

Minute of the Meeting of Harray and Sandwich Community Council via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 15 September 2021 at 19:00

Present:

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

In Attendance:

- Councillor H Johnston.
- Councillor R King.
- Councillor O Tierney.
- Councillor D Tullock.
- 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 Mrs E Grant and Mr K Groundwater.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the general meeting held on 9 June 2021 was approved, being proposed by Mr G Brown and seconded by Mrs K Ritch.

3. Matters Arising

A. Festive Lighting

The Chair advised that they had chosen their festive lights and that any shortfall would come out of Community Council Grant Scheme funding. The location of the power supply for the Christmas tree lights was also discussed, and it was agreed that the most suitable location was to HR01 on the map which had been supplied by Roads Support.

Members had various queries about costs and whether brackets and connections would be supplied with the lights, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would speak to the relevant officers and respond to members' queries as soon as possible.

B. Harray Hall Car Park

Members discussed correspondence from the Harray Hall Community Association, copies of which had been circulated via email, which provided details of a recent incident and confirmed that the car park was in a poor state. Councillor R King also reported that Roads had carried out an inspection in December but had not been aware of the incident in where a member of the public had fallen, and would endeavour to have works carried out there to fill the potholes. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would write to Roads Support advising that the Community Council and Harray Community Association would like OIC to continue maintaining the car park.

C. Dounby Civic Amenity Site

Members noted that the site was now open and accepting garden waste, tins and glass, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Manholes in Dounby Village

The Chair advised that these had been checked and that work had been carried out on them, and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

E. Union Jack Flag

The Chair provided measurements he had taken of the other flags the Community Council had in possession, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would order a new Union Jack 50 inches wide by 70 inches long.

F. Dounby School Car Park

The Chair advised that he had not yet spoken to the Head Teacher, Dounby School, regarding the state of the car park, but reported that white lines were being painted at present and that other work may be proposed, so it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

4. Correspondence

A. 2019 Reviews of Electoral Arrangements

Following consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Boundary Commissions' Secretariat, copies of which had been previously circulated, regarding a report on the review of number of councillors and the electoral ward boundaries, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Briefing Note – Waste Services

Members considered a briefing which had previously been emailed to members, advising of the current situation with waste services, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

C. ONWP Introduction Letter

Members considered correspondence from the Community Liaison Officer, Orkney Native Wildlife Project, copies of which had previously been circulated, advising people to get in touch with him if there was anything needed, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

D. New Bus Fleet for Orkney

Following consideration of correspondence sent on behalf of Stagecoach, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the new busses would be arriving in October.

E. Community Active Travel Projects/School Streets

Members discussed correspondence sent on behalf of HITRANS, copies of which had previously been circulated, which advised of funding being made available to progress active travel and school streets projects within communities in Orkney and elsewhere, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

F. Connecting Scotland Round 3 Phase 2

Following consideration of correspondence on the Connecting Scotland programme, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that funding was available for devices for those in the recognised categories.

G. Dounby Community Plan

Correspondence had been forwarded to members from the Planning Manager (Development and Marine Planning) regarding delays with progressing the Dounby Community Plan, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided and await further news in this regard.

H. Scottish Land Commission – Orkney Public Meeting

Correspondence on a virtual public meeting had been previously circulated to members, and it was:

Resolved to note that a meeting would be taking place on 29 September.

5. Consultations

A. Review of Gambling Policy

Following consideration of a consultation document received from Orkney Islands Council on a review of the Gambling Policy, copies of which had previously been circulated to members, it was:

Resolved to note that members had not made any representations to this consultation prior to its closing.

B. SEPA – Orkney Local Flood Risk Management Plan

Members had previously been sent a copy of the SEPA consultation on the local flood risk management plan for Orkney, and it was:

Resolved to note that members could respond to the consultation until 31 October 2021.

C. Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm

Members considered information, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding a public consultation event, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind

Correspondence had previously been circulated to members from the Scottish Government, regarding a consultation exercise on a new offshore wind planning

round, a Sectoral Marine plan for Offshore Wind for Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas Decarbonisation, and it was:

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

E. EMEC – Billia Croo Section 36

Following consideration of the consultation information received from Marine Scotland (Planning and Policy), copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding an EIA, it was:

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

F. NHSO Clinical Strategy

Members had been forwarded information that day regarding a survey around revising the clinical strategy for NHS Orkney, and it was:

Resolved to note that the survey was open for responses until 11 October 2021.

