

Minute of the Meeting of Westray Community Council held in Westray Community Classroom, Westray School and via Microsoft Teams on Monday, 17 October 2022 at 19:30

Present:

Mr A Baird, Mrs E Drever, Mr D Harcus, Mrs J Kirkness and Mr L Pottinger.

In Attendance:

- Mrs J Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer/Interim Clerk.

Order of Business

1. Apologies	2
2. Election of Office Bearers	2
3. Adoption of Constitution.....	2
4. Adoption of Minutes	2
5. Matters Arising.....	2
6. Correspondence	3
7. Financial Statements	7
8. Financial Requests	7
9. Consultation Documents.....	8
10. Reports from Representatives	8
11. Publications	8
12. Any Other Competent Business.....	9
13. Date of Next Meeting	10
14. Conclusion of Meeting	10

1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been intimated on behalf of Mrs R Rendall and Councillors S Clackson, M Thomson and H Woodbridge.

2. Election of Office Bearers

A. Chair

Resolved that Mrs E Drever be elected as Chair.

B. Vice Chair

Resolved that Mr A Baird be appointed as Vice Chair.

C. Planning Representative

Resolved that Mr D Harcus be elected as Planning Representative.

D. Transport Representative

Resolved that Mr A Baird be elected as Transport Representative.

E. Friends of Kalisgarth Representative

Resolved that Mrs J Kirkness be elected as Friends of Kalisgarth Representative.

F. Westray Development Trust

Resolved that Mr L Pottinger be elected as Westray Development Trust Representative.

3. Adoption of Constitution

Members discussed the proposed Constitution and queried paragraph 30 asking if a Minute could be adopted sooner, via email, rather than waiting to the following meeting allowing it to be available to the public sooner, and it was:

Resolved to seek advice on adoption of the Minute and discuss the Constitution at the next meeting.

4. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 28 March 2022 was approved, being proposed by Mrs E Drever and seconded by Mr A Baird.

5. Matters Arising

A. Village Path

The Interim Clerk advised that the ILO for Papa Westray had met on the island with a representative from Paths for All and that an update would be requested and emailed round members. Members were also advised of the Outdoor Access, Walking and Cycling fund that was available which may be a suitable match funding opportunity, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report and that an update would be emailed round members.

B. Grass Cutting at Lastigar and Beachgrove

Members heard that the previous grass cutting operative had retired and that the Housing Section had asked if the Community Council would be willing to administer the two areas at the same time as the Kirkyard grass cutting. As the approach had been made during the election period, Democratic Services had advertised and tendered the work for 2022, and it was:

Resolved that members agreed to the grass cutting at Lastigar and Beachgrove being administered by the Community Council and the work being funded by Orkney Islands Council.

C. Beach Toy Libraries

Members heard an update from the Chair advising that this project had been an aspiration of the last community council which would require further consideration, and it was:

Resolved to defer consideration to a future meeting.

D. Picnic Area at Sand O Gill

Members were advised that the Development Trust had inspected the area and that arrangements were in place to tidy up the picnic area, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report.

E. Kirkyard Issues

The Interim Clerk advised members that Historic Environment Scotland had confirmed that it was not possible to provide an accurate date of when work would start however it was hoped to start late Spring or early Summer 2023, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report.

F. Kirkyard Extension

Members were advised that the request regarding consideration being given towards an extension at the Pierowall Kirkyard had been forwarded, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report.

6. Correspondence

A. NHS Share – Scottish Health Research Register

Members considered correspondence received from NHS Share advising on the need for health research and asking members to promote the initiative, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. Outer North Isles Ferry Timetable – Winter 2022/2023

Following consideration of correspondence regarding the outer north isles ferry timetables for winter 2022/2023, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the timetables.

C. Community Ownership Fund

Following consideration of correspondence, previously copied to members, from Cities and Local Growth Unit, regarding the Community Ownership Fund, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

D. Air Services Winter Timetable 2022/2023

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services, copies of which had previously been sent to members, regarding a newly incorporated drop to Eday on a Friday morning, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

E. Proposed Wind Farm Development – Eday – Neven Point

Following consideration of correspondence, previously sent to members, from JLL advising members of the submission of a Proposal of Application Notice to Orkney Islands Council, it was:

Resolved to the contents of the correspondence.

