

Minute of the Meeting of Evie and Rendall Community Council held in Evie Community School on Tuesday, 29 August at 19:30

Present:

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

In Attendance:

- Councillor Rachael King.
- Councillor Owen Tierney.
- Councillor Jean Stevenson.
- Hayley Green, Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure.
- Jackie Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer/Interim Clerk.
- Inga Gaudie, Community Council Liaison Assistant/Interim Clerk.
- David Hannon, Strategic Projects Manager (Item 1 only).
- Chris Purnell, Strategic Projects Manager (Item 1 only).
- Michelle Green, Strategic Projects Officer (Communications and Engagement) (Item 1 only).

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1. Presentation on Community Wind Farm Project

Following a presentation from representatives from Orkney Islands Council's Strategic Projects Team, regarding the Community Wind Farm Project, which would see the installation of 6 wind turbines each, in Quanterness, Hoy and Faray, it was:

Resolved to note contents of the presentation.

The Strategic Projects Team representatives left the meeting at this point.

2. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies had been received from Councillor Duncan Tullock.

3. Adoption of Minute

The minute of the meeting held on Monday, 19 June 2023 was approved, being proposed by Colin Gunn and seconded by Mark Hull, subject to the following amendment:

Item 4E should read "A member of the community council, is also a member of OHAL and explained to members the issues faced by the organisation and why joining would be worthwhile."

4. Matters Arising - Road Speed Concerns in Evie

The Empowering Communities Liaison Officer advised that she had spoken with the Team Manager, Roads Support, and he had advised that traffic control strips would be installed once the community council had specified where they would like them to be placed. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

A. That the traffic control strips should be installed across from the Council Houses, and one just after the Mistra, and that the Interim Clerk would inform the Roads Support Team Manager of this decision.

B. That the Interim Clerk would enquire as to whether speed indicator devices could be instated.

5. Correspondence

A. SSEN Resilient Communities Fund 2023

Following consideration of correspondence regarding SSEN's Resilient Communities Fund 2023, for which application had to be submitted by 31 July 2023, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. Thank You Letter

Members read a letter from Gillian Sinclair, thanking the community council for their financial support, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

C. Scottish Health Council Member Recruitment

Following consideration of correspondence regarding Health Improvement Scotland's Scottish Health Council Member Recruitment, for which applications required to be submitted by 31 July 2023, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

D. Scottish Islands Passport - Latest News and Short Survey

Following consideration of correspondence regarding Scottish Islands Passport news update and short survey request, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

6. Consultations

A. Women's Aid Orkney

Following consideration of a short survey from Women's Aid Orkney, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the survey.

B. Orkney Islands Area Licensing Board – Review of Statement of Alcohol Licensing Policy

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding a review of the Orkney Islands Area Licensing Board's Statement of Alcohol Licensing Policy, for which responses were due by 25 August 2023, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the consultation.

C. Draft Procurement Strategy 2023 to 2028

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding its proposed procurement strategy for 2023 to 2028, for which responses were required by 31 July 2023, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the consultation.

D. Scottish Government: Visitor Levy Bill

Members discussed the implications of the proposed visitor levy bill. Colin Gunn advised that he felt the bill was not a good idea and would increase costs to tourists and may dissuade them from visiting Orkney all together. Elizabeth Flett felt positively about the bill and that the revenue raised from it could possibly be used towards maintaining and developing services and facilities within the county, for example, instating toilets at the Ring of Brodgar. Mark Hull and Jane Rawle believed that passengers from the visiting cruise liners should be included. Councillor King stated that the cruise industry was quite fragile and needed to be treated cautiously. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the discussion.

E. RSPB Birsay Moors Peatlands

Following consideration of correspondence regarding RSBP's upcoming plans to restore peatlands across the Birsay Moors RSBP Reserve, for which responses were due by 14 July 2023, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the consultation.

F. Community Led Local Development (CLLD)

Following consideration of correspondence, advising that the Community Led Local Development Grant Scheme was open for applications, for which expressions of interest were due by 31 July 2023, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

G. Visitor Levy Bill - Consultation Extension

Following consideration of correspondence regarding the Visitor Levy Bill, advising that the deadline for responses had been extended to 15 September 2023, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 2023, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the actual balance was £9,859.90.

B. NPower Fund

After consideration of the NPower Fund statement as at 2023, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance of £48,513.34.

C. Burgar Hill Renewables Fund

After consideration of the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund statement as at 2023, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £11,602.77.

