

Minute of the Meeting of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council held in the Garden Room, King Street Halls, Kirkwall, on Monday, 5 September 2022 at 19:00

Present:

Tom Rendall, Rikki A Lidderdale, Moyra Gordon, Christine E H Marcus, Cathleen A Hourie, David W Hughes, Robert F Leslie, Chris J F Matthews, John R Mowat.

In Attendance:

- Councillor Kristopher D Leask.
- Councillor W Leslie Manson.
- Councillor John A R Scott.
- Hazel Flett, Clerk.
- Roddy Mackay, Head of Planning and Community Protection.
- Alex Rodwell, Head of Performance and Improvement.
- Andy Tait, Work Experience Student, Orkney College.
- Jenny McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer.
- 1 member of the local press.

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1. Introduction and Apologies

The Community Council Liaison Officer welcomed everyone to the first meeting of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council following the recent election.

The Scheme for Orkney Community Councils had been updated to allow for blended meetings. Meetings of Community Councils were for the members of the Community Council only, with the Clerk, employed by Orkney Islands Council, to convene meetings on agreed dates and to help guide discussion, but not participate. Orkney Islands Council elected members were invited to observe the meeting and could, if they so wished, pick up any matters which required discussion with officers of Orkney Islands Council, noting that Democratic Services should be included in any correspondence, to avoid duplication. Elected members should only speak at meetings when invited to do so by the Chair.

Apologies for absence had been received from Barbara J M Graham and Lynne Spence, and Councillors Sandy G Cowie, David Dawson, Steven B Heddle, Gwenda M Shearer and Ivan A Taylor.

2. Appointment of Chair

After a secret ballot, the result of which was as follows:

- Robert Leslie – 3 votes.
- Rikki Lidderdale – 1 vote.
- Tom Rendall – 5 votes.

Resolved that Tom Rendall should be appointed Chair of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council.

3. Appointment of Vice Chair

After a secret ballot, the result of which was as follows:

- Moyra Gordon – 1 vote.
- Christine Harcus – 1 vote.
- Cathleen Hourie – 1 vote.
- Robert Leslie – 2 votes.
- Rikki Lidderdale – 3 votes.
- John Mowat – 1 vote.

Moyra Gordon, Christine Harcus, Cathleen Hourie and John Mowat were eliminated, having received the fewest votes.

After a further secret ballot, the result of which was as follows:

- Robert Leslie – 4 votes.
- Rikki Lidderdale – 5 votes.

Resolved that Rikki Lidderdale should be appointed Vice Chair of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council.

4. Appointment of Planning Representative

Resolved that the Clerk should be appointed as the Planning Representative of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council.

5. Appointments to Finance Sub-committee

Resolved that the following members should be appointed to the Finance Sub-committee:

- Chair.
- Vice Chair.
- Christine Harcus.
- Robert Leslie.

6. Adoption of Constitution

Following consideration of a draft Constitution, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to adopt the Constitution, attached as Appendix 1 to this Minute.

Councillor Kristopher Leask joined the meeting at this point.

7. Adoption of Minute

The Minute of the Meeting held on 18 April 2022 was approved, being proposed by Moyra Gordon and seconded by John Mowat.

8. Matters Arising

A. Doorway in Broad Street

Cathleen Hourie advised that, despite assurances that work would be undertaken to replace or upgrade the doorway in Broad Street, there did not appear to be any progress, and it was:

Resolved that Cathleen Hourie should contact Virgin Money to ascertain progress and report back to the next meeting.

B. Financial Assistance – Notes of Thanks

The Clerk had received correspondence from the undernoted individuals and/or groups thanking the Community Council for financial assistance provided, which had been forwarded to members via email:

- Orkney Pilgrimage.

- M Want.
- 1st Kirkwall Co Boys Brigade.

C. Seatter Bridleway

Robert Leslie advised that, although Orkney Islands Council had indicated there was no broken fencing, he would forward photos to the Clerk, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should forward the photos to Orkney Islands Council to advise of the location of the broken fencing on the Seatter bridleway so that appropriate action could be taken.

