

Minute of the Special Meeting of Shapinsay Community Council held in the Shapinsay School on Thursday, 18 December 2019 at 19:00

Present:

C Leslie, S Garson, A Boyd, C Muir, D Muir, E Phillips and L Bews (acting Clerk also).

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1. MV Thorsvoe

C Leslie declared an interest and left the room.

S Garson took the Chair and passed round a range of letters and emails which have been received by various members of the Community Council. These have come from concerned islanders and businesses who use the Shapinsay to Kirkwall ferry service and were concerned about the continuation of the MV Thorsvoe on the Shapinsay route. Members agreed that there has been a lack of advertising and correspondence from Orkney Ferries and too many rumours about how long the MV Thorsvoe would continue to operate the route. Members expressed their frustration at the lack of correspondence received on this matter, despite the issue being raised and how poorly it has been communicated to island residents.

It was decided to collate all the concerns raised by island residents about the continuation of the MV Thorsvoe on the Shapinsay route into the following categories:

- Health and Safety.
- Animal Welfare.
- Impact on business.
- Impact on passengers.
- Reliability.
- Sustainability.

Following further discussion, it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk would draft a letter, detailing all the various concerns, which was to be sent to Orkney Ferries, the North Isles Councillors, the MP and MSP.
2. That if a satisfactory response was not received, with a timescale for the return of the MV Shapinsay, members would hold a public meeting to decide how to take this forward.

C Leslie then returned to the room and resumed the Chair.

2. The Smithy/Shapinsay Development Trust (SDT)

Members were advised that discussions were ongoing with SDT regarding the future use of The Smithy and all agreed that a café facility was essential to the island, and it was:

Resolved that in January, L Bews would advertise the tender of the lease for the café on the Shapinsay Facebook page and ask the Clerk to produce a poster for display locally.

3. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:10.