

Minute of the Meeting of St Andrews and Deerness Community Council held in St Andrews Primary School on Tuesday, 27 February 2018 at 19:30

Present:

Mrs L McAdie, Mr D Alexander, Mrs G Barnby, Mr W Bruce and Mr L Flett.

In Attendance:

- Councillor A Drever.
- Mrs J Lennie, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies had been intimated from Councillors N Craigie and S Sankey.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The Minute of the Meeting held on 7 November 2017 was approved, being proposed by Mr W Bruce and seconded by Mrs G Barnby.

3. Matters Arising

A. East Mainland Tourist Leaflet (EMTL)

Members considered correspondence from the Chair, copies of which had been circulated, advising that there were 8 boxes of EMTL's containing 400 leaflets per box held by this Community Council, and which would be delivered to Visit Orkney tomorrow. The Chair also advised that Holm Community Council held 20 boxes and South Ronaldsay and Burray Community Council held three boxes in storage. She advised that she may bring these stocks in house in order that they could, in the future, be distributed to Visit Orkney. Holm and South Ronaldsay and Burray Community Councils will hold meetings in late March 2018 to discuss their member's interest in progress of a reprint of a new EMTL.

The Chair advised that, three years ago, 50,000 copies of the EMTL had been produced and that she would be keen to work with the same company and lead this project again. Members approved that a reprint of a new EMTL be considered.

Councillor A Drever suggested that, if Holm and South Ronaldsay and Burray Community Council were in agreement with this proposal, a new EMTL could be produced for the 2019 tourist season. The Chair advised that the EMTL would require to be produced by the beginning of year 2019. The Chair asked for another representative to serve on the EMTL subcommittee with her and it was approved that Mrs G Barnby serve on the subcommittee with Mrs L McAdie. She advised that she hoped the EMTL would require little update and Mr D Alexander and the Clerk advised that some businesses were unhappy that they had been excluded from the previous EMTL and members approved that this would require consideration moving forward. Mrs G Barnby advised that it would be important for businesses to be included at the earliest opportunity, with regard to producing the new EMTL, and perhaps they could pay to advertise in the EMTL.

Mrs L McAdie advised that a colleague had suggested that the brochure could be made available online if the copyright was held by the three East Mainland Community Councils. The Clerk advised that she had the PDF files of the current EMTL and they were available on the Community Council's website. The Chair advised that reconsideration of how to proceed may have to be given consideration if Holm or South Ronaldsay and Burray Community Council did not wish to proceed with a new EMTL. Councillor A Drever advised that Visit Orkney had been the main tourism group in Orkney, and with less promotion of Orkney, OIC had reduced the funding granted to Visit Orkney and provided funding to the Orkney Tourism Group

instead and this group had now been rebranded as Destination Orkney, and it was resolved:

1. That consideration be given to producing a new EMTL with Holm and South Ronaldsay and Burray Community Councils for the 2019 tourist season.
2. That Mrs L McAdie and Mrs G Barnby would serve on an EMTL subcommittee.
3. That, if a new EMTL was progressed, that consideration be given to including all tourism businesses in the East Mainland and connecting South Isles and possibly that they could pay to advertise in the EMTL and that this should be considered by the subcommittee at the earliest opportunity.
4. That if a new EMTL was progressed, then consideration be given to obtaining the copyright for a new EMTL and then making it available online.
5. That, if necessary, reconsideration will have to be given to this project if Holm and South Ronaldsay and Burray did not wish to proceed with a new EMTL.

B. 2018 Bag the Bruck Scheme

Following consideration of correspondence, copies of which had been circulated, from Democratic Services advising that the 2018 Bag the Bruck Scheme would take place over nine days from 21 – 29 April 2018, the Chair asked members if they wished to apply for Community Council Grant Scheme (CCGS) funding towards a £300 grant for the scheme, and if members wished the scheme advertised in local outlets and on the website, and it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk apply for the £300 grant available from the CCGS accordingly.
2. That the Clerk advertise the 2018 Bag the Bruck Scheme in local outlets and on the website.

C. 2018/2019 Insurance Costs

The Chair asked members if they wished to apply for CCGS assistance for the 2018/2019 insurance costs, and it was:

Resolved to apply for CCGS assistance of £100 towards insurance costs for the 2018/2019 financial year.

D. St Andrews Bulletin

Following consideration of correspondence from St Andrews Community Association, copies of which had been circulated, advising that as of January 2018, SACA had discontinued production of their bulletin, and following some discussion as to whether a bulletin was available to view online, it was:

Resolved to note this information.