D. Hammars Hill Energy Fund

After consideration of the Hammars Hill Energy Fund statement as at 2023, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £29,306.08.

E. Community Council Grant Scheme

After consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 2023, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the OIC Main Capping Limit was fully allocated.
2. To note the OIC Additional Capping Limit had £743.00 remaining for allocation.

F. Community Development Fund

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

Resolved to note that the sum of £6,580.86 remained available for allocation.

G. Seed Corn Fund

After consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement as at 2023, 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 Applications

A. Jennifer Tait – Road Assistance Scheme

Following consideration of correspondence received from Ms J Tait, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the costs of road repairs, it was:

Resolved to advise Ms Tait, that £300 was available on evidence of receipts, for the repairs to the track, which should be met from the Npower Fund.

B. Phyllis Harvey - Road Assistance Scheme

Following consideration of correspondence received from Ms P Harvey, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the costs of road repairs, it was:

Resolved to advise Ms Harvey, that £300 was available on evidence of receipts, for the repairs to the road, which should be met from the Npower Fund.

C. Sue Boniface - Road Assistance Scheme

Following consideration of correspondence received from Ms S Boniface, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the costs of road repairs, it was:

Resolved to advise Ms Boniface, that £300 was available on evidence of receipts, for the repairs to the drive, which should be met from the Npower Fund.

D. Campbell Ridland - Royal Highland Show

Following consideration of correspondence received from Campbell Ridland, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the costs of competing at the Royal Highland Show in Edinburgh, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £90 be given towards the cost of the trip, which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

E. Kirkwall and St Ola CC - Bonfire and Fireworks 2023

Following consideration of correspondence received from Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the costs of the bonfire and fireworks event at Pickaquoy, in November, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £120 be given towards the cost of the event, which should be met from the General Fund, on approval of application to the Community Council Grant Scheme and on evidence of expenditure being received.

F. Darren McGee – Rugby and Football Competitions

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mr D McGee, copies of which had been circulated at the meeting, applying for financial assistance towards the costs of, one player and one coach, travelling to 5 rugby and football competitions out with Orkney, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £90 be given towards the cost of each participant competing in each of the 5 events, totalling £900, which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

G. Elizabeth Flett and Robbie Fraser – Island Games 2023, Guernsey

Elizabeth Flett declared an interest in this item and left the room.

Following consideration of correspondence received from Elizabeth Flett and Robbie Fraser, copies of which had been circulated at the meeting, applying for financial assistance towards the costs of attending the Guernsey Island Games 2023 as part of the 2025 Island Games Organising Committee, it was:

Resolved:

1. That a donation of £180 be given towards the cost of each participant that took part in the event, totalling £360, which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund and paid directly to the Island Games Association.

2. That the members discussed the fact the application was retrospective and decided to allow it on this occasion, due to a lack of clarity as to when financial applications should be submitted. Going forward, members decided that financial applications must be received by the clerk before the event takes place.

Elizabeth Flett returned to the room and the Chair informed her of their decision.

H. Orkney Care and Repair – Wheelchair Ramp

Following consideration of correspondence received from Orkney Care and Repair, copies of which were circulated at the meeting, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of installing a 7 metre by 1.2 metre, wheelchair ramp, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £600 be given towards the costs of the wheelchair ramp, on evidence of expenditure, which should be met from the Npower Fund.

I. Hammars Hill Education Grants 2023-24

Members considered the list of students who had applied for the 2023-24 Hammars Hill Education Grant, a copy of which was been distributed at the meeting and following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the six applicants who were students attending further education out of Orkney would each be granted £600.

9. Any Other Competent Business - Remembrance Sunday Wreaths

The Community Council Liaison Officer had circulated information prior to the meeting, regarding the ordering of poppy wreaths for Remembrance Sunday from the Royal British Legion and following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would order two poppy wreaths from the Royal British Legion and that an application be submitted to the Community Council Grant Scheme.

10. Publications

Resolved to note that the following publications had been forwarded to members:

- VAO – Newsletter – June and July 2023.
- VAO – Training and Funding Update – June and July 2023.
- Police Scotland – Orkney Area Command – Community Council Newsletter.
- Listening to You – Invitation to the Scottish Water ACM 2023.

11. Date of Future Meeting

Resolved that the next meeting of Evie and Rendall Community Council would be held on Monday, 13 November 2023 commencing at 19:30 in the Community Room of Evie School.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:50.