

# **Minute of the Meeting of Firth and Stenness Community Council held in the Stenness Community Centre on Monday, 6 November 2023 at 19:30**

## **Present:**

Mrs W Dunnet, Mr R Hourston, Ms B Scollay and Mrs A Stevenson.

## **In Attendance:**

- Councillor R King.
- Councillor J Stevenson.
- Councillor O Tierney.
- Ms H Green, Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure (via Teams).
- Mrs J Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer/Interim Clerk.

## **Order of Business**

1. Apologies.....	2
2. Adoption of Minute.....	2
3. Matters Arising.....	2
4. Correspondence .....	2
5. Financial Statements .....	3
6. Financial Requests .....	3
7. Consultations .....	5
8. Publications .....	5
9. Any Other Competent Business.....	5
10. Date of Next Meeting .....	6
11. Conclusion of Meeting .....	6

## **1. Apologies**

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Councillor D Tullock.

## **2. Adoption of Minute**

The minute of the meeting held on 7 September 2023 was approved, being proposed by Mr R Hourston and seconded by Mrs A Stevenson.

## **3. Matters Arising**

### **A. Orkney's Tourism Infrastructure Design Phase**

Members were advised that an update was not available at this time, and they advised that copies of the plans had not been received, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided and that the Clerk would ask for an update and the plans to be provided.

### **B. Kirkyard Stone Wall and Ivy**

The Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure, advised that a works order had been issued for the repair of the wall, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report.

### **C. Quarry Group**

Resolved to note that a Quarry Group had not had a meeting.

## **4. Correspondence**

### **A. West of Orkney Windfarm**

Following consideration of correspondence from West of Orkney Windfarm regarding the offshore applications being submitted to the Scottish Government, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

### **B. Winter Service Plan**

Following consideration of the Winter Service Plan and whether it tied in with the school transport plan, the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure, advised that there would likely be communication between the two services. The Interim Clerk provided members with the link for the School Transport Policy on Orkney Islands Council website, and it was:

Resolved that members had no comments to make and to note the content of the correspondence.

## **C. National Islands Plan Consultation Events**

Following consideration of correspondence, previously emailed, advising on meetings being held in Stromness and Westray regarding the consultation on the review of the National Islands Plan, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence and that the meeting in Stromness coincided with tonight's Community Council meeting.

## **D. My Place Awards**

Following consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Civic Trust regarding My Place Awards which celebrates projects and people that work to improve places and communities in Scotland, it was:

Resolved to forward a member of the community for the Community Champions award.

## **5. Financial Statements**

### **A. General Finance**

Following consideration of the general finance statement as at 25 October 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £11,721.35, which included funds of £5,000 from the Rennibister Wind Turbine Community Fund.

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

After consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 25 October 2023, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the OIC Main Capping Limit had £1,772.31 remaining for approval.
2. To note the OIC Additional Capping Limit had £743.00 remaining for approval.

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

Following consideration of the CDF statement as at 25 October 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for allocation was £3,615.63.

## **6. Financial Requests**

### **A. Ms Walker – Netball Orkney Under 17**

Following consideration of a request from Ms Walker, copies of which had previously been circulated, for financial assistance towards her daughter, competing in netball competitions in Dundee, Aberdeen and Shetland, it was:

Resolved that a general fund donation of £25 per trip should be granted, totalling £75.

### **B. Friends of Firth School – Outdoor Activities at Firth School**

Following consideration of a request from Friends of Firth School, copies of which had previously been circulated, for financial assistance towards fifteen primary six pupils participating in outdoor activities event based at Firth Primary School, it was:

Resolved that a general fund donation be granted for the trip at £25 per pupil, totalling £375.

### **C. Stromness Academy – Geography Trip to Switzerland**

Following consideration of a request from Stromness Academy, copies of which had previously been circulated, for financial assistance towards one pupil from Stenness attending the trip, it was:

Resolved that a general fund donation of £60 be granted towards the cost of the trip.

### **D. Stenness Parent and Toddlers**

Following consideration of a request from Stenness Parent and Toddlers, copies of which had previously been circulated, for financial assistance towards the cost of purchasing new toys, it was:

Resolved that £150 should be awarded and that Community Council Grant Scheme assistance should be applied for on the total award of £150.

### **E. Stenness Community Association**

Following consideration of a request from Stenness Community Association, copies of which had previously been circulated, for financial assistance towards the children's Christmas Party, it was:

Resolved that general fund donation of £300 be granted for the event.

### **F. Glaitness Primary School – Nethybridge Trip**

Following consideration of a request from Glaitness Primary School, copies of which had previously been circulated, for financial assistance towards two P7 pupils from the area, attending the Nethybridge trip from 27 May to 31 May 2024, it was:

Resolved that a general fund donation of £25 be granted to each of the two pupils for the trip, totalling £50.

### **G. Ms Hart – Gymnastic Competition - Inverness**

Following consideration of a request from Ms Hart for financial assistance towards the costs of her daughter attending a gymnastic competition in Inverness, it was:

Resolved that a general fund donation of £25 be granted towards the cost of attending the gymnastic competition in Inverness.

## **7. Consultations**

Resolved to note that there were no consultations for discussion.

## **8. Publications**

- VAO – Training and Funding update – August, September and October 2023.
- VAO – Newsletter – August, September and October 2023.
- Scottish Rural Action Newsletter – August 2023.
- ORSAS Newsletter – September 2023.
- Police Scotland - Orkney Area Command Newsletter – Issue 4 - 2023.

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

### **A. Roadworks through Finstown**

Members asked if the roadworks through Finstown had been completed and the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure, advised that the works had been completed, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report.

### **B. Christmas Tree Lighting**

Mr R Hourston advised members that Mrs K Shearer had arranged for school children to sing at the event and, on behalf of Firth Community Association, had arranged an event in Firth Community Centre following the tree lighting. She had asked if the Community Council would fund the cost of lanterns and the Interim Clerk advised that they could have a loan of lanterns if they contacted Democratic Services.

Mr R Hourston advised that the Finstown Smithy had put up the Christmas tree in the past and he would contact them to ask if they would put it up this year again. The tree would be ordered from W Shearer, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that arrangements were in place for the tree lighting.
2. That Mr R Hourston would contact The Smithy regarding putting up the tree and lights.
3. That the tree should be ordered from W Shearer.

### **C. Christmas Lights**

The Chair advised that she had been in contact with E Fraser regarding putting up the lights. The Interim Clerk was asked to raise a Purchase Order for the work in Firth and Stenness, and it was:

Resolved to note that the Interim Clerk would arrange for Purchase Orders to be forwarded to E Fraser for the putting up and taking down of the motifs.

## **D. Green Bin at Cursiter**

The Chair asked if a larger green bin could be provided at Cursiter and if it could be positioned differently to make access to using it easier. Following discussion, the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure advised that she would take this back to the service, and it was:

Resolved to note that the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure, would discuss this with the Service.

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

Following consideration of a date for the next meeting, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Firth and Stenness Community Council would be held in Firth Community Hall on Thursday, 8 February 2024 at 19:30.

## **11. Conclusion of Meeting**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:23.