

# Minute of the Meeting of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council held in North Walls School and via Teams on Friday, 17 November 2023 at 19:30

## Present:

Mrs R Thomson, Mr A Clark, Ms P Johnston, Ms A Kinsey, Mrs I Mathieson (via Teams) and Mr A Sinclair.

## In Attendance:

- Councillor L Hall.
- Councillor J Stockan.
- Ms H Green, Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure.
- Mr R Cunningham, Service Manager, Democratic Services and Communications (via Teams).
- Mrs K Dobrzynski, Island Link Officer (ILO)/Clerk.

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## **1. Apologies**

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mrs T Avis and Councillor G Bevan.

## **2. Adoption of Minute**

The minute of the meeting of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council held on 25 August 2023 was adopted, being proposed by Mr A Clark and seconded by Mr A Sinclair.

## **3. Matters Arising**

### **A. Vehicle Obstruction**

Following consideration of an update from the ILO regarding the vehicle obstruction in Longhope and that the car had now been removed from the public road, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the update.

### **B. Fly Tipping at Lyness**

Following consideration of an update from the ILO that the rubbish had still not been removed and photographs had been taken on 16 November to show it in situ, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the update and that the ILO would forward the photographs to OIC for an update.

### **C. Remembrance Wreaths**

Following consideration of an update from the ILO regarding the request to look at replacing disposable with 'clay/pot' wreaths to be created by the school children of North Walls School, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the update and to acknowledge the concerns of a resident that this may limit donations to the service personnel that made the disposable wreaths and that discussions would need to be had with the head teacher at North Walls School before any decisions could be made.

### **D. Ferry Passenger Numbers**

Following consideration of an update from Councillor L Hall regarding the request from a member to look at increasing passenger capacity on the Hoy Head, it was:

Resolved to note that there could be no change to the vehicle capacity, but that Orkney Ferries were currently looking at alternative solutions for passenger capacity and that the ILO would contact Orkney Ferries for an update.

### **E. Graemsay AGM List**

Following consideration of an update from the ILO regarding outstanding queries, previously raised, it was:

Resolved to note the update and that the agreed repairs had now been carried out, it was requested that the ILO chase an update on the planning application for the BT mast that was due to be erected months ago.

## **F. 20mph Speed Limit Postponement**

Following consideration of an update from Councillor Hall advising that the introduction of the 20mph speed limit would be going ahead early in 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the update and to acknowledge comments from the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure, that, although the timings of the speed limit would be set to school timings, variations could be considered, in the future, but that the priority was the installation.

## **G. Ambulance Mannequins**

Following consideration of an update from the ILO with a letter of thanks to the Community Council for the funding of the mannequins for the training of the ambulance crew, it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence.

## **H. Long Stay Cars at Moaness Pier**

Following consideration of residents' complaints raised by the Chair regarding the number of cars continuously parked or abandoned at Moaness Pier which was restricting the spaces available for residents, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the complaint and that Mr A Clark would collect a list of number plates of cars that were not being moved and for the ILO to add the issue to the business letter with a request that Orkney Harbours contact owners to address the issue.

# **4. Correspondence**

## **A. GIRFE Workshop**

Following consideration of correspondence from NHS Scotland inviting members to a "getting it right for everyone" workshop on Hoy, on 5 October, copies of which had been previously circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the contents of the correspondence.
2. To note that Ms P Johnson had attended the workshop and felt it was a valuable exercise but that it highlighted some issues that need to be addressed.
3. That the ILO would contact IoHDT to request that information on mobility accessibility on the community transport was made more public and ask the medical centre to pass on the complaint about the prescription delivery service.

## **B. Stromness Academy Swiss Trip**

Following consideration of correspondence from Stromness Academy with a request for financial assistance towards a trip to Switzerland in 2024, copies of which had been previously circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence and to offer a £50 donation to the academy and that the ILO would contact the academy with a request that they notify Hoy pupils of the funds that they could apply to directly for further assistance towards the trip.

## **C. Thank You Letter**

Following consideration of correspondence from the NHS Orkney Chief Executive thanking members for the participation in her recent visit, copies of which had been previously circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **D. Electrical Safety Fund Opening – 2023**

Following consideration of correspondence from Electrical Safety First regarding the opening of the Electrical Safety-First Fund, copies of which had been previously circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **E. West of Orkney Windfarm – Offshore Applications Submitted to Scottish Government**

Following consideration of correspondence from West of Orkney Windfarm to advise that the Offshore application had been submitted to the Scottish Government, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **F. Community Council Support for Climate and Ecology Bill**

Following consideration of correspondence from Zero Hour with a request for support for a draft motion for the Climate and Ecology Bill, copies of which had been previously forwarded, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **G. Winter Service Plan 2023-2024**

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services regarding the winter service plan 2023-2024, copies of which had been previously forwarded, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence and for the ILO to request that the Braebister road is changed from a priority 3 to a priority 2s (or priority 2).

## **H. Caravans using public car parks - Hoy**

Following consideration of correspondence from a Hoy resident regarding caravans using public car parks, copies of which had been previously forwarded, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **I. Air and Ferry Forum 13 September 2023 - Draft Notes**

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services with an update on the draft notes of the Air and Ferry Forum on 13 Sep, copies of which had been previously forwarded, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **J. My Place Awards 2024**

Following consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Civic Trust raising awareness of the My Place Awards, which celebrated placemaking efforts in Scotland, copies of which had been previously forwarded, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **K. Benches**

Following consideration of correspondence from Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council regarding a fact-finding exercise on how benches on Hoy are maintained, copies of which had been previously forwarded, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **L. Interview/Stakeholder Panel – Head of Primary Care Services Post**

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services regarding the recruitment for the role of Head of Primary Care Services, copies of which had been previously forwarded, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **M. News Release – 2nd Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries**

Following consideration of correspondence from Scottish Boundaries regarding the dates and locations of its Local Inquiries of the review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **5. Publications**

Resolved to note that the following publications were made available at this meeting:

- VAO Newsletter September and October 2023.
- VAO Training and Funding Update September 2023.

