

# Minute of the Meeting of Holm Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 25 August 2021 at 19:30

## Present:

Jacqui Hirst, Martin Lee, Kenny Rendall, Bill Robertson and Sheelagh Sneesby.

## In Attendance:

- Councillor Norman R Craigie.
- Councillor Andrew Drever.
- Councillor Steve Sankey.
  
- Hazel Flett, Clerk.
  
- David Sawkins, Deputy Harbour Master (Strategy and Support), Orkney Islands Council.

## Chair:

- Jacqui Hirst in the Chair.

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## **1. Apologies**

Resolved to note that no formal apologies for absence had been received.

## **2. Scapa Deep Water Quay – Onshore Element**

Following a presentation from the Deputy Harbour Master (Strategy and Support), Orkney Islands Council, on progress with the onshore element of the proposed Scapa Deep Water Quay, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the presentation.

Sheelagh Sneesby joined the meeting during discussion of this item and the Deputy Harbour Master (Strategy and Support), Orkney Islands Council, left the meeting at this point.

## **3. Adoption of Minute**

The Minute of the Meeting held on 30 June 2021 was approved, being proposed by Kenny Rendall.

No one was prepared to second the Minute and Martin Lee, who chaired the meeting held on 30 June 2021, raised concerns in relation to the wording of paragraph 7(b) (Community Council Grant Scheme). The Clerk advised that this was standard wording used for some considerable time. Martin Lee then advised he would not pursue amending the wording in the Minute, on the understanding that community councillors would be provided with training on finance matters, as had been promised when elected in 2017.

## **4. Matters Arising**

### **A. Tourist Brochure**

Following consideration of the latest position with regard to an East Mainland tourist brochure, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council seeking an update on progress with the questionnaire issued to all three community councils to consider the way forward for an East Mainland tourist brochure.

### **B. Fair Start Scotland**

After hearing an update from the Chair advising that she had had no further contact from the Fair Start Scotland Delivery Manager, it was:

Resolved to take no further action on this matter, given the passage of time.

### **C. Roads Matters and Surface Dressing Programme**

Following consideration of correspondence from the Community Council Liaison Officer regarding the Community Council's issues with road surfaces, the surface dressing programme and damage to road verges, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note:

1. The response from Orkney Islands Council regarding the Community Council's concerns, namely that the Council had a fairly extensive surfacing and patching programme planned over the next few months, with some works out to tender and due back shortly. The inspectors were out on a regular basis carrying out statutory safety inspections and Roads Operations staff continued to work through any extensive list of outstanding works.

Whilst it was appreciated that the community council had concerns with "problem areas", it was considered easier if a list could be provided which could be cross referenced with any planned works. The Council would then be able to feed back on this and, if necessary, arrange further site visits if required.

2. That Bill Robertson was continuing to take photographs and collate information on "problem areas" around the parish.

## **D. War Memorial**

After hearing an update from Martin Lee and representations from Sheelagh Sneesby regarding the condition of the war memorial, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that, due to ongoing health issues, Martin Lee had been unable to undertake the works to the paving at the war memorial but would seek to undertake this work as soon as practicable.

2. To note that, although Robbie Thomson had undertaken some strimming, Bill Robertson agreed to trim the hedges/bushes to ensure signs were not obscured.

3. That the Community Council should arrange for, and meet the cost of, a poppy wreath for Remembrance Sunday, with a proposal that a small event be arranged for Thursday, 11 November, rather than Sunday, 8 November.

## **E. Festive Street Lights**

Following consideration of correspondence from the Democratic Services Manager regarding festive lighting, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council seeking confirmation on the number of existing street light decorations which had failed the windage requirements and therefore would need replacing for 2021. If any of the existing 16 decorations failed, the preferred option was to replace all 16 with warm white column wraps for 2021.

## **F. Community Benefit Fund**

The Clerk had received correspondence from the Community Council Liaison Officer providing an update on development of a community development scheme for Orkney's Community Wind Farm project, including the consultation on a community benefit fund, and it was:

Resolved to note:

1. That the Vice Chair had drafted a response, on behalf of the Community Council, which the Clerk had forwarded to Orkney Islands Council, following approval by a majority of members via email.
2. That an Island Communities Impact Assessment was to be carried out on work completed to date, to be considered in due course by Orkney Islands Council, resulting in the consultation being extended to 15 September 2021.

