

Minute of the Meeting of Flotta Community Council held via Microsoft Teams and at Flotta Community Centre on Thursday, 7 October 2021 at 19:30

Present:

Mrs P Gee, Mrs R Biddle, Mr N Cheeseman, Mrs H Howe, Mr M Howe, Mr C Mullins and Mrs I Smith.

In Attendance:

- Councillor J Stockan.
 - Councillor R Crichton.
 - Mrs J Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer.
 - Miss J Gatfield, Clerk.
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- Two members of the public.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that an apology for absence had been received from Councillor M Thomson.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on Thursday, 5 August 2021 was approved, being proposed by Mrs I Smith and seconded by Mrs H Howe.

3. Matters Arising

A. Community Asset Transfer – Area of Land

Members discussed the received quote for legal fees for the purchase of the area of land and the proposed use of this area of land once it had been purchased, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the proposal should go ahead.
2. That the legal fees were agreed.
3. That the Community Council Clerk carry out a consultation to gauge the level of interest of residents in having an allotment.
4. That the Community Asset Transfer be a separate item on the agenda going forward.
5. That this item would be discussed again with regards to proposed use.

B. Island Emergency – COMAH Plan

Members discussed the update regarding the COMAH Plan received from Democratic Services. The Empowering Communities Liaison Officer advised that the Safety and Resilience Manager would be chasing up an up-to-date leaflet

Members discussed how residents do not know what to do if an emergency should occur, that there must be a reasonable evacuation plan in place if the site is to retain its COMAH status and that Repsol Sinopec were not in possession of current residents' contact details.

Mrs H Howe advised she would speak again to the relevant officer at Repsol Sinopec.

Councillor J Stockan advised he would be able to contact the Safety and Resilience Manager and it was agreed that a meeting between members and the Safety and Resilience Manager would be required, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information provided.

2. That this item would be discussed at the next meeting.

C. Repsol Sinopec – Play Park Equipment

Mrs H Howe advised that she had spoken to the terminal manager and he had advised that this would be done, and it was:

Resolved to discuss this item again at the next meeting.

D. Putting Green

Members discussed the condition of the putting green being good and that it did not require any further works currently, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

E. 13 and 14 Burnside

The Chair advised that all visitors to numbers 13 and 14 Burnside had been happy with their stay and that rental rates would need to be reviewed as per January 2022. Members discussed that work needed to be carried out on the windowsills, that a rubber seal needed to be repaired on the door of the family house and that a spare kettle may need to be purchased, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

4. Correspondence

A. Christmas Tree Lighting

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding Christmas Tree Lighting ceremonies, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the arrangements would be the same as per previous years.
2. That this would be confirmed by the Community Council Clerk.

B. Flotta Trail - Suggestion for Bench Site

Following consideration of correspondence from a visitor to Flotta suggesting the placement of a bench at Flotta Pier, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the contents of the correspondence.
2. To purchase a picnic bench for the area of Flotta Pier before next summer.
3. That Councillor R Crichton would seek an update regarding the development of the new waiting room at the pier.

C. Rural Spaces Guidance - Small Grants

Following consideration of correspondence from HITRANS regarding the availability of community grants for aiding the safety of cycling, walking or wheeling in rural communities, it was:

Resolved

1. To note the contents of the correspondence.
2. That the Vice Chair and Mr C Mullins would look into possible applications of this grant.

D. Bicycle Storage

Members considered correspondence from the Vice Chair regarding the siting of a bicycle rack in the square at Burnside.

Members discussed the current speed limit of the road in the area of Flotta Community School, concern was expressed that the current speed limit of 40mph was too fast and put pedestrians and children walking to and from the school at risk of being involved in an accident. The lack of adequate road signs warning drivers of the school was also discussed. Councillor J Stockan advised that as current legislation for speed limits and road signage was determined nationally, it would take time to be reviewed. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the contents of the correspondence.
2. That a bicycle rack could be considered but further information would be required (demand for and feasible location).
3. That Councillor R Crichton would contact the Orkney Islands Roads Department and feedback any response obtained.

Councillor R Crichton left the meeting following discussion of this item.

