

Minute of the meeting of Evie and Rendall Community Council held at Evie Community School and via Microsoft Teams on Monday, 7 February 2022 at 19:30

Present:

Eoin R Marcus, Mrs Elizabeth Flett, Miss Fiona Georgeson and Colin Gunn.

In Attendance:

- Councillor Harvey Johnston.
- Councillor Rachael King.
- Councillor Owen Tierney.
- Councillor Duncan Tullock.
- Ms Hayley Green, Interim Executive Director (Environmental, Property and IT Services).
- Mrs Jenny McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer
- Mrs Lynne Leitch, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Ms Lorraine Wilson.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 22 November 2021 was approved, being proposed by Colin Gunn, and seconded by Mrs Elizabeth Flett.

3. Matters Arising – Updates from Police Scotland

After hearing that Colin Gunn had contacted one of the Sergeant's from Kirkwall Police Station about the presence of the force at Community Council meetings who had advised that they had attended many meetings in the past with little or no feedback from members and therefore it was not beneficial. However, it had been reiterated that if at any time there were any issues that the Community Councils needed to raise then the Police would happily attend a meeting and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the update.

4. Correspondence

A. Orkney Islands Council Briefing note on Route Based Forecasting

Members considered correspondence received from Orkney Islands Council, copies of which had previously been circulated, informing members of the new weather forecasting system that the Road teams were using to identify which parts of the County were in need of treatment during wintry weather. The technology will provide an update on road surface temperature which means treatment will be targeted where it is needed instead of a blanket coverage of areas. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. North Highland and Islands Climate Action Hub Introduction

Following consideration of correspondence received from the North Highland and Islands Climate Action Hub (NHICAH) informing Community Councils how they can assist with climate actions project and after hearing that the next meeting of the Resilience group would be attended by a representative from NHICAH, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

C. Orkney Islands Council Community Council meetings guidance note in relation to COVID19 implications on attendance

Following consideration from Orkney Islands Council's Chief Executive's Service, copies of which had previously been circulated in December 2021 informing members on the guidelines at the time of issue of attending Community Council meetings, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the update.

D. Orkney's Community Wind Farm Projects

Members considered correspondence from Democratic Services, copies of which had been circulated, advising that the Scottish Government had approved planning permission for two six-turbine Council owned wind farms at Quanterness and Hoy. Following discussion on all wind farm projects in Orkney, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the update and discussion.

E. Rendall and Evie Community Facilities

Members considered correspondence from Ms P Harvey, copies of which had been circulated, enquiring if funding could be provided for the repair and maintenance of coastal community assets in Evie and Rendall. A lengthy discussion followed, and members agreed that the previous decision made by the Community Council on giving no funding for both the seafront at Hinderayre and the public track along Aikerness beach would remain as the areas were privately owned. Following various suggestions, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Clerk would ask, via the business letter to Democratic Services, who owned and was responsible for the track along the beach at Aikerness.
2. That the Clerk would respond to Ms Harvey informing her that the Community Council do not have any jurisdiction over the area at Hinderayre or the track at Aikerness as they were both privately owned.

F. Thank you letters and messages

After hearing from the Clerk that thank you messages had been received in respect of financial assistance provided by the Community Council, it was:

Resolved to note that messages of thanks had been received from Mrs S Fraser, Rendall Community Association and D Bilcliffe and that a thank you letter had been received from the Orkney Amateur Swimming Club.

G. Bag the Bruck 2022

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services, copies of which were distributed at the meeting, informing members of arrangements for the Bag the Bruck event to be held from 16 to 24 April 2022, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the contents of the correspondence.
2. That the Clerk should apply for assistance through the Community Council Grant Scheme on a project cost of £300.
3. That the £300 would be split equally between the groups applying to take part in the Bag the Bruck event prior to the event date.

5. Verge Maintenance 2022 Consultation

Following consideration and discussion of the 2022 Verge Maintenance Consultation, members once again noted their frustration over the lack of ditches being dug to prevent puddles and in turn damage to roads, it was:

Resolved:

A. To note that the deadline for submission of comments was 2 March 2022.

B. To note that members would prefer for ditches to be dug as had been done in 2019 which had left a pleasing job.

6. Maintenance of the Evie and Rendall Kirkyards and Evie War Memorial

After hearing from the Clerk that the tender for the maintenance of the Evie and Rendall Kirkyards and Evie War Memorial was due for renewal, it was:

Resolved:

A. That the maintenance of the Evie and Rendall Kirkyards and Evie War Memorial should be advertised inviting tenders in time for the next meeting.