F. Friends of Westray Play Park

Following consideration of correspondence, previously sent to members, from Friends of Westray Play Park requesting assistance with recruiting members on the Committee, it was:

Resolved to note that additional members had already joined the group.

G. Eyland Skyn – Third Aircraft

Following consideration of correspondence from Eyland Skyn advising on their work on building a case for a third aircraft in Orkney, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

H. Christmas Tree Lighting 2022

Following consideration of correspondence from the Inter Kirk Group advising members that it had been recommended to hold the tree lighting ceremony on 3 December and various requirements for the event, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Tree Lighting event would be held on 3 December 2022.

2. That the streetlights should be lit on 1 December 2022 and remain on until 28 February 2023.
3. That the Interim Clerk should contact the local contractor regarding the streetlights and supply a Purchase Order.
4. To erect the artificial tree at Kalisgarth, which was stored at Kalisgarth,
5. To note that new tree lights were required, and that Mr A Baird agreed to secure a price for new lights and email the information round members for approval of purchase.
6. That Mrs E Drever would contact Kalisgarth about the possibility of holding the event at Kalisgarth again.
7. That if the event could not be held at Kalisgarth arrangements should be made to book the full area of the Community Room from 18:00 to 22:00.
8. That the Community Council would make the arrangements for refreshments.
9. That the Chair would order mincemeat pies, shortbread, mulled wine, tea and coffee.
10. That the Interim Clerk would prepare the Event Management Plan and submit to Orkney Islands Council.
11. That the Interim Clerk would advise W Shearer that a Christmas tree was not required this year.

I. Remembrance Sunday

Following consideration of correspondence from the Inter Kirk group advising members that the Remembrance Sunday service would be held on the morning of Sunday, 13 November starting at 10:55 at the War Memorial, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence and that the Community Council would fund the cost of the poppy wreath.

J. The West of Orkney Windfarm

Following consideration of correspondence from West of Orkney Windfarm advising members of their intention to submit applications for marine licences from Marine Scotland for the construction of an offshore wind farm, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

K. NHS Orkney - Prescriptions

Following consideration of correspondence from NHS Orkney advising on arrangements for prescriptions during the postal strikes, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

L. Memorial Inspections

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council advising members of two headstones in the Pierowall Kirkyard that needed attention due to their condition, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that members were of the opinion that needed headstones should not be laid down flat.
2. That members would endeavour to find out if there were any surviving relatives in the island.
3. That Mr L Pottinger would contact J Corse Funeral Directors to find out a possible cost for the repair of the headstones.
4. To discuss this item again at the next meeting.

M. Fireworks 2023

Following consideration of correspondence from Mrs E Costie regarding the annual fireworks display and asking if the Community Council would consider taking on the running of the event, it was:

Resolved:

1. That Westray Community Council would take on the responsibility of the Fireworks display.
2. To note that there was no bonfire at the event.
3. That the Interim Clerk would compile an Event Management Plan.
4. That the Interim Clerk would check the insurance with Democratic Services and that Mr L Pottinger would ask what it had cost the Trust previously.
5. To note that Westray Development Trust would consider an application for funding, for up to £700, from the Entertainment Grant fund.
6. That the Interim Clerk should submit an application to the WDT for funding towards the cost of the fireworks.
7. That the Community Council would grant funding of £300 towards the cost of the fireworks and that application should be made to the Community Council Grant Scheme for assistance on the cost of £300.
8. That the Interim Clerk would order the fireworks from W Shearer.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Finance Statement

Following consideration of the General Finance statement, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £37,053.57 as at 30 August 2022.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 30 August 2022, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval in the main capping limit was over allocated, £743 remained in the additional capping limit, and £719 remained in the island capping limit.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund, it was:

Resolved to note that £5,000 remained available for allocation as at 30 August 2022.