E. Connecting Scotland Round 3 Phase 2

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding Phase 2 of the Connecting Scotland programme to tackle digital exclusion, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

F. Health Service Funding - Projects With Health Benefits

Following consideration of correspondence from a resident of Flotta regarding Health Service funding for community projects with health benefits, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the contents of the correspondence.

2. To review this again when the allotments/community garden project is further progressed.

G. Worrying About Money

Following correspondence from the Independent Food Aid Network regarding the provision for money advice and support in Orkney, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

H. Scottish Land Commission

Following correspondence from the Scottish Land Commission regarding the Orkney Virtual Public Meeting, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

I. Scottish Flood Forum Visit

Following correspondence from the Scottish Flood Forum regarding flood risks in the Orkney Islands, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

J. Orkney Drugs Dog - Community Engagement

Following correspondence received from Orkney Islands Council regarding a presentation from the Orkney Drugs Dog handler, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

5. Consultations

A. OCWP Community Benefit Scheme Consultation

After consideration of information received from Orkney Islands Council on the Orkney Community Windfarm Project, and Community Benefit Options, it was:

Resolved to note the consultation.

B. EMEC - Wave Tidal Test Site at Billia Croo

After consideration of information received from the European Marine and Energy Centre regarding an application for consent for the construction and operation of a wave testing site at Billia Croo, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Scrutiny of Electoral Boundaries Regulations

After consideration of information from the Scottish Parliament regarding the scrutiny of Electoral Boundaries Regulations, it was:

Resolved to note the consultation.

D. Review of Inter Island Fare Structure

After consideration of a review of Inter Island Fare Structure and an explanation by Councillor J Stockan about how the fare structure work, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

Councillor J Stockan and Mrs J Montgomery left the meeting during the discussion of this item.

E. NHS Orkney Clinical Strategy

After consideration of a survey from NHSO on health and care in Orkney, it was:

Resolved that the survey would be displayed on public notice boards and the "This Is Flotta" Facebook group by the Clerk.

F. National Care Service – Digital Engagement Session

After consideration of information regarding a Digital Engagement Session it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

6. Financial Statements

A. General Fund

After consideration of the General Fund statement as at 20 September 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £47,082.53.

B. Burnside Account

After consideration of the General Fund statement as at 20 September 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £7,864.42

C. Wind Power Fund

After consideration of the General Fund statement as at 20 September 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £10,141.77.

D. Community Council Grant Scheme

After consideration of the General Fund statement as at 20 September 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that there was £3,008.15, £676.00 and £654.00 remaining in the main, additional and island capping limits respectively.

E. Community Development Fund

After consideration of the General Fund statement as at 20 September 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that £5,980.51 remained for allocation.

F. Seed Corn Fund

After consideration of the Seed Corn fund statement as at 20 September 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that £3,161.00 remained available for allocation.

7. Financial Request - Road Aggregate Scheme

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

Following consideration of an application to the Road Aggregate Scheme, it was:

Resolved to check previous grants provided through this scheme before making a decision.

8. Publications

It was resolved to note that the following publications had been circulated to members.

- Orkney Ferries Statistics – April, May and June 2021.
- VAO – Training and Funding Update – August 2021.
- VAO – “Worrying About Money” Leaflet and Poster.
- VAO – Training and Funding Update – September 2021.
- Healthcare Improvement Scotland Updates.

9. Reports from Representatives

A. Transport

It was reported that replacement boats were being looked into and that they will have to meet new criteria, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Planning

Resolved to note that there were no issues to report in relation to planning matters.

10. Any Other Competent Business

A. Christmas 2021

It was discussed whether Christmas gifts for residents over the age of sixty and residents under sixteen years old would be provided by the Community Council this year, and it was:

Agreed that the Clerk would arrange a notice for applications.

B. Advertisement for Flotta Roads Operative

It was discussed if the Flotta Roads Operative vacancy would be more likely to be filled if it were for a gritter only and why the person who carried out the gritting previously could not continue to carry out the role, and it was:

Agreed that the Clerk would address with Orkney Islands Council via the business letter.

11. Dates of Future Meetings

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of the Flotta Community Council would be held on Tuesday, 7 December 2021 at Flotta Community Centre and online, commencing at 19:30.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:50.