## **5. Correspondence - Orkney Native Wildlife Project**

Following consideration of correspondence from the Orkney Native Wildlife Project advising of the new Community Liaison Officer, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **6. Christmas Tree Lighting**

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding planning for Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremonies in 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

- A. That the Chair should seek advice from NHS Orkney on holding indoor events in light of ongoing guidance and restrictions in relation to COVID-19, prior to a decision being taken on progressing with an event.
- B. That, depending on the advice received by the Chair, the Clerk should email all members to seek agreement on whether to proceed with an event.
- C. That, should an event proceed, an indoor tree lighting ceremony should be held in the Holm Community Hall on Saturday, 27 November 2021.
- D. That the Clerk should order a 7 feet Christmas tree from William Shearer, Kirkwall subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved, to be collected by Councillor Drever on the Monday before the event.
- E. That, as a contingency measure, should the indoor event not proceed, the Clerk should contact Alfred Flett, Contractor, to ascertain whether they would be prepared to erect the Christmas tree outside the post office, or a suitable location nearby, which may require the purchase of outdoor lights.
- F. That the Salvation Army and St Andrews Primary School should only be contacted once a decision had been made to proceed with an event.
- G. To note that all financial outlays would only be required should the event proceed.

## **7. Financial Statements**

### **A. General Finance**

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 10 August 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 10 August 2021 of £14,695.98.

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

Following consideration of the 2021/22 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 10 August 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note:

1. That, as at 10 August 2021, projects to the value of £2,508.46 had been approved, of which £757.20 had been claimed.
2. The balance remaining for approval within the main capping limit of £1,882.92.
3. The balance remaining for approval within the additional capping limit of £676.

### **C. Community Development Fund**

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 10 August 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £1,950.

### **D. Seed Corn Fund**

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement as at 10 August 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £3,093.33.

## **8. Financial Requests**

### **A. Athletics Championships**

Following consideration of correspondence received K Swan requesting financial assistance towards the cost of her son participating in the 4J Studios Scottish Athletics U15 Championship event in Aberdeen on 28 August 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be given towards the cost of attending the athletics competition.

### **B. Orkney Youth Development Group – U14 Squad**

Following consideration of correspondence received from K Swan requesting financial assistance towards the cost of her son participating in the Orkney Youth Development Group U14 squad at football games in Thurso on 14 August 2021 and Shetland on 2/3 September 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be given towards the cost of attending each of the two football competitions, making a total grant of £60.

### **C. Orkney Athletic and Running Club**

The Clerk had received correspondence from K Swan requesting financial assistance towards her son participating in the North Area Trophy at Queen's Park Stadium, Inverness, on 25/26 September 2021, and it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be given towards the cost of attending the athletics competition.

### **D. Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council – Bonfire and Fireworks**

Following consideration of correspondence from Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council requesting financial assistance towards the bonfire and fireworks display at Pickaquoy in November 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant award of £200 be given towards the cost of the bonfire and fireworks display, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved.

### **E. Climbing Competitions**

Following consideration of correspondence from K Moar requesting financial assistance towards participating in four climbing competitions at various venues in the south of Scotland on 18 September, 2 October, 23 October and 6 November 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be given towards each of the four competitions, making a total grant of £120.

## **9. Consultation Documents**

### **A. Orkney Islands Council – Review of Gambling Policy**

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding a review of the gambling policy, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

### **B. SEPA – Orkney Local Flood Risk Management Plan**

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council advising of a consultation by SEPA on the Orkney Local Flood Risk Management Plan, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that any comments should be forwarded to the Clerk by email to enable a response to be submitted prior to the closing date.

## 10. Publications

The following publications had been sent to the Clerk and were forwarded to members via email:

- VAO Newsletters – June and July 2021.
- VAO – Training and Funding Updates – July and August 2021.
- Liam McArthur MSP – Coronavirus/Covid-19: Latest information and Advice – 13 July and 24 August 2021.
- Healthcare Improvement Scotland – Information update from Community Engagement Orkney Team.
- Police Scotland – Orkney Area Newsletter – July 2021.
- Orkney Islands Council – Community Development Fund Update.

## 11. Any Other Competent Business

### A. Police Scotland

After hearing that Police Scotland were no longer routinely attending community council meetings, but instead a regular newsletter was being issued, it was:

Resolved to note that, should there be any specific policing matters within the local area, a representative of Police Scotland could be requested to attend a meeting of the Community Council.

### B. Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind

The Clerk had received correspondence from Marine Scotland regarding a consultation on identifying and refining Areas of Search for new offshore wind development, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the report.

### C. Planters

After hearing that the planters in the village required some maintenance, it was:

Resolved to defer consideration to the next meeting although some tidying up should take place prior to that date.

## 12. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Holm Community Council should be held on 3 November 2021, commencing at 19:30.

## 13. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:06.