

Minute of the Meeting of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council held in the North Walls School on Friday, 18 January 2019 at 18:45

Present:

G Robertson, C Bates, A Clark and J Traynor.

In Attendance:

- Councillor J Stockan.
- Mr B Archibald, Head of Marine Services, Engineering and Transportation.
- Mrs J Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer.
- Mrs J McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer.
- Mrs T Avis, Clerk.
- 1 member of the public.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from M Groat, A Sinclair and R Thomson and Councillors Crichton and Thomson.

G Robertson, Vice Chair, took the Chair.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 2 November 2018 was approved, being proposed by G Robertson and seconded by J Traynor.

3. Matters Arising

A. Island Link Office

The Island Link Officer updated the meeting on the Community Resilience Plan, explaining that it was still being written and grant details still being finalised, and that the Civil Contingencies Officer had been invited to the next meeting.

She also reported that a recycle point for batteries had been placed in the waiting room at the Lyness Pier, and a Christmas card recycling drop off point arranged. A letter had been received via Democratic Services from the Waste Team regarding the issue of plastic recycling and, following discussion, it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation.

B. Supply of Aggregate

G Robertson declared an interest in this item and did not take part in discussion thereof.

The Clerk asked members if they agreed to the proposal of offering 5 tonne per applicant. This was agreed, with further agreement required from other members via email to obtain a majority, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would organise the transport of the aggregate to the island and issue the relevant paperwork, pending majority agreement.

C. Kirkyard Contracts 2019

The Clerk reminded members that 2019 was the last of the three-year contract for Kirkyard maintenance. As there had been no problems with Kirkyard maintenance contracts in the last two years members agreed that the same contractors be used, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would issue the relevant paperwork.

D. Hoy Windfarm Update

Members noted that the recent drop-in event had been well attended. However, it was felt that any further drop in events should go beyond 19:00 so that folk who work on the mainland would have the chance to attend. The Clerk read out an email from a local resident regarding some detail about the proposal, however members felt that

as the scheme was only at the early consultation stage, these issues would be addressed if the scheme actually went ahead, and it was:

Resolved to monitor the situation and write to the member of the community.

E. Head of Marine Services

The Chair welcomed the Head of Marine Services, Engineering and Transportation to the meeting. Members asked if any consideration was being given to installing pontoons as Longhope Pier, and the Head of Marine Services said that, whilst it wasn't technically challenging to do this, they would have to look at whether there was a need and whether Longhope was the best place for them. Discussion took place regarding Longhope and Lyness and applications for grant funding, and members felt that Marine Services would have the technical knowledge to take a project like this forward whereas the local community didn't. It was also reported that some bolts holding a ladder were corroded on Longhope Pier, and it was:

Resolved that the Head of Marine Services would look into these matters further and report back to the Community Council.

F. Road Issues

A query had been raised regarding local businesses erecting signs on the verges and apparently Orkney Islands Council did have a policy regarding verge clearance. There was a discussion as to whether it was the Community Council or Orkney Islands Council who should "police" this. There was also a query about the road from Houton to Kirkwall not being gritted in time for the first ferry, and the Head of Marine Services assured members that it was, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk would put details of the roads queries in the business letter to Democratic Services.

G. Ferry Services Consultative Forum

The Transport Representative confirmed that he would be available to go to the next meeting of this forum in February. The Clerk read out an email from a Graemsay resident regarding a request to change the sailing of the MV Graemsay on a Saturday and Sunday to 17:00 from Stromness all year round. Those present agreed that to keep a consistent timetable did make sense, however it was noted that the summer timetable had now been advertised so the earliest this could be implemented was in winter 2019, and it was:

Resolved to include in the business letter and to bring up at the Ferry Service Consultative Forum meeting.

H. Ferry Request

Members discussed a request that the sailing of the MV Graemsay timetable be altered so that someone who resides on Graemsay could travel to Hoy on a daily basis, Monday to Friday. Councillor Stockan noted that this had been discussed at the meeting in Graemsay and that the Ferry Services Manager was looking into this. Members noted that it would mean an extra ten minutes to the ferry hours Monday to Friday, and it was:

Resolved that this be supported at the Ferry Service Consultative Forum meeting in February and also included in the business letter.

