

Minute of the Meeting of Stronsay Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 3 March 2021 at 19:00

Present:

Mr I Cooper, Mrs S Whiteman, Mr C Fraser, Mr P Riley, Mr J Seaton and Mr S Weaver.

In Attendance:

- Councillor S Clackson.
- Councillor G Sinclair.
- Councillor H Woodbridge.
- Mrs J McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer.
- Mr C McAlpine, Island Link Officer, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mr D Stout.

2. Adoption of Minute

The minute of the meeting held on 2 December 2020 was approved, being proposed by Mr S Weaver and seconded by Mr P Riley, subject to the following amendment to Item 8H that:

“Members heard that they had previously been consulted over a request made to the Ferry Services Manager for an extension to the expiry date on ferry ticket books where travel had been curtailed during the Covid-19 lockdown. A notice had been displayed locally giving details of the Ferry Services Manager’s response.”

be replaced with:

“Members heard that they had previously been consulted over a request from the Roads Support Manager regarding an upgrade to the flood barrier at the opening to the west of the Fish Mart, and it was:

Resolved that members were in agreement with the installation of a new barrier system. at the opening to the west of the Fish Mart.”

3. Matters Arising

A. Village Play Park

Members heard that two outdoor play equipment brochures were still circulating between members, and it was:

Resolved to carry this item forward to the next meeting.

B. Stronsay Roads Depot and Recycling Centre

Members heard that there had been no objection from Stronsay Development Trust to relocating the recycling containers from the Roads Depot to Wood’s Yard, and it was:

Resolved to note that Stronsay Development Trust had no objection to the recycling containers being relocated to Wood’s Yard and that Orkney Islands Council would be notified of this.

C. Bay Kirkyard:

Members heard that their request for the levelling of the uneven ground in the Bay Kirkyard had been forwarded for attention, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

D. Ferry Cafeterias

Members heard that there had been no response from the other North Isles Community Councils asking for their opinion and comments on the non-availability of a cafeteria service on the inter-island ferries, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

E. Telecare and Mobile Responder Service

Members heard that their objection to the levying of a £3.50 a week user charge for the Telecare and Mobile Responder Service had been forwarded to Orkney Island Council and that the proposed charge was not approved and would be the subject of further debate in 2021, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

F. Slippery Pavement

Members heard that the Roads and Environmental Services Operations Manager had put out an instruction for the slippery pavement in Whitehall Village to be power washed, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

G. Rothiesholm Beach Car Park

Members heard that repair work had been approved to the Rothiesholm beach car park, that this should commence after March 2021 and that investigations would take place on whether a drainage ditch was required, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information.
2. That the Chair would accompany the investigating officer and liaise with the landowner over the drainage arrangements.

4. Grass Cutting Contracts

Members considered arrangements for advertising the 2021 grass cutting contracts, and it was:

Resolved:

- A. That the 2021 grass cutting contracts would be advertised locally.
- B. That the closing date for tenders would be 1 April 2021.

5. Stronsay Slaughterhouse Report

Members heard that the quarterly hydro bill covering the period 1 November 2020 to 2 February 2021 had been received and paid, and that members had been consulted over the security arrangements at the slaughterhouse, and it was:

Resolved:

A. To note the information provided.

B. That members had previously agreed to the purchase of two new padlocks to help improve security at the slaughterhouse.

6. Fish Mart Report

Due to the sensitive nature of this item, the following was taken in private.

Members heard that a new Operator agreement, previously circulated to members for consideration, had been signed. Work to install a coin operated shower unit in the public shower room was on going. The Operator had taken photographs of areas in the building in need of attention and, following previous consideration by members, these had been forwarded to the owner of the building for comment and possible action. Other items were also discussed, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

7. Stronsay Development Trust – Co-opted Representative’s Report

Members were given a verbal summary of the Stronsay Development Trust’s recent activities and projects, and members were asked to give their support to specific projects, and it was:

Resolved:

A. To note the information.

B. That the Chair would liaise with the Community Development Officer over proposed waste schemes being considered by Stronsay Development Trust Directors.

C. That members agreed to give their support to a major project Stronsay Development Trust will present for community consultation and to any project requiring Community Council support.

8. Transport Representative’s Report

Members heard concerns had been expressed over the limited time available between the Kirkwall arrival and departure during the refit timetable, and the ferry booking service, which members heard may be addressed when an on line booking service is introduced, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

9. Planning Representative’s Report

Members heard that their attention had been previously brought to a planning application to erect a garage at a private residence, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

10. Consultation Documents

A. Police Consultation/Survey

Members considered the previously circulated consultation document from Police Scotland on Equality Outcomes for 2021-2026, the closing date of which was 14 January 2021, and it was:

Resolved to note that members had had no comment to make.

B. Animal Welfare and Livestock Transportation

Members considered the previously circulated consultation document from DEFRA and Scottish Government on Animal Welfare and Livestock Transportation, the closing date of which was 25 February 2021, and it was:

Resolved to note that members had had no comment to make.

