

Minute of the Meeting of Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council held in the Rousay Community School and via Teams on Saturday, 4 February 2023 at 9:30

Present:

Mr Angus Firth, Mrs Zoe Flaws, Mrs Diana Compton, Miss Alice Mainland, Mrs Carey Mainland, Mrs Carole Maguire and Mr Richard Tipper.

In Attendance:

- Councillor Melissa Thomson (via Teams).
- Councillor Stephen Clackson (via Teams).
- Mrs Jenny McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer (via Teams).
- Mrs Emma Soames, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that there had been apologies from Councillor Heather Woodbridge and Ms Hayley Green, Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure.

2. Adoption of Minute

The Minute of the meeting held on 26 November 2022 was approved, being proposed by Mrs Diana Compton and seconded by Mrs Zoe Flaws.

3. Matters Arising

A. Notice Boards

Members were advised that the signs still needed to be erected and were no further forward. The Chair had been in touch with someone who had shown interest in arranging this and who was still keen to undertake the work. There were four boards to be erected at the school, the post office, the Heritage Centre and possibly Egilsay pier, and it was:

Resolved that the Chair would speak to the local contractor regarding installation of the boards.

B. Kirkyard Matting

Mrs Carole Maguire explained that there was matting available and had been in touch with the relevant person regarding borrowing the matting for future burials, but was yet to hear back, and it was:

Resolved to add a query to the business letter regarding use of the matting purchased for other sites, to be used at the Kirkyard on a temporary and as-needed basis.

C. Memorial/Path at Rousay Kirkyard

Members were advised that Mrs Zoe Flaws had been in touch with Derek Manson, stonemason, regarding benches at the kirkyard and he was keen to help, and it was:

Resolved to keep this item on the agenda.

D. NHS Orkney

Members heard that there had been a meeting in December that had called off the changes that were due to take place regarding NHS24, and that using staff members on call around Orkney would be the method for Orkney, and it was:

Resolved to keep this item on the agenda.

4. Correspondence

A. Rousay School – Thank You

Members discussed correspondence from Rousay School regarding the Christmas gifts from Santa, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents.

B. Playpark Response OIC

Members discussed correspondence from OIC regarding playpark maintenance, and that they were working through urgent issues in playparks across Orkney, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence and to add this to matters arising.

C. Orkney Ferries – Draft Timetables

Members discussed the draft timetables for winter 2023 from Orkney Ferries. The Transport Representative mentioned that the online booking negates the A/B booking system, which was something that Orkney Ferries were looking at, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

D. SCOTO Community Tourism Roadshow

Members discussed correspondence regarding a community tourism roadshow, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

E. Egilsay Community Association

Members read a request from Egilsay Community Association regarding a letter of support to purchase and renovate the old schoolhouse on Egilsay, and it was:

Resolved to issue an updated letter of support.

5. Financial Statements

A. General Account

Following consideration of the General Finance statement as at 18 January 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £29,206.95.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 18 January 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval in the main capping limit was £2,345.47, the balance remaining in the additional capping limit was £743, and the Island capping limit balance remaining was £719.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of a statement for the Community Development Fund as at 18 January 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £5,427.80.

D. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of a statement for the Seed Corn Fund as at 18 January 2023, it was:

Resolved to note that £9,035 remained available for allocation.

6. Financial Requests

A. Rousay Parent Council – iPad request

Members heard that a request for £347.99 had been submitted by Rousay Parent Council to replace the nursery iPad following successful fundraising and replacement of the classroom iPads, and it was:

Resolved to note that further information from the nursery teacher would be requested to understand the benefit to the children before this can be considered at another meeting.

B. Rousay Parent Council – Hoy Outdoor Activities Trip

Members heard that a request for £200 had been submitted by Rousay Parent Council to help towards the cost of the P7 residential trip, and it was:

Resolved that a grant of up to £200 be awarded, subject to Community Council Grant Scheme approval.

C. Rousay Community Association – Cinema Request

A request for £500 to support the purchase of replacement speaker and sound systems at the school was requested by Mrs Zoe Flaws on behalf of the Community Association, and it was:

Resolved to support this request to the value of £500, subject to Community Council Grant Scheme approval.

7. Consultations

A. Orkney Islands Area Licensing

Members discussed the consultation from OIC, copies of which had previously been forwarded to members, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the consultation and the deadline date for comments.

B. Orkney Ferries

Members discussed the consultation from Orkney Ferries, copies of which had previously been forwarded, and it was:

Resolved to note the deadline date for comments as the end of February.

8. Reports from Representatives

A. Planning

A member advised that there were no new planning applications, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report.

B. Transport

The Transport Representative provided an update following the issue over the Christmas period. They stated that communication had not been good, and meetings had been set, although decisions had already been made. More notice was required, for example, a timetable for situations such as December so the community would know the timetable immediately. A meeting is taking place on the 16 February that Community Council Chairs and Transport Representatives are attending. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that Orkney Ferries require a letter written to them regarding communication after the December Eynhallow breakdown, and a further letter is needed, to be sent to the Scottish Government regarding new ferries.

9. Publications

The following publications had been previously emailed to members, and were noted:

- VAO Newsletter – November and December 2022.
- Stephen Clackson's Letter from School Place – December 2022.
- Orkney Harbours Offshore Wind Community Newsletter.

10. Any Other Competent Business

A. Concrete Plinth at Brinian Kirkyard

Mrs Zoe Flaws enquired about a plinth that is required for a top part of the kirkyard so a headstone can be placed, and that relatives had not heard a response as of yet, and it was:

Resolved for the Clerk to add this item to the business letter.

B. Lighting at the Muster Point, Rousay Community School

Mrs Carole Maguire enquired about the lighting, that has been chased twice with Orkney Islands Council, and it was:

Resolved that Councillor Stephen Clackson would make enquiries on behalf of the community council.

C. New Ferry

With the announcement of the request to Scottish Government for £430 million towards improved infrastructure and new boats for Orkney, it was suggested that a common-sense approach was used. It was agreed that Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre do not necessarily require improvements to the piers, and a smaller 16 vehicle vessel would be better for the draft than a larger 24 vehicle vessel. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that Councillor Melissa Thomson was to chase up what paperwork is needed for the meeting on 16 February 2023.

D. Cleaning at the School

Members heard that, following a dance, there was no cleaner on duty, and the relief cleaner was unavailable. Members of the association were cleaning the rooms before bookings, and the toilets had been out of action for some time too, and it was:

Resolved that the Community Council Liaison Officer would chase via email and see what can be done regarding the broken toilets.

11. Date of Next Meeting

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

Resolved to note that the next meetings of Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre and Gairsay Community Council would be held on Saturdays 22 April and 17 June 2023 at 09:30 at Rousay Community School.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

With there being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 10:55.