I. Disabled Parking

The Clerk read out a letter from Democratic Services regarding disabled parking spaces at Lyness and Moaness. Members agreed that it would not be appropriate to create a disabled space at Moaness, as the ferry access was not disabled friendly, however they agreed a space at the end of the waiting room in Lyness should be created, and it was:

Resolved to include suggestions for where a disabled space could be located in the Business Letter.

4. Correspondence

A. Island of Hoy Development Trust - Stakeholder Meeting

Following consideration of correspondence from the Island of Hoy Development Trust regarding a Stakeholder meeting, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. Orkney Transmission Reinforcement Project

Following consideration of correspondence from SSEN regarding the OTR project, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

C. Your Island, Your Choice

Following consideration of correspondence regarding funding available, the Clerk informed members that another Community Council were going to apply to this fund to cover the shortfall in funding for a Satellite phone for the Resilient Communities project. Members discussed whether this would be a good way to make up the shortfall that they had for the same project, and it was:

Resolved that an application be made to this fund to make up the shortfall in the Resilient Communities Funding.

D. Our Power - Energy Supply Company

Following consideration of correspondence regarding the proposal put forward by Orkney Islands Council regarding the above, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to advise Democratic Services that the Community Council were interested in further details regarding this.

E. Community Transport Grant

Following consideration of correspondence regarding the Community Transport Grant, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to pass the information to the Island of Hoy Development Trust.

F. Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Survey

After consideration of correspondence from SFRS, copies of which had been circulated, members agreed that it was good news that the island, once again, had a working fire crew, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

G. Orkney Renewables Energy Forum - Update

After consideration of correspondence from OREF, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

H. NHS Orkney - Arts Steering Group

After consideration of correspondence from NHS Orkney, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

I. Inter Isles Transport Study

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services, copies of which had been circulated, updating stakeholders on progress with the inter isles transport study, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

J. Police Scotland – Isles Officer

After consideration of correspondence, copies of which had been circulated, regarding a change of Isles Officer, it was:

Resolved to write a note of thanks to the outgoing Isles Officer.

K. Community Council Conference

After consideration of correspondence from the Chair of the Community Council, it was noted that the conference had been very constructive. Councillor Stockan agreed with this and hoped there would be more meetings. He also noted that budgets for 2019/2020 would be set shortly and informed members that any services that were cut last year were unlikely to be reinstated. Members asked if this included grass cutting at the scheme in Longhope, and it was:

Resolved to take the grass cutting query forward to the next meeting.

5. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 7 January 2019 and discussion thereof, it was resolved:

1. To note that the estimated balance was £13,202.
2. To note that this figure included two outstanding grants from SSEN.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2018/2019 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 7 January 2019, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £630.40.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 7 January 2019, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £4,925.03.

D. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund Statement as at 7 January 2019, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval of £3,658.47.

6. Financial Request - Longhope Lifeboat Museum – Amendment

C Bates declared an interest in this item and did not take part in discussion thereof.

Following consideration of correspondence received from Longhope Lifeboat Museum, requesting that the grant for £300 awarded at last year's finance meeting be used for video link instead of wreathes, as the wreathes were now being supplied by the RNLI, it was:

Resolved that the donation of £300 be given towards the cost of a video link instead of wreathes.

7. Publications

The following publications were made available for members to view:

- Orkney Ferries Statistics – September 2018.
- Orkney Ferries Statistics – October 2018.
- Orkney Ferries Statistics – November 2018.
- Orkney Ferries Statistics – December 2018.

- THAW Newsletter – November 2018.
- Orkney Zerowaste - November 2018.
- Scottish Fire and Rescue – News.
- Scottish Water – Protect your pipes.

8. Any Other Competent Business

A. Orkney Housing Association

After consideration of correspondence from Orkney Housing Association, regarding the recruitment of new committee members, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. Driverless Cars Trial

The meeting was advised that there may be a company looking for locations to trial driverless cars, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the report.

C. Sir Chris Hoy

Councillor Stockan told the meeting that Sir Chris Hoy may be interested in doing a cycle race on Hoy at some time. Orkney Cycle Club were reported to be very interested in this and members thought it would be a very good idea, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the report.

D. Lyness Museum

Councillor Stockan told the meeting that Orkney Islands Council were still trying to get quotes in for the work on the museum at Lyness, however it was hoped that once the hospital in Kirkwall was complete there would be more contractors available to tender, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the report.

9. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of the Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council would be held on Friday, 8 March in the North Walls School, commencing at 18:45.

10. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:00.