9. Correspondence

A. Orkney Amateur Swimming Club

Following consideration of correspondence from OASC thanking the Committee for financial assistance towards swimmers competing in the Pentland Pentaqua Meet, the Thurso Mini Meet and the North Atlantic Challenge, held in March and May 2022, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. West of Orkney Windfarm

Following consideration of correspondence from the West Of Orkney Windfarm regarding an invitation to join the Community Panel and consultation on the Community Engagement Plan, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that Chris Matthews should represent the Community Council on the Community Panel for the West of Orkney Windfarm.

C. Door in St Olaf's Wynd

Following consideration of correspondence from R Lidderdale regarding the current position in relation to ownership of the door in St Olaf's Wynd, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council to determine what action, if any, could be taken to upgrade the door in St Olaf's Wynd and ensuring it remained sympathetic to its historical importance.

D. Rural Housing Fund – Letter of Support

Following consideration of correspondence from D Campbell, Project Consultant, requesting a letter of support for a Rural Housing Fund application by DW Developments (Orkney) Ltd for a flatted development at 29A Victoria Street, Kirkwall, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that, subject to confirmation regarding affordability for the target audience as well as grant funding obligations, the Clerk should send a letter of support.

E. The Big Tree – Plaque

Following consideration of correspondence J Kirkness requesting the installation of a plaque on the Big Tree giving more information on the history of the tree and the award it won, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved the Clerk should respond to J Kirkness advising that it was not practical to install a plaque on the Big Tree and that consideration might be given to a QR code which could provide any further information not currently available.

F. Crown Estate Scotland’s Sustainable Communities Fund

Following consideration of correspondence from the Stakeholder Assistant, West of Orkney Windfarm, advising of Crown Estate Scotland’s Sustainable Communities Fund, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

G. Road Naming – New Street off A961, St Ola

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council requesting suggestions for a new street off the A964, St Ola, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising that, as the developer was already marketing sites at the location under the name of Scapa Brae, the name was supported.

H. OIC Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure Directorate

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council advising of attendance at community council meetings by the senior management team from the Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure directorate, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

I. R100 Rollout in Orkney

Following consideration of correspondence from L McArthur MSP regarding the rollout of superfast broadband under the R100 programme in Orkney, copies of which had circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

J. Weyland Bay Coastal Path Project

Following consideration of a briefing note from Orkney Islands Council regarding consultation on the Weyland Bay coastal path project, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising that, whilst it supported the development, it was disappointed at the lack of advance warning and

the short consultation period, as well as incorrect information on the dates, which had caused confusion.

10. Community Council Accounts

Following consideration of the income and expenditure account, together with the balance sheet, for the year ended 31 March 2022, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the annual accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022.

11. Financial Statement – General Fund

Following consideration of the General Finance statement for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 31 March 2022 of £18,745.46.

12. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

Following consideration of the General Finance statement as at 26 August 2022, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 26 August 2022 of £15,720.66.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2022/23 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 26 August 2022, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that, as at 26 August 2022, projects to the value of £1,663.02 had been approved, of which £1,563.02 had been claimed.
2. To note the balance remaining for approval within the main capping limit of £2,668.19.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 26 August 2022, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £2,093.42.

13. Financial Requests

Following consideration of applications for financial, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the following applications for financial assistance had been approved, via email, between 18 April and 30 June 2022:

Name	Event	Date	Amount
K Wallace	North District Athletics, Inverness	13-14 May 2022	£20 paid
B and M Russell	Scottish Athletic North District Track and field Championships,	13-14 May 2022	£40 paid
Gilbertson Day Centre & St Rognvald House	Jubilee tea party, time capsule and tree planting		£250 paid
Rotary Club	Big Lunch,	4 June 2022	£250 paid
OASC	North Atlantic Challenge Meet, Lerwick	22 May 2022	3 x £20 = £60 paid
OASC	Thurso Mini Meet	7 May 2022	8 x £20 = £160 paid
E Want	Dance Show, Destinations, Eden Court, Inverness	7 May 2022	£20 paid
H Allan	U Dance National Festival, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham	22-24 July 2022	£20 paid
A Greaves	U Dance National Festival, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham	22-24 July 2022	£20 paid
D Cooper	U Dance National Festival, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham	22-24 July 2022	£20 paid
OASC	Midsummer Meet, Lerwick	18-19 June 2022	£55 (takes to policy limit) paid

14. Bonfire and Fireworks at Pickaquoy

Following an update from the Clerk regarding the Community Council's involvement in the annual bonfire and fireworks held at Pickaquoy, it was:

Resolved:

A. That the event be held on Saturday, 5 November 2022 (with 12 November as standby in case of adverse weather).

B. That the Rotary Club should continue to organise the event on behalf of the Community Council, as a fundraising event for their charity work.