6. 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 £11,713.51 as at 16 August 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 £676 as at 16 August 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 £2,500 as at 16 August 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 £9,640 as at 16 August 2021.

7. Applications for Financial Assistance

A. A Sinclair – Pony Club Events

Following consideration of a previously circulated financial request from Mrs L Sinclair, sent on behalf of her daughter, for funding towards various pony club events taking place throughout Scotland during summer 2021, it was:

Resolved to award a general fund donation of £50 towards the trips.

B. S Foubister – Pony Club Events

Following consideration of a previously circulated financial request from Mrs L Foubister, sent on behalf of her daughter, for funding towards various pony club events taking place throughout Scotland during summer 2021, it was:

Resolved to award a general fund donation of £50 towards the trips.

C. C Drever – Pony Club Events

Following consideration of a previously circulated financial request from Ms D Walker, sent on behalf of her daughter, for funding towards various pony club events taking place throughout Scotland during summer 2021, it was:

Resolved to award a general fund donation of £50 towards the trips.

D. OASC – Summer Festival of Swimming

Mr G Brown declared an interest in the following item and did not take part in discussion thereof.

Members considered correspondence from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, copies of which had previously been circulated, asking for financial assistance towards E Wood's participation in an event in Aberdeen in July 2021, and it was:

Resolved to award a general fund donation of £50 towards the trip.

E. VAO Membership 2021/2022

Resolved to renew the membership for 2021/2022 through CCGS.

F. Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council – Bonfire and Firework Display

Members had previously been forwarded a request from the Clerk to Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council for any financial assistance from the community council towards the bonfire and fireworks display to be held at Pickaquoy on 6 November, and it was:

Resolved to award £100 towards the event, subject to CCGS approval.

G. Financial Policy

Following a query regarding the financial policy and maximum amounts provided per financial year, it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would check back on what the agreed financial policy was for Harray and Sandwick Community Council and report to members.

8. Publications

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

- VAO Newsletter – June, July and August 2021.
- VAO Training and Funding Update – June, July and August 2021.
- VAO “Worrying About Money” Leaflet.
- Alistair Carmichael MP – Newsletter – 11 June, 18 June, 2 July and 23 July 2021.
- NHS Healthcare Improvement Scotland – Newsletter – July 2021.
- Police Scotland Orkney Area – Newsletter – July 2021.

9. Any Other Competent Business

A. Harray Cemetery

Members reported that the vermin boxes had been moved from the area between the old and new cemetery, and that there was a lot of vermin in the cemetery, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would advise the relevant officer within OIC.

B. Speed Limits

Members again discussed speed limits around the Harray and Sandwick areas, and Councillor D Tullock advised that this would be the subject of a consultation exercise which was to be carried out fairly soon.

Members also asked if the 30mph signs could be relocated on the Swartland Road so that they were near the end of the Saither road. It was also queried whether the speed “smileys” could be put into operation around the shop area again, to deter people from speeding, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would ask Roads Support if the speed smileys could be erected in Dounby village and 30mph limit signs relocated.

C. Brig between Merkister and the Mill

A member advised that this area was filling up with water fast at the loch side and water was not coming off the road very well. It was suggested that this might be the landowner’s responsibility, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would check this with Roads Support and report back to members.

D. Roads Issues

A member suggested a “hidden dip” sign on the stretch of road between the end of the Grimeston Road and Refuge Corner, and other members agreed there was a bad blind summit on this stretch, between the end of the Grimeston Road and the

property known as Carbridge. This had been brought to the attention of members again recently. Other areas of concern were commented on, including the crossroads in Dounby village when approaching from the Sandwich side, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To monitor the situation.
2. That the Interim Clerk would contact Roads Support regarding the blind summit issues.

E. Thank You

A member passed on thanks he had received for the new gates at the Sandwich kirkyard, and it was:

Resolved to note the thank you comments.

F. Tree Lighting

Members discussed the tree lighting ceremony, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the ceremony would take place on Friday, 3 December 2021.
2. That the Interim Clerk would ask that the tree be delivered no later than Wednesday, 1 December 2021.

10. 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, 10 November 2021, commencing at 19:00.

11. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 20:15.