

# Minute of the Meeting of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council held in the North Walls School on Friday, 16 March 2018 at 18:45

## Present:

Mrs M Groat, Mrs G Robertson, Mr A Clark, Mr A Sinclair and Mrs R Thomson.

## In Attendance:

- Councillor M Thomson.
- Mrs T Avis, Island Link Officer.
- Dr I Cromarty.

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## **1. Apologies**

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been intimated on behalf of Mrs J Traynor, Mr C Bates and Councillors R Crichton and J Stockan.

## **2. Minutes**

### **A. Minute of Meeting held on 18 January 2018**

Subject to amendment to Item 8 (b) which should read “North Walls Community School – Nethybridge Trip”, the minute of the meeting held on 18 January 2018 was approved being proposed by Mrs R Thomson and seconded by Mr A Clark.

## **3. Matters Arising**

### **A. THAW Orkney**

The Chair explained to members that P Rickard of THAW was unable to attend this meeting due to the ferry being cancelled. THAW had held two successful drop-ins during the day at the Hoy Centre and the YM and would come back to hold a third one at North Walls Centre, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

### **B. Kirkyard Update**

The Clerk informed members that a subcommittee needed to be set up for the Kirkyard decisions. M Groat, G Robertson, A Sinclair and A Clark put themselves forward and there were no objections. The Clerk informed the subcommittee that this year was year two of a three-year contract and that all caretakers had been contacted and agreed to carry on this year. Therefore, contracts would be issued. The Clerk asked members if they required an extra cut to be undertaken in April, and it was:

Resolved for contracts to be issued for an extra cut in April, as well as the normal summer cuts.

### **C. Ferry Services Meeting**

Councillor M Thomson informed the members of the following:

- The suggestion that the MV Graemsay Friday late run was changed to “on request” had been shelved, it would operate as per the normal winter timetable.
- The 11:00 run of the MV Hoy Head, which is suspended during January and February was discussed at the meeting and it was agreed that this would now run year-round apart from on a Wednesday in January and February.
- Due to operational issues there would be a third member of crew on the MV Graemsay recruited.
- The Ferry Review was still ongoing with the Scottish Government.

Resolved to note the report.

## **D. Update on the Generic Support Worker NHS Orkney**

Dr Cromarty joined the meeting and informed members of the following:

- The Generic Support Worker role had been created after the agreement that the Community Council with NHS Orkney had negotiated back in 2011.
- The job was run as a pilot with funding from the Scottish Government.
- The pilot had run its course and what happens now is not clear.
- Orkney Health and Care (OHAC) is now responsible for Health Care on the island rather than NHS Orkney.

Members questioned whether a report had been produced and if so whether it would be made available to the Community Council and, it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk would write to OHAC for clarification as to what they now plan to do, as there was an agreement between NHS Orkney and the Community Council.
2. The Clerk would ask for a copy of the report regarding the pilot.
3. That the Clerk would find the paperwork from 2011.

The Chair thanked Dr Cromarty for attending the meeting. Dr Cromarty left the meeting.

## **E. Island Link Officer**

The Clerk informed members that the Development Trust had come back with an amount that they would charge for room in their office, this was now with Democratic Services. It was discussed that the idea of having a base in Longhope but the ILO also visiting Hoy and Lyness on a regular basis was a good option. The Clerk also gave members a list of subjects that keep arising and it was agreed in this initial stage the Community Resilience Plan should be one of the top priorities as the grant available from SSEN had to be claimed by September 2018. After discussion, it was:

Resolved to write to Democratic Services about this.

## **F. Police Scotland**

After consideration of correspondence from Police Scotland, the Clerk informed members that PC Inverarity had confirmed he could attend the May meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **G. Abandoned vehicles at Moaness Pier**

After consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council members discussed the issue of abandoned vehicles at Moaness Pier. The Chair told the meeting that an item on Radio Orkney appeared to have come from the Community Council, and she reminded members that no single member should speak on behalf of the Community Council, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **H. Longhope pontoons**

After consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council members discussed when the work as per the correspondence would be complete. Also, they felt that perhaps the Development Trust was in a better position to take the idea of pontoons forward. It was mentioned that the visitors' buoys that were put out each season could do with coming into nearer the pier as many sailors are put off using them as they are so far out, and it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk would make enquiries as to when the work would be complete.
2. That the Clerk would speak to the Development Trust regarding the pontoons.
3. That the Clerk would query the issues regarding the visitors' buoys.