C. That the Clerk and Rikki Lidderdale should represent the Community Council on the Rotary Club's Bonfire Sub-committee.

D. To approve the Event Management and Contingency Plan, attached as Appendix 2 to this Minute.

E. That, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme, to purchase fireworks up to the value of £2,000 (including VAT), with donations being sought from other community councils.

F. To meet the cost of two IBCs, to be retained by the Rotary Club, for soaking spent fireworks overnight.

G. To make applications for the road closure and a public procession, both in relation to the Pipe Band parade.

H. To advertise the event, including any costs, and issue a press release.

15. Meetings Attended by Members - West of Orkney Windfarm – Orkney Community Panel

Following consideration of the Minute of the Meeting of the West of Orkney Windfarm – Orkney Community Panel held virtually on 29 June 2022, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that Cathleen Hourie had attended the meeting.

16. Publications

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

- SEPA Update – 12 August and 1 September 2022.
- Scotland’s Towns Partnership – Scotland’s Towns Bulletin – August 2022.
- Scottish Rural Action – August 2022 Newsletter.
- ORSAS Quarterly Newsletter – August 2022.
- NHS Healthcare Improvement Scotland – Information Update (23 August 2022).
- VAO – Training and Funding Update – August 2022.
- Paths for All – eNews – August 2022.
- VAO Newsletter – August 2022.
- Liam McArthur MSP – Summer Highlights.

17. Any Other Competent Business

A. Defibrillator at Orkney Riding Centre

The Clerk had received correspondence from Orkney Riding Centre asking the Community Council to consider dates for an opening ceremony in relation to the defibrillator, for which the Community Council had provided financial assistance, and it was:

Resolved that the Chair should provide the Clerk with some dates for a possible event in early October.

B. Upgraded Mobile Phone Communications Apparatus

The Clerk had received correspondence from Cellnex advising of the proposal to install upgraded mobile phone communications apparatus at the Kirkwall Telephone Exchange, Brandyquoy, Kirkwall, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should respond advising that the Community Council had no concerns regarding the proposed development.

C. Scapa Distillery Visitor Centre

The Clerk had received correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding an application from Chivas Brothers Ltd requesting a variation of the premises licence in respect of the Scapa Distiller Visitor Centre, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising that the Community Council had no concerns regarding the application for variation of premises licence, but highlighting again, the issue of pedestrians attending the visitor centre along a stretch of road with no pavements.

D. Head of Work

Christine Marcus advised that she had been contacted by Scottish Water, in a personal capacity, who had advised that they were looking to plough up the Head of Work and plant over with trees. Although not confirmed, this may relate to a Scottish Government target and the situation should be monitored. It was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

E. The late Bryan Taylor

The Community Council noted the sad passing of Bryan Taylor, a former member and Chair of the Community Council, and it was:

Resolved to note condolences.

F. Warm Hubs

Robert Leslie enquired what action, if any, Orkney Islands Council was taking to provide warm hubs, given the increasing energy prices, noting that the church in St Margaret's Hope was one example. The Community Council Liaison Officer advised that the Milestone Kirk and the Stromness Hotel were also considering providing warm hubs. It was noted that the Orkney Library was already being used for a similar purpose. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council encouraging it to make available buildings in the Kirkwall area for warm hubs.

Councillor John Ross Scott joined the meeting at this point.

18. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved:

A. That the next meeting of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council should be held on Monday, 14 November 2022, commencing at 19:00.

B. To note the following proposed dates:

- 23 January 2023.
- 13 March 2023.
- 8 May 2023.

19. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:50.