- Orkney Ferries Statistics – August and September 2023.
- Police Scotland – Orkney Area Command Newsletter – Issue 4.
- ORSAS Quarterly Newsletter November 2023.

## **6. Consultations**

### **A. Air and Ferry Forum**

Following consideration of correspondence from OIC regarding the draft notes for the Air and Ferry Forum 13 September 2023 copies of which had previously been circulated to members on 5 October 2023, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **B. West of Orkney Windfarm – Section 36 and Marine Licences Application**

Following consideration of correspondence from West of Orkney Windfarm requesting any responses to the Section 36 and Marine Licences Application, copies of which had previously been circulated to members on 2 October 2023, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence and that the ILO would contact West of Orkney Windfarms to advise that community councillors would like further consultation on the licence application as a lot of the information provided was technical and complicated to understand.

## **7. Financial Statements**

### **A. General Finance**

Following consideration of the community council's general finance statement, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £19,081.08 as at 31 October 2023.

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

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

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval of £1746.91 as at 31 October 2023.

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

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

Resolved to note the balance remaining for allocation of £4,142.21 as at 31 October 2023.

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

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

Resolved to note the funds remaining for approval of £1,258.47 as at 31 October 2023.

## **8. Financial Requests**

### **A. Graemsay Community Association**

Following consideration of an application from Graemsay Community Association requesting financial assistance towards the cost of annual insurance for the Community Hall, it was

Resolved to grant the sum of £490.10 toward the cost of the annual insurance for the Kirk and that a Community Council Grant Scheme application should be submitted on a project cost of £490.10.

### **B. Hoy Community Christmas Trees**

Following consideration of an application from Hoy Community Christmas Trees requesting assistance towards the cost of Christmas Trees for the community, it was:

Resolved to grant the sum of £300.00 toward the cost of the Christmas trees and that a Community Council Grant Scheme application should be submitted on a project cost of £300.00.

### **C. St Johns Kirk SCIO**

Following consideration of an application from St Johns Kirk SCIO requesting assistance towards the cost of the heritage educational materials for the Kirk, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the ILO should investigate the possibility of utilising the Seed Corn Fund to grant the funds requested.
2. That if the Seed Corn fund was not applicable then members agree to grant the fund from the Community Council Grant Scheme at a project cost to be agreed on completion of investigation into the most suitable fund.

## **9. Any Other Competent Business**

### **A. Overhanging Trees**

Following consideration of a request from Mr A Clark that notices could be put out to remind residents to cut back any overhanging trees and bushes, it was:

Resolved to note the request and that the ILO would post notices in local community areas and to the Community Council Facebook page.

### **B. Dog Walking**

Following consideration of a request from a resident for OIC to consider an allocated area for owners to walk their dogs, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the contents of the request and that OIC did not currently have the resources or land to fulfil the request.
2. That the ILO would contact the resident to advise them of the outcome of their request.

### **C. Jean Gillespie – Remembrance Wreaths**

Following consideration of a request from Mrs T Avis for the community council to send a bouquet of flowers and a card to J Gillespie, who was retiring from organising the St Colm's Remembrance Service, as a thank you for all the years of service she had provided the community, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the ILO would arrange for flowers and a card to be delivered.
2. To note that Mr A Sinclair volunteered to lay the wreath at Osmandwall Cemetery from 2024 and the ILO would ask resident M Webster if he would carry out the wreath laying at both Lyness Cemetery and the Russian Convoy Memorial.

### **D. RSPB – George Campbell**

Following consideration of a request from Councillor L Hall for a Community Councillor representative to be present at a RSPB visit on 28 November at the Hoy Kirk to look at setting up a Liaison group, it was:

Resolved to note the request and for the ILO to confirm with Mrs T Avis if she was happy to be the CC representative and for an email to be sent to the loHDT to invite them to also have a representative.

### **E. Mill Road, Rackwick Road and Whaness**

Following consideration of a request from Mr A Clark for the repairs to both Mill Road and Rackwick Road to be chased as they are becoming particularly dangerous and also a timeline for the repairs to the Whaness Road, it was:

Resolved to note the request and that the ILO would add the request to the Business Letter.

### **F. Lyness Refuse Bins**

Following consideration of a request from Ms P Johnson for an update on previous requests for refuse bins that are available to the general public at Lyness Pier, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the request and for the ILO to ask for an update on the Business Letter.

### **G. Plan for changes at Lyness**

Following consideration of a request by Mr A Clark for an update on the submission of plans for changes to Lyness, it was:

Resolved to note the request and that the ILO would request an update on the Business Letter.

## **H. Copies of Minutes**

Following consideration of a request by P Johnson that copies of minutes from the community council meetings be available, in hard copy, to residents, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the request and that the ILO would, from now on, make a copy of the minutes available at the Post Office in Longhope and the waiting room at Lyness Pier.

## **I. Safety Sign**

Following consideration of a request by Ms P Johnson for a safety sign to highlight the drop to the sea at the culvert between The Lodge and The Plantings, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the request and that the ILO would obtain photographs and raise the issue on the Business Letter.

## **10. Date of Next Meeting**

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meetings of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council would be held on Wednesdays 7 February and 24 April 2024 at the North Walls Community Centre.

## **11. Conclusion of Meeting**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:55.