E. Grass Cutting at Whitecrest Park, Tankerness

Members considered correspondence, copies of which had been circulated, from the grass cutting contractor at Whitecrest Park, Tankerness and Deerness Kirkyard advising that, as of 1 May 2018, he wished to relinquish his contract at Whitecrest Park, Tankerness. The Chair asked why the Community Council was cutting this area and what size the area at Whitecrest Park was. The Clerk advised that it was an "L" shaped area measuring fifty metres by twenty metres and that the area contained septic tanks from the former OIC owned properties, with one property thought to remain in OIC ownership. The Chair and Mr D Alexander queried why this Community Council was arranging the grass cutting at Whitecrest Park on behalf of Housing, OIC, when there was only one remaining OIC owned rental property at Whitecrest Park. The Chair advised that she would like to find out more about the Community Council's arrangement to arrange the grass cutting on behalf of Housing, OIC and perhaps Housing, OIC or OIC's ground maintenance contractors should undertake this work, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Democratic Services advising them of member's views with regard to grass cutting at Whitecrest Park, Tankerness.

F. Road Issues in St Andrews

Members considered correspondence from Democratic Services, copies of which had been circulated, advising that the Team Leader, Roads Support, had reported that the roads in St Andrews which identified as requiring ditch and off let cleaning would be inspected and action taken accordingly. He also advised that members should note that, with ever decreasing budgets and resources, unless there is a risk of flooding, ditches are not cleaned. Mrs G Barnby advised that following the last snowfall and thaw, the ditches and off lets in the St Andrews Primary School (SAPS) area had not been cleaned and had flooded the car park, which had then subsequently refrozen with a sheet of black ice. She also reported that no gritting had taken place, and the condition underfoot was treacherous. Councillor A Drever advised that it is care homes and each individual school's own responsibility for salting and gritting their car parks and, in the school's case, playgrounds. The Chair advised that the ditch and off let cleaning and flooding required to be reported to Democratic Services, and she advised that SAPS should report the ditches and off let cleaning and flooding to Customer Services, OIC. The Chair advised that this evidenced a clear breach of the last sentence from the Team Leader, Roads Support, paragraph on off lets and ditch cleaning. Members were also advised that ditch and off let cleaning works were being undertaken on the Groatsetter to Sandesquoy Road, and it currently appeared that the contractors had never undertaken ditch cleaning from Slap of Toab down past the passing place for some distance. This was the part that flooded and caused water to flow down the tar macadam road and cross the road to get into the ditch on the other side, and damage was being done to the road surface from this lack of ditch cleaning. It was agreed that the Clerk should monitor the works and, if necessary, report to Democratic Services.

The Chair asked Mr D Alexander and Mr W Bruce if ditch and off let cleaning was progressing in Deerness and St Andrews parishes as per the maps submitted to Democratic Services. Mr W Bruce advised that all areas in Deerness were

completed and Mr D Alexander advised that the works were currently progressing in Tankerness. The Chair advised that off let cleaning has not been carried out after ditching works were carried out last summer.

The Team Leader, Roads Support, also advised that maintenance work to the subsidence in the road between the St Andrews Kirkyard and St Andrews Community Centre would be carried out, and it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk report to Democratic Services that ditch and off let cleaning was required in the SAPS area, and that off let cleaning is important to stop erosion of the road and for the safety of road users.
2. That the Clerk should report that off lets need digging out where ditching was carried out last summer in the Tankerness area.
3. That Mrs G Barnby would advise SAPS to report this issue to Customer Services, OIC.
4. That the Clerk should monitor the ditch and off let cleaning on the Groatsetter Road and, if necessary, report to Democratic Services that, currently, an area of ditch on the Groatsetter Road, below Slap of Toab, has not been undertaken in the current ditch and off let cleaning works on this road.
5. That the repair to the subsidence on the road below St Andrews Kirkyard would be welcomed by the Community Council.

G. Deerness Community Centre (DCC)

Following consideration of correspondence, copies of which had been circulated, from DCC advising that all funding was in place towards the DCC extension and that the works would be advertised for tender in February 2018 with the contractor appointed in March 2018, it was:

Resolved to note this information.

H. St Andrews Kirkyard

Following consideration of correspondence, copies of which had been circulated, advising that reports that two gravestones in St Andrews Kirkyard were unstable and only held by their pins had been reported to the relevant Service, OIC, it was:

Resolved to note this information and that this request be placed on the live list.

