

Minute of the Meeting of Harray and Sandwich Community Council via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 9 June 2021 at 19:00

Present:

Mr D Hamilton, Mr G Brown, Mrs E Grant, Mr K Groundwater, Mr C Kirkness, Mrs E Rendall and Mrs K Ritch.

In Attendance:

- Councillor H Johnston.
- Councillor O Tierney.
- Councillor D Tullock.
- Mrs M Spence, Democratic Services Manager.
- Mrs J McGrath, Interim Clerk/Community Council Liaison Officer.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mr K Groundwater.

2. Election of Office Bearers

Mr G Brown proposed that the office bearers remain the same, and Mrs E Grant seconded this proposal, and it was:

Resolved that all office bearers would remain in their positions.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the general meeting held on 21 April 2021 was approved, being proposed by Mrs E Grant and seconded by Mr G Brown.

4. Matters Arising

A. Festive Lighting

The Chair advised that there was to be a meeting on 9 July to discuss festive lighting arrangements and that he would attend on behalf of the Dounby area, and it was:

Resolved to discuss this matter further at the next meeting.

B. Harray Hall Car Park

As Mr G Sinclair was not present at the meeting, it was:

Resolved to discuss this again at a future meeting.

C. Dounby Civic Amenity Site

Councillor D Tullock provided an update to members on the situation with reopening the civic amenity site in Dounby, advising that the Council still did not have enough drivers to service the skips and therefore it had to remain closed meantime.

Members suggested a strong letter or a petition be written up, but following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. That a special meeting should be arranged with the Strategic Policy and Projects Manager.

2. That members of Birsay Community Council should be invited to the special meeting.

3. That the Interim Clerk would arrange a date within the next week and send round invites in due course.

D. Manholes in Dounby Village

The Chair advised that he had not been round to inspect the manholes, and it was:

Resolved to carry forward this item for discussion at the next meeting.

5. Correspondence

A. Annual Grant 2021/2022

Following consideration of correspondence from the Democratic Services Manager, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding the annual grants being awarded to Community Councils for the financial year 2021/2022, it was:

Resolved to note that Harray and Sandwick Community Council had received an annual grant of £4,361.79.

B. OIC – Adoption of Planning Guidance

Members considered correspondence which had previously been circulated by Democratic Services, advising of three Planning documents that had recently been approved by Orkney Islands Council - Housing in the Countryside Supplementary Guidance, Amenity and Minimising Obtrusive Lighting Planning Policy Advice and the Development Plan Scheme 2021, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

C. Audit Scotland – Reporting on your Local Council

Members considered correspondence from Audit Scotland, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding the Accounts Commission and holding councils and local government bodies to account, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

D. Agri-Environment Climate Scheme

Following consideration of correspondence sent on behalf of the Rural Planner, copies of which had previously been circulated, advising of the Improving Public Access option in the Agri-Environment Climate Scheme which sought to help landowners create and/or develop existing access routes on their land, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

E. Tesco Community Grant Scheme

Members had been forwarded copies of information from Tesco regarding the reopening of its Community Grant Scheme, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

F. Surface Dressing Programme and Update

Following consideration of information on the surface dressing programme for summer 2021 and a subsequent update, copies of which had previously been circulate, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided and that work in Harray would be carried out on 14 June.

G. 5G Workshop

Correspondence had been forwarded to members regarding another workshop on fibre broadband and the R100 project, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

H. Connecting Scotland – Phase 3

Correspondence on a further phase of the Connecting Scotland programme had been previously circulated to members, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

6. Consultations

A. Scheme for Orkney Community Councils 2021

Following consideration of the consultation by Orkney Islands Council, circulated by Democratic Services and previously forwarded to members, regarding comments or feedback in relation to the Scheme for Orkney Community Councils. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note that any comments could be forwarded by 16 July 2021.

B. Winter Service Delivery – Policy and Plan

Following consideration of the consultation on the Winter Service Policy 2021 to 2026 and Winter Service Plan 2021/2022, it was:

Resolved that members had no comments to make on either consultation.

C. GO-HI Rural MaaS Project

Members considered a survey that had been previously circulated which aimed to learn more about the transport and technology needs and preferences of people living in the area of Scotland covered by Highlands and Islands Transport Partnership. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the consultation.

D. Under 22's Free Bus Travel

Members discussed an evidence gathering exercise being carried out on what impact the proposed free bus travel scheme for under 22's might have on island communities, information on which had been previously forwarded, and it was:

Resolved to note that members had no comments to make on the consultation.

E. Local Place Plan Regulations

Members heard that the Scottish Government was currently consulting on proposals for regulations to support the development of Local Place Plans, and had asked for comments on their draft "How to" guide, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the consultation.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Fund

Following consideration of the General Fund statement, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £7,448.18 as at 24 May 2021.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

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

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for approval in the main capping limit was £3,209.21, and the balance in the additional capping limit was £669 as at 24 May 2021.

C. Community Development Fund

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

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for allocation was £9,640 as at 24 May 2021.

D. Seed Corn Fund

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

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for approval was £2,500 as at 24 May 2021.

8. Application for Financial Assistance - OASC – Track Start Blocks

Members resumed consideration of an application from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, copies of which had previously been circulated, for assistance with the cost of purchasing four new track start blocks. Following advice from the Interim Clerk on what financial assistance other community councils had committed, it was:

Resolved to award £250 towards the start blocks, subject to CCGS approval.

9. Publications

The following publications had been received and made available to members via email:

- VAO Newsletter – April and May 2021.
- VAO Training and Funding Update – April and May 2021.
- Alistair Carmichael MP – Newsletter – 21 May 2021.

10. Any Other Competent Business

A. Union Jack Flag

It was reported that the flag that had been borrowed from OIC required to be returned and that a similar flag could be obtained from two possible outlets. The Chair agreed to measure the one they had previously, and it was:

Resolved to find out measurements and costings and discuss at the next meeting.

B. Christmas Arrangements

Mr C Kirkness joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

It was agreed that a tree should be ordered as usual, as well as one set of lights. Members also discussed festive lighting around Dounby, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would make an order for a tree and a set of tree lights.
2. That members would get together in Dounby to look at where lights could go and work up a proposal to put to Roads Services, OIC.

C. Dounby School Car Park

A member advised that they had been contacted by Friends of Dounby School regarding the poor state of the car park, and it was:

Resolved that the Chair would contact the Head Teacher of the School to see if there was anything the Community Council could do to assist in this respect.

11. Dates of Next Meetings

Resolved that the next meeting of Harray and Sandwich Community Council would be held either online or in the Milestone Church, Dounby, on Wednesday, 1 September 2021, commencing at 19:00.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 19:47.