C. Verge Maintenance Plan

Members considered the previously circulated consultation document on the Verge Maintenance Plan for 2021, and it was:

Resolved that members had no comment to make.

11. Correspondence

A. New Cemetery Parking Area

Members heard that their consideration had previously been given to the inappropriate use of the new cemetery parking area and that following consultation with Orkney Islands Council the issue had been resolved, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

B. Connecting Scotland

Members heard that they had previously been forwarded information on an extension date to the Connecting Scotland programme, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

C. Replacement Ferries

Members heard that they had previously been forwarded a communication regarding information on replacement ferries, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

D. Telephone Box Adoption

Members heard that they had previously been consulted and agreed to a request for support from Stronsay Development Trust to adopt two telephone boxes and for information on the ownership of the telephone box beside the Fish Mart, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That members' support had been given to the adoption of two telephone boxes by Stronsay Development Trust.
2. That information on the ownership of the telephone box beside the Fish Mart had been forwarded to Stronsay Development Trust.

E. Ferry Services Forum Paperwork

Members heard that they had previously been forwarded papers in advance of the Ferry Services Consultative Forum meeting held on 10 February 2021, and that notices and copies of the draft Winter and Refit Timetables 2021/2022 had been displayed throughout Stronsay, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

F. Air Consultative Forum Paperwork

Members heard that they had previously been forwarded papers in advance of the Air Services Consultative Forum meeting held on 10 February 2021, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

G. Bay Kirkyard Issue

Members heard that they had previously been forwarded details of fresh rabbit burrowing in the Bay Kirkyard and that this had been brought to attention of Orkney Islands Council and that the issue had been ongoing since December 2019, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information.
2. That a request would be made for an urgent inspection of the continued damage and access by rabbits into the Bay Kirkyard.
3. That members should be informed of when an inspection would take place so a representative from the Community Council could be present.

H. Planning Aid for Scotland

Members heard that they had previously been forwarded an invitation from Planning Aid Scotland to attend a joint Zero Waste Scotland and Planning Aid Scotland event, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

I. Community Resilience Group Update on SSEN Remote Island and Subsea Cable Consultation

Members heard that they had previously been forwarded an invitation to participate in the Scottish and Southern Energy Network stakeholder event on their Remote Island and Subsea Strategy, and that the Chair had attended and shared information from the on line meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

12. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 15 February 2021 and discussion thereof, it was:

Resolved to note that the actual balance was £15,818.17.

B. Fish Mart Account

After consideration of the Fish Mart account statement as at 15 February 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £10,793.57.

C. Slaughterhouse Account

After consideration of the Slaughterhouse account statement as at 15 February 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £10,058.13.

D. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2020/2021 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 15 February 2021, members were asked to consider whether Orkney Islands Council should be asked to carry over any unallocated funds in the Community Council Grant Scheme into the new financial year, given the restrictions and unusual circumstances during the 2020/2021 COVID pandemic, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the balance remaining for approval in the main capping limit of £1,023.07.
2. That Orkney Islands Council would be asked if any unallocated funds in the Community Council Grant Scheme could be carried over into the new financial year.
3. That Democratic Services would be asked to forward members' request to the North Isles elected members.

E. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 15 February 2021, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for allocation of £8,723.40.

F. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund Statement as at 15 February 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance had been fully utilised.

13. Request for Financial Assistance - Stronsay Heritage Committee

The Chair and Mr S Weaver declared an interest and did not take part in discussion of the following item.

Members had been previously asked to consider a request for financial assistance from the Stronsay Heritage Committee to purchase nine ring binders for past editions of Orkney View magazines. A majority agreement had not been reached prior to the meeting and, following further consideration, it was:

Resolved to award the Stronsay Heritage Committee £91.30 to purchase nine Orkney View ring binders, subject to Community Council Grant Scheme approval.

14. Publications

The following publications had been forwarded to members:

- Orkney Ferries Statistics for September, October, November and December 2020.

15. Any Other Competent Business

A. Roads Issues

Members heard that additional funding had been added to the Orkney Islands Council roads budget for the coming year, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information.
2. That the Clerk would prepare and display notices asking residents to report any road issues requiring attention, and these would then be forwarded to Orkney Islands Council.

B. New Cemetery Car Park

Members heard that weeds were growing in the new cemetery car park that could cause a greater problem if left unattended, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information.
2. That Orkney Islands Council should be notified of weeds growing in the new cemetery car park and asked to address this.

C. Stronsay Bird Hide

Members heard that repairs were required to the Stronsay bird hide and that the North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme had been consulted regarding these, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information.
2. To note that the North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme would support the costs involved in repair to the Stronsay bird hide.
3. That notices would be prepared and displayed inviting tenders for identified repairs to the Stronsay bird hide.
4. That the notices would take into consideration the wishes of the landowner regarding access.

16. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Stronsay Community Council would be held remotely on Wednesday, 28 April 2021 commencing at 19:00.

17. Conclusion of Meeting

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