## **I. Cardboard recycling at Lyness**

Councillor Thomson informed members that there was a lot of work going on in the background about recycling in Orkney. The specific problem of cardboard being put in with paper was likely to be people are not aware that cardboard shouldn't go in the same bin, and it was:

Resolved the Clerk would make up notices to put on the bins, and also advertise locally.

## **J. The Ouse**

Members discussed the issue of stone removal from the Ouse and the problem with this undermining the road. Members queried what the legal position of the removal of stone was and asked for clarification, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would refer the matter to Democratic Services in the Business Letter.

## **4. Correspondence**

### **A. Bag the Bruck 2018**

After consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding Bag the Bruck 2018, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk advertise the event and apply for Community Council Grant Scheme funding.

### **B. Community Council Funding**

After consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding funding it was discussed that the Community Council Scheme fund might be cut this year, however it is not yet known, and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

## **C. Community Resilience**

After consideration of correspondence from Scottish and Southern Electric regarding Community Resilience Fund the Clerk informed members that she was still trying to arrange a meeting with the Civil Contingencies Officer from Orkney Islands Council to take forward the Community Resilience Plan in order that grant received last year was used, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would write to Democratic Services regarding this.

## **D. NHS Orkney Fundraising Group**

After consideration of correspondence from NHS Fundraising Group, as it was a request for funding, it was:

Resolved the application be considered at the Finance meeting in June.

## **E. Orkney Job Centre**

After consideration of correspondence from Orkney Job Centre regarding internet access, members discussed the ongoing problems throughout the island with internet access. The Clerk reminded members that BT had said the Longhope exchange was due for an upgrade in December 2018 but had received no further details, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would contact BT regarding this.

## **F. Orkney Business Festival**

After consideration of correspondence from Orkney Business Festival, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

# **5. Consultation Documents**

## **A. Verge Maintenance Plan**

After consideration of the Verge maintenance plan members discussed the issues surrounding only having one verge cut a year, and it was:

Resolved to write to request an additional cut.

## **B. Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005**

After consideration of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

# **6. Financial Statements**

## **A. General Finance**

Following consideration of the Community Council's general financial statement, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £11,267.30, as at 23 February 2018.

## **B. Community Council Grant Scheme**

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £1,054.18, as at 23 February 2018.

## **C. Community Development Fund**

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for allocation of £5,711.63, as at 23 February 2018.

## **D. Seed Corn Fund**

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement, it was:

Resolved to note the funds remaining for approval of £3,658.47, as at 23 February 2018.

## **7. Publications**

Members were provided with copies of the following publications:

- Orkney Ferries – Statistics December 2017.
- Orkney Ferries – Statistics January 2018.
- The Orkney Partnership – Community Planning News 2018.

## **8. Any Other Competent Business**

### **A. Orkney Islands Council - Review of Systems of Work**

After consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding the review of systems of working, members agreed that some systems may need reviewing in light of current legislation, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

### **B. Internet Access on Ferries**

Councillor Thomson noted that the issue of internet access being made available to the public on the ferries was being actively looked at, and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

### **C. Wind Power in Orkney**

Councillor Thomson told members that Scottish and Southern Energy would soon be consulting over the plans to upgrade the electricity cable into Orkney and the potential benefits it could bring to Orkney and Hoy and Walls. Hoy had been

earmarked as a potential site for a new wind farm but there would be a full consultation before anything was decided, and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

#### **D. Orkney Islands Council – Lyness**

Councillor Thomson told the meeting that there was still no progress with the proposed decommissioning site at Lyness and tenders had not been agreed for work at the museum and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

#### **E. North Walls Community School – Transport meeting**

The Head Teacher of North Walls Community School had contacted the Clerk to invite members of the Community Council to a meeting about the transport issues on the island which was to be held on Wednesday, 9 May at the school, and it was:

Resolved that the Chair, and possibly G Robertson and A Clark would attend.

### **9. Date of Next Meeting**

After consideration of dates for the next meetings, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council would take place on Friday, 18 May 2018 at 18:45.

### **10. Conclusion of Meeting**

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting concluded at 20:30.