D. Annual Accounts

Following consideration of the Annual Account for the year ended 31 March 2022, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the accounts.

8. Financial Requests

A. Westray Drama Club – Concert and Dance

Following consideration of correspondence, via email, from Westray Drama Club requesting financial assistance towards the cost of a Young Farmers' Concert visiting the island, it was:

Resolved to note that an award of £700 had been agreed previously by email towards the cost and that Community Council Grant Scheme assistance had been approved towards the cost.

B. Westray Surgery – Westray Tour for Prospective GPs

Following consideration of correspondence, via email, from the Westray Surgery in connection with the cost for showing prospective GPs around the island, it was:

Resolved to note that an award of £145 had been previously agreed by email towards the cost and that Community Council Grant Scheme assistance had been approved towards the cost.

C. Bisgeos Run 2022

Following consideration of correspondence received from the Bisgeos Run Committee requesting financial assistance towards the Bisgeos Run 2022 event, it was:

Resolved:

1. To award a grant of £700 subject to availability of receipts.
2. To apply for Community Council Grant Scheme assistance of £700 towards the event.
2. That in the event receipts were not available to claim the grant a donation of £280 would be made from General Funds.

D. Westray Auk Club

Following consideration of correspondence, via email, from Westray Auk Club requesting financial assistance towards their annual summer trip, it was:

Resolved to note that an award of £500 had previously been agreed via email towards the cost of the summer trip and that Community Council Grant Scheme assistance had been applied for.

E. North Isles Dance Academy

Following consideration of correspondence from Mrs V Thomson advising members of a recent visit to the island by North Isles Dance Academy and asking if financial assistance could be provided towards the costs, it was:

Resolved:

1. That a donation of £255 should be made towards the costs.
2. That it should be suggested that any future events should be run through a local group such as the Community Association, who could access funding for the event.
3. That, should a future event be held by a local group, application should also be made to Westray Development Trust for possible funding.

9. Consultation Documents

Resolved to note that there were no consultation documents to consider.

10. Reports from Representatives

Resolved to note that there was nothing to report from any of the representatives.

11. Publications

Resolved to note the following publications which had been previously circulated:

- VAO Newsletter – May, June, July, August and September 2022.

- VAO Training and Funding – June, July, August and September 2022.
- Letter from School Place – May, June, July, August and September 2022.

12. Any Other Competent Business

A. Westray Swimming Pool

Members discussed the current progress at the swimming pool and noted that lifeguard training was being undertaken, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the discussion.

B. Chapel of Rest

The Interim Clerk advised members that hydro meter readings were required periodically and would any of the members be willing to be the contact for this purpose, and it was:

Resolved that Mr L Pottinger would be the contact.

C. Orkney Islands Council – Wind Farm Fund

Members queried what the outcome from the consultation carried out regarding the proposed Community Benefit in relation to the wind turbines proposed for Faray, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would ask Orkney Islands Council for an update.

D. Orkney Ferries

Members asked if a letter of thanks could be sent to Orkney Ferries for their excellent communications and arrangements when the Earl Thorfinn broke down, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would pass on members thanks.

E. Friday Night Summer Sailing

Members discussed the 17:00 summer sailing from Kirkwall to Westray on a Friday night and whether it would be possible to change this sailing to 16:20 during the summer as well as winter, and it was:

Resolved that this should be raised at the Ferry Services Consultative Forum meeting on 24 October 2022.

F. Lights in School Car Park

Members noted that the lights in the Car Park at the School were not working properly and that they should be reported, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would report the lights to Orkney Islands Council.

G. Parking Area at Doctor's Surgery

Members discussed the parking area at the Surgery and how it was often used by folk travelling on the boat to Papay meaning that patients visiting the Surgery had to park further away, and it was:

Resolved that Mr D Marcus would enquire at the Surgery about placing a sign on the barrier as the parking area and that prices for a "Surgery Parking only" sign.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Resolved to note that the next meeting would be held on Monday, 28 November 2022 at 19:30.

14. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 22:00.