general account and 33,603.08 in the Saga Centre account.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 6 August 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £2,910.40.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 6 August 2021, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for allocation of £13,755.42.

D. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement as at 6 August 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £3,518.

8. Requests for Financial Assistance

A. Orphir Community School – Outdoor Activities

Following consideration of a request for financial assistance towards six pupils taking part in school outdoor activities in August 2021, it was:

Resolved to award a donation of £50 per child, totalling £300, subject to Community Council Grant Scheme approval.

B. OASC - Summer Festival, Aberdeen

Following consideration of a request for financial assistance from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club towards one swimmer from the Orphir area competing in the summer festival competition in July, it was:

Resolved to award a donation of £50 to the swimmer.

C. Kirkwall and St Ola CC – Bonfire and Fireworks

Following consideration of a request for financial assistance towards the bonfire and fireworks display in Kirkwall planned for 6 November 2021, it was:

Resolved to award £100, subject to Community Council Grant Scheme approval.

9. Publications

The following publications, which had been previously emailed to members, were noted by the Community Council:

- Orphir What's On.
- VAO – Newsletter - July 2021.
- VAO – Training and Funding Update – July 2021.

10. Any Other Competent Business

A. Grass Cutting Update

Concerns had been raised about the contract of the area between the old and new kirkyard. R S Rendall currently has the tender for new kirkyard. Members agreed that next year's tender needed to include new kirkyard. After a brief discussion, it was:

Resolved that the grass cutting frequency would need to be investigated and updated, as well as clarification on this particular area.

B. Festive Lighting Presentation

Members requested to see the presentation on the changes proposed by OIC regarding Christmas lights in CC areas, and it was:

Resolved that the clerk was to request a copy from Democratic Services.

C. Germiston Fallen Bricks Response

It was noted that bricks previously reported fallen from a brig by members had not been investigated. It was believed that the issue might worsen if not dealt with. After a brief discussion, it was:

Resolved that the clerk was to contact Democratic Services to look further into this issue.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meetings of Orphir Community Council would be held on Thursdays 11 November 2021 and 10 February 2022, in person, commencing at 19:30.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:25.