I. Ayrenergy Ltd

Members considered correspondence from Ayrenergy Ltd, copies of which had been circulated, advising of their current situation with regards to payment of community benefit to the Community Council. Ayrenergy Ltd advised that, due to the new business rate valuation, they had been unable to pay the annual community benefit. They had lodged an appeal against the valuation and, following representation and investigation, they would like to request that the Community Council investigate whether the business rate raised, specifically from wind turbines, actually remains within Orkney. Following some discussion, Councillor A Drever advised that

business rates were based on turnover and therefore business rates would not be the only factor in which Ayrenergy Ltd had to consider before paying community benefit from their wind turbines to the Community Council, and it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk write to Democratic Services requesting information on how the new business rateable value is achieved, and if any community benefit can or could be given to the Community Council from the new business rate generated from Ayrenergy Ltd, Orkney.
2. That the Clerk write to Ayrenergy Ltd advising that the Community Council would be seeking advice and also thanking them for the community benefit that they have previously received.

4. Consultation Documents

A. Winter Service Plan - 2017/2018

Following consideration of the 2017/2018 Winter Service Plan, copies of which had been previously circulated, the Chair advised that one response had been received. Mr D Alexander advised that he disagreed with the first sentence of the response as he thought some snow ploughing had taken place in the January/February 2018 snow. Mrs G Barnby advised that the new salt bins in Toab and on the Geo Road, Deerness had been welcomed, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk submit to Democratic Services the one response received as member's corporate response to the 2017/2018 Winter Service Plan.

B. Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Overprovision Assessment

Following consideration of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Overprovision Assessment consultation document, copies of which had been previously circulated, the Chair advised that one response had been received, copies of which had been circulated, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk submit to Democratic Services the one response received as member's corporate response to the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Overprovision Assessment consultation document.

C. Verge Maintenance Plan Specification

Following consideration of the Verge Maintenance Plan Specification, copies of which had been previously circulated, the Chair advised that one response had been received, copies of which had been circulated, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk submit to Democratic Services the one response received as member's corporate response to the Verge Maintenance Plan Specification.

5. Correspondence

A. NHS Orkney Board

Following consideration of correspondence received from NHS Orkney, copies of which had been previously circulated, advising that three non-executive directors were required by the NHS Orkney Board, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. Thrive Renewables Community Benefit Fund

Consideration was given to correspondence, copies of which had been previously circulated, advising that an energy efficiency grant of up to £4,000 could be available from Thrive Renewables for community buildings in postcodes commencing in KW17, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk had informed community groups of the availability of this grant.

C. NHS Orkney

Following consideration of correspondence received from NHS Orkney, copies of which had been circulated, inviting members to a mock-up room public drop in session, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

D. Thank You Letters

Following consideration of letters of thanks from a local mother, Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, Deerness Community Centre (2), Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council, St Andrews Senior Citizens and St Andrews Primary School, it was:

Resolved to note these seven letters of thanks.

6. Financial Statements

A. General Statement

Following consideration of the General Financial Statement, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance remaining in the account was £7,272.23, as at 16 February 2018.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme (CCGS)

Following consideration of the CCGS Statement, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the CCGS balance as at 16 February 2018.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that this fund was fully allocated, as at 16 February 2018.

D. Ayrenergy Ltd Fund

Following consideration of the Ayrenergy Ltd Fund statement, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for allocation of £10,934.34 in the Ayrenergy Ltd Fund, as at 16 February 2018.

E. Annual Payment to Chair

The Chair declared an interest in this item and was not present during discussion thereof.

The Vice Chair took the Chair and requested that members give consideration to the annual payment to the Chair. Mr W Bruce proposed £175 which was seconded by Mr L Flett, and it was:

Resolved to make a payment to the Chair totalling £175.

7. Requests for Financial Assistance

A. Netball Tournament, Aberdeen

Following consideration of correspondence from a local mother, copies of which had been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards her daughter's trip to an under 13 netball tournament in Aberdeen, it was:

Resolved to award a travel grant of £30 towards her daughter's participation in a netball tournament in Aberdeen.

B. St Andrews Primary School

Following consideration of correspondence from St Andrews Primary School, copies of which had been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of eight primary seven pupils attending the Lagganlia Outdoor Centre, it was:

Resolved to award travel grants of £30 per pupil, totalling £240 for their participation in one week's activities at the Lagganlia Outdoor Centre, Kinncraig.

C. Kirkwall Squash and Racket Ball Club

Following consideration of correspondence, copies of which had been circulated, from Kirkwall Squash and Racket Ball Club requesting financial assistance towards a local boy's participation in the Scottish National Junior Squash event in Aberdeen, it was:

Resolved to grant Kirkwall Squash and Racket Ball Club a travel grant of £30 towards a local boy's participation in Scottish National Junior Squash event in Aberdeen.

D. Kirkwall Grammar School – Under 15 Football Trip

Following consideration of correspondence from Kirkwall Grammar School, copies of which had been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards a local boy's participation in an under 15 football trip to Manchester, the Clerk advised that this local boy had received the maximum travel assistance grant for this financial year, however his trip would take place in May 2018, in the next financial year, and it was:

Resolved to award a travel grant of £30 which would be paid following the 1 April 2018 in the new financial year.

