

Minute of the Meeting of Evie and Rendall Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Monday, 22 March 2021 at 19:30

Present:

E R Harcus, C Gunn, Mrs E Flett, Miss F Georgeson and Ms L Wilson.

In Attendance:

- Councillor R King.
- Councillor D Tullock.
- Councillor O Tierney.
- Mrs J Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer.
- Mrs L Leitch, Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received on behalf of Councillor H Johnston.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 25 January 2021 was approved, being proposed by Ms L Wilson, and seconded by C Gunn.

3. Matters Arising

A. Vodafone and O2 Mobile Phone Signals

Following consideration of correspondence received from O2 advising that, although they had nothing of concern regarding mobile coverage and service availability, the company was planning to improve coverage and capacity in the future, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. Seawall at South Aittit

Following a lengthy discussion on the sea wall at South Aittit and consideration of the substantial cost it would be to bring the wall and track to an acceptable standard, members concluded that the project was too expensive to be considered by the Community Council given that one of the factors was that it was on part private ground. Therefore, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Community Council could not consider funding the project cost.
2. That the Clerk should write to the landowner to advise them to contact Orkney Islands Council for guidance.

C. Update on Evie Community Park

Members heard that the Chair had spoken to the contractor who had reported that he was hoping to handover the new park this summer. The last of the play apparatus had to be installed along with grass seed to go in and tarring to be completed. One local resident had also written to the Community Council to ask for an update and when to expect a completion date, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the contents of the update.
2. That the Clerk should respond to the local resident by letter, with the Chair also agreeing to make a follow up telephone call.

D. Report from R100 Roundtable Event

Following an update from the Vice Chairman, who had attended the recent online roundtable event on the Scottish Government's Reaching 100% Programme (R100) to deliver superfast broadband across Scotland, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the update.

E. Update on Road Repairs Reported

Resolved to note that no update was available.

4. Correspondence

A. RSPB – Species on the Edge

After consideration of correspondence received from the RSPB informing members of their Species on the Edge project and asking the Community Council for help in consulting with the local community, it was:

Resolved that C Gunn would respond to the correspondence on behalf of the Community Council.

B. Orkney Native Wildlife Project

Following consideration of correspondence from the Orkney Native Wildlife Project, updating members on the number of stoats caught, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

C. Fair Start Scotland

Following consideration of correspondence received from Fair Start Scotland, an employment support service helping people in Scotland to find work, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

D. Thank You messages

After hearing from the Clerk that thank you messages had been received in respect of financial assistance provided by the Community Council, it was:

Resolved to note that messages of thanks had been received from F Tams-Gray, Ms W Deyell, G S and E Montgomery, Miss M McAllister, L Sharpe, M Dennison, C Ridland, Evie School Nursery, Rendall FC, Mrs F Orr, Mrs G Phaithaisong, Mrs C Linklater, Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, Evie School and the Rendall Community Association.

E. Planning and Road Signs

Members considered correspondence received from an Evie resident enquiring if the Community Council had had any input on the planning application to build a hydrogen plant at Hammars Hill, the potential impact on the surrounding area should an explosion occur and also the recent erection of road traffic countdown signs in the

Evie area. Ahead of the meeting, the queries had been forwarded to Development and Infrastructure by Councillor King and the response was repeated to the meeting. It was noted that the Community Council Planning representative was watchful for any comments on applications and, following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should respond to the writer and reiterate the responses from both Development and Infrastructure and also the Community Council.

5. Maintenance of the Evie and Rendall Kirkyards and Evie War Memorial

After opening and considering two tenders for the maintenance of the Evie and Rendall Kirkyards and Evie War Memorial, it was:

Resolved:

A. To award the contract for the maintenance to Isbister Brothers Ltd for the next year.

B. That the Clerk would apply for Community Council Grant Scheme on the cost of maintaining the War Memorial.

6. Consultation - Verge Maintenance Plan 2020

Following consideration of the consultation on the Verge Maintenance Plan 2020, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

A. To note that the deadline for submission of comments was 31 March 2021.

B. To note that no comments were made.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 9 March 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £2,614.28.

B. NPower Fund

After consideration of the NPower Fund statement as at 9 March 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £39,447.90.

C. Burgar Hill Renewables Fund

After consideration of the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund statement as at 9 March 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £7,654.57.

D. Hammars Hill Energy Fund

After consideration of the Hammars Hill Energy Fund statement as at 9 March 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £29,725.19.

E. Community Council Grant Scheme

After consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 9 March 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, and after hearing that Democratic Services had asked if the Community Council (CC) insurance could be funded through grant scheme, at a cost of £455.29, it was:

Resolved

1. To note that the sum of £2,913.47 remained available for allocation.
2. That the cost of the CC insurance should be paid from the Grant Scheme.

F. Community Development Fund

After consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 9 March 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £6,480.30 remained available for allocation.

G. Seed Corn Fund

After consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement as at 9 March 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £3,395 remained available for allocation.

8. Financial Requests

A. Orkney Amateur Swimming Club – Starter Blocks

Following consideration of correspondence received from the Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial assistance towards the cost of purchasing swimming starter blocks, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £300 should be given towards the cost, which should be met from the Burgar Hill Renewables Fund.

B. Evie Community Association – Kitchen Appliances

Miss F Georgeson and the Clerk declared an interest in this item and did not partake in the discussion.

Following consideration of correspondence received from the Evie Community Association, copies of which had previously been circulated, applying for financial

assistance towards the cost of purchasing replacement appliances for their kitchen, and following guidance from the Empowering Communities Liaison Officer, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Clerk should apply to the Seed Corn Fund in the first instance.
2. That, should the submission to Seed Corn be unsuccessful, an application for funding from CDF would be made.

C. Road Repairs to Thorodale, Evie

Following consideration of correspondence received from D Leitch, copies which had previously been circulated, applying for grant funding for improvements to his driveway at Thorodale, Evie, through the Road Repairs Scheme, it was:

Resolved that a grant of up to a maximum £250 be awarded, subject to the roads scheme criteria.

D. Road Repairs to Vahdi, Hackland Road

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mrs L White, copies which had previously been circulated, applying for grant funding for improvements to their driveway at Vahdi, Hackland Road, through the Road Repairs Scheme, it was:

Resolved that a grant of up to a maximum £250 be awarded, subject to the roads scheme criteria.

9. Any Other Competent Business - Easing of Islands COVID-19 Restrictions

Following consideration and discussion of correspondence, which had been emailed to members earlier in the day, from the Scottish Government Islands Team asking the Community Council to respond to a consultation on the easing of Islands COVID-19 restrictions, it was:

Resolved for members to respond individually to the consultation by the closing date of 26 March 2021.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Evie and Rendall Community Council would be held via Microsoft Teams on Monday, 21 June 2021, commencing at 19:30.

11. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:40.