B. That the contract should run for one year only.

7. Evie and Rendall Community Park

A. Grass Maintenance

After hearing that a price of £1,400 + VAT had been received for the maintenance of the grass, it was agreed for the Clerk to apply for Community Council Grant Scheme towards the cost. The Contractor had suggested closing the park to public whilst he undertook any work which was approved by members. The Chair also confirmed that he would ask the Contractor to clear the area around the bottom of the trees, so no grass was growing in the tubes the trees were planted in, and it was:

Resolved to note and agree the content of the report.

B. Fence

Resolved to note that the fencing Contractor would be erecting the fence in the springtime.

C. Wheelie Bin

Resolved to note that the Clerk advised that the paperwork was being processed for a wheelie bin.

D. Scrap

Resolved to note that the Chair confirmed that he will be arranging for the scrap at the front of the park to be uplifted.

E. Contractors Health and Safety

Health and Safety by Contractors and having Public Liability Insurance in place was discussed by members and it was agreed that if any works were being carried out then the park would need to be in place for the duration, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the contents of the updates.
2. That the Clerk should apply for assistance through the Community Council Grant Scheme for the cost of the grass maintenance at £1,400 plus VAT.
3. During times when Contractors are working in the park, the grounds will be closed for the duration.

8. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 25 January 2022, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £5,217.42.

B. NPower Fund

After consideration of the NPower Fund statement as at 25 January 2022, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance of £30,620.51.

C. Burgar Hill Renewables Fund

After consideration of the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund statement as at 25 January 2022, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £11,806.77.

D. Hammars Hill Energy Fund

After consideration of the Hammars Hill Energy Fund statement as at 25 January 2022, copies of which had previously been circulated, and hearing that the Directors had recently reviewed and approved an increase in the annual payment of Community benefit, it was:

1. Resolved to note that the balance was £20,070.41.
2. That the annual community benefit had been reviewed resulting in the difference being paid recently.

E. Community Council Grant Scheme

After consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 25 January 2022, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £1,532.42 remained available for allocation.

F. Community Development Fund

After consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 25 January 2022, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £6,580.30 remained available for allocation.

G. Seed Corn Fund

After consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement as at 25 January 2022, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £3,395 remained available for allocation.

Councillor Harvey Johnston joined the meeting at this point at 20:23.

9. Financial Applications

A. Mrs L Stanger

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mrs L Stanger, copies of which had previously been circulated, enquiring about financial assistance for an elderly neighbour, and after discussion, it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk respond to Mrs Stanger suggesting that a Direct agency would be better placed to help with her neighbour.
2. To note that any referral for assistance needs to come from the individual.

B. Mrs G Phaithaisong – Just Dance in Dundee

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mrs G Phaithaisong, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the costs of her daughters participating in a dancing event in Dundee, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 each be given towards the cost of the event, which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

C. F Tams-Gray - Travel Funding for Research

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mr Tams-Gray, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of travelling for research purposes as part of his university course, it was:

Resolved that no donation would be given.

D. Miss L Wood - Under 17's Netball in Aberdeen

Following consideration of correspondence received from Miss L Wood, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the costs of playing in the under 17's district netball competition being held in Aberdeen, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £75 be given towards the cost of the event, which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

E. Orkney Pilgrimage – Maintenance of St Magus Way

Following consideration of correspondence received from Orkney Pilgrimage, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for funding towards the costs of the maintenance of the St Magus Way within the area, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £576 be given towards the cost of the maintenance which should be met from the NPower Fund.

F. Miss M Tams-Gray - Travel Funding for University Field Trip

Following consideration of correspondence received Miss Tams-Gray, copies of which were distributed at the meeting, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of a university field trip to Aviemore, it was:

Resolved that no donation would be given.

10. Publications

The Police Scotland Area Newsletter had been made available to members via email and was also available at the meeting.

11. Any Other Competent Business

A. Report on Orkney Matters virtual consultation

The meeting heard that two members had attended the recent online Orkney Matters consultation. Planning, housing and broadband issues had been brought up for discussion at the virtual meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the discussion.

B. Rendall Community Association – Tree Planting at Rendall Hall

After hearing that the Rendall Community Association were planning a tree planting day on 26 March 2022 at the Rendall Hall, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the update.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates and the format of meetings, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Evie and Rendall Community Council would be held on Monday, 21 March 2022, commencing at 19:30, either face to face or by Teams depending on the restrictions in place at the time.

13. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:48.