E. St Andrews Primary School – Primary 6 Classes

Councillor A Drever declared an interest and was not present during discussion thereof.

Following consideration of correspondence from St Andrews Primary School – Primary 6 classes, copies of which had been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of 250 reusable bio plastic water bottles, members noted that the classes had also requested financial assistance from Holm Community Council, and it was:

Resolved that £220.75 be awarded, subject to CCGS approval.

F. Orkneycommunities.co.uk

Members considered correspondence from Orkneycommunities.co.uk, copies of which had been circulated, regarding 2017/2018 membership and the update of contact details. Following some discussion regarding the effectiveness of the website, it was approved that members can advise the public regarding grants available. A website administrator and contact details were considered, and it was resolved:

1. That £45 be granted to Orkney Communities, subject to CCGS approval.
2. That the Clerk would advise that she was the appointed website administrator.
3. That the Clerk would submit details to Orkneycommunities.co.uk.

G. Deerness Community Association

Following consideration of correspondence from Deerness Community Association, copies of which had been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the annual photocopying cost of the Deerness bulletin, it was:

Resolved that £100 be granted, subject to approval from the CCGS.

H. Orkney Folk Festival

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Folk Festival, copies of which had been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the 2018 production costs and event to be held at St Ninians Kirk in Deerness, it was:

Resolved that £100 be granted, subject to approval from the CCGS.

I. NHS Orkney Fundraising Group

Following consideration of correspondence from the NHS Orkney Fundraising Group, copies of which had been circulated, requesting financial assistance for the purchase of additional items of equipment, planting and furnishings, it was:

Resolved to grant a donation of £100.

J. Highland Primary Schools Competition

Following consideration of correspondence, copies of which had been circulated, from a local mother requesting financial assistance towards four local primary school pupils' participation in the Highland Primary Schools Competition in Inverness, it was:

Resolved to grant the two mothers each a travel grant of £60.00 towards their two children's participation in the Highland Primary Schools Competition in Inverness, with the total cost being £120.

8. Publications

The following publications were made available to members:

- The Orkney Partnership – Newsletter.
- Scottish Government – Planning and Building Newsletter.
- NHS Scotland – Poster and Leaflet.
- Orkney Police Report Update – October 2017.
- J Halcro Johnston – Christmas Card.
- Glasdon – Leaflets.
- Scottish Health Council – Information.
- Orkney's Creative Future.
- Scottish Rural Action – February Newsletter.

9. Any Other Competent Business

A. Live List

Following consideration of the live list, the Chair noted that there were no updates or progress with live list items other than the following two issues:

1. Item 3 - Parking Issues in Kirkwall - Councillor A Drever advised that the new Chief Inspector wished to take action in regard to illegal parking in Kirkwall, with a

remit to address dangerous and obstructive parking, and this would be well publicised, with initial warnings given followed by enforcement, and it was:

Resolved to note the progress with regard to parking issues in Kirkwall and that the live list should be updated accordingly.

2. Item 5 - Deerness Kirkyard Maintenance Requests and Flooding - Mr W Bruce advised that he had received a further report from a member of the public regarding serious flooding in Deerness Kirkyard. He further advised that, at the 7 November 2017 meeting, the Democratic Services Manager had advised that Mr D Alexander and himself should obtain quotes for the necessary maintenance works at Deerness Kirkyard. However, following the serious flooding report, he had taken photographic evidence of all the maintenance issues in Deerness Kirkyard, including the flooding, and presented them to Democratic Services. He reported that some of these were urgent issues, but that he had yet to receive an update on how this was progressing, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk write to Democratic Services requesting an update on the progress of these maintenance requests, which have been submitted as photographic evidence and some of which require urgent attention.

B. Pothole on the main Kirkwall/Deerness Road

The Clerk advised that there was a pothole requiring attention on the main Kirkwall/Deerness Road, just past the Quoydandy Cottage Junction, heading east. Mr D Alexander advised that there were a number of potholes requiring attention in Deerness, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk report these issues to Democratic Services in order that these pothole repairs could be made later in spring 2018, after the frosts.

C. Election of Two New Members

The Clerk advised that, following April 2018, two new members could be considered for election to the Community Council. Mr D Alexander advised that he felt it would be appropriate to have a balance of members from each parish, although this could not be guaranteed. It was agreed that any interested individuals should be advised to contact Democratic Services or the Clerk for further information. If members could guarantee two interested parties then a public meeting could be called and advertised accordingly, and it was:

Resolved to note that members should try to find at least two new members to stand for election to the Community Council.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Resolved to note that the next meeting would be held in St Andrews Primary School on Tuesday, 17 April 2018 at 19:30.

11. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 21:54.