

Minute of the Meeting of Westray Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Monday, 12 October 2020 at 19:00

Present:

Mr A Baird, Mrs E Drever, Mr D Hutchison, Mr C Kirkness, Mr A Scott and Mr D Seatter.

In Attendance:

- Councillor S Clackson.
- Councillor G Sinclair.
- Councillor H Woodbridge.
- Mr S Johnston, Strategic Projects Director.
- Mrs K Groundwater, Strategic Projects Officer.
- Sergeant H Moonie, Police Scotland.
- Mrs J Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer.
- Mrs J McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer/Interim Clerk.

Order of Business

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

1. Presentation by Strategic Projects Team – Faray Project

The Interim Clerk opened the meeting and welcomed all. The Strategic Projects Director then presented information on the Faray Community Wind Turbine project and explained that they were now in the pre-application consultation phase, and that they required to speak with both Westray and Eday Community Councils during this phase. Site selection was explained, and members were given information about the size and height of the turbine and blades before being shown visualisations of what the turbines would look like from different viewpoints, including from the ferry, from Rapness and from Ness of Tuquoy. Information was given on further stages, and questions from members were answered, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the presentation and that members would consider whether to submit a Community Council response or to respond individually to the pre-application consultation.

2. Election of Office Bearers

A. Election of Chairman

Following a secret ballot, it was:

Resolved that Mr A Baird be appointed Chairman of Westray Community Council.

B. Election of Vice Chairman

Following a secret ballot, it was:

Resolved that Mr A Scott be appointed Vice Chairman of Westray Community Council.

C. Election of Planning Representative

Resolved that Mr D Seatter be appointed Planning Representative of Westray Community Council.

D. Election of Transport Representative

Resolved that Mr A Baird be appointed Transport Representative of Westray Community Council.

3. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been intimated on behalf of Ms J Holland.

4. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 27 March 2020 was approved, being proposed by Mr A Scott and seconded by Mrs E Drever.

5. Matters Arising

A. Village Path

It was reported that the Link Officer for Papay had been looking at previous details of this project and hoped to pick things up when restrictions lifted, and it was:

Resolved to keep this on the agenda for the next meeting.

B. Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Members agreed that it was uncertain as to whether a lighting ceremony would be allowed to take place, however all agreed that they should have a tree and have it lit. Mr C Kirkness agreed to look at the tree and see if it would be suitable to use this year, it was:

Resolved to note the C Kirkness was to find out the condition of the tree.

C. Christmas Lights

Members discussed the provision of Christmas lights on the lamp posts and, it was resolved:

1. That prices should be sought for the total cost of the lights.
2. The cost of the lights should be emailed round members for their approval.
3. That once approval had been agreed, the lights should be purchased.
4. To note that lights may not be available for the Christmas period.

D. Library Books

The Empowering Communities Liaison Officer advised members that the Westray Development Trust had assisted the Orkney Library to deliver library books to the shielded and vulnerable people in the island, however the Library Van Services had since resumed, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report.

E. Maintenance of Ditches

Mr C Kirkness advised members that the roads operative was no longer allowed to clean ditches, due to the lone working policy. Members discussed various areas where flooding was occurring, some of which was becoming a safety concern, and it was:

Resolved to advise Orkney Islands Council of the various areas where flooding occurred and where repairs were required.

F. Island Hairdresser

Members were advised that an individual was now training as a hairdresser, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report

G. Gill Pier Pedestrian Safety

Members were advised that Cooke Aquaculture were exploring the possibility of new premises which may resolve the pedestrian safety issue, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the report.

H. Kirkyard Maintenance

Members were advised that a tender for the grass cutting had been received, work completed, and invoice paid, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

I. Ferries

Members discussed the difficulties encountered when making bookings for the ferries and, in particular, the need for provision to allow for cases when bookings could not be made prior to the Saturday deadline for the Monday. They asked whether someone could be employed to be on call from Saturday to Monday morning for these types of bookings. Members suggested a virtual meeting with Orkney Ferries, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To request that consideration be given by Orkney Ferries to being more flexible with the deadline for bookings in the event of emergency type requests.
2. That the Chair would organise a virtual meeting with Orkney Ferries.
3. To note that Councillor S Clackson wished to be included in any correspondence.

J. Millburn - Flooding

Following discussion regarding the flooding at the Millburn, which was an ongoing problem, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the problem had been investigated previously however had not been resolved due to budgetary restraints.
2. To note that consideration had been given to looking at the problem along with the Village Path project.
3. To write to SEPA requesting their assistance with the flooding at the Millburn.

6. Correspondence

A. Memorial Safety – Remediation Works

Following consideration of correspondence, copies of which had previously been circulated, advising of remediation works on headstones in kirkyards, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. Verge Maintenance Plan 2020 and Responses to Comments

Following consideration of responses to the Community Council's comments on the Verge Maintenance Plan 2020, it was:

Resolved to note the correspondence.

C. Annual Grants 2020/2021

Following consideration of correspondence from the Democratic Services Manager, copies of which had previously been circulated, advising of the amount of Annual Grant being awarded this financial year, it was:

Resolved to note the annual grant allocation for the 2020/2021 financial year.

D. Police Matters

After hearing a report from the Police Scotland representative present at the meeting, which covered topics such as staffing, special constables and fixed penalties for those breaching Covid-19 rules, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the report.

E. Recycling Facilities

Following consideration of correspondence from the Strategic Policy and Projects Manager, outlining plans for systems and processes to resume in terms of recycling waste, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided

F. L McArthur MSP – Virtual Visit

Following consideration of correspondence from L McArthur regarding the possibility of holding a virtual meeting with Westray residents, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Finance Statement

Following consideration of the General Finance statement, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the estimated balance of £36,613.33 in the General Fund as at 2 October 2020.

2. To note that £11,000 had been received following an application to the small business grant scheme.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 2 October 2020, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval in the main capping limit was £2,779, £669 remained in the additional capping limit, and £648 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 2 October 2020.

8. Financial Requests

Resolved to note that no financial requests had been received.

9. Consultation Documents

A. LEADER Evaluation Survey

Following consideration of the LEADER Evaluation Survey, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the survey.

B. Planning Aid Scotland (PAS) Community Council Survey

Following consideration of the Planning Aid Scotland (PAS) Community Council Survey, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the survey.

C. HIAL Air Traffic Management Strategy: Impact Assessment

Following consideration of the HIAL Air Traffic Management Strategy: Impact Assessment, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to make no comment on the consultation.

D. Local Housing Strategy

Following consideration of the Local Housing Strategy, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that no comments had been forwarded.

10. Publications

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

- Orkney Ferries Statistics - April to July 2020.
- VAO Newsletter – June to September 2020.
- S Clackson's Letter from School Place – April to September 2020.
- Loganair Statistics – June to September 2020.

11. Reports from Representatives

A. Planning

Resolved to note that there was nothing to report at this time.

B. Transport

Resolved to note that there was nothing further to report.

12. Any Other Competent Business

A. Roads Inspector Visit

The Roads Inspector was due to visit in the days that followed the meeting, therefore members discussed the condition of various roads and areas where flooding was an issue, and it was:

Resolved to advise the Roads Inspector of the various places of concern.

B. Street Lighting

It had been reported that some of the streetlights in the village had not been operating properly, and it was:

Resolved to note that they had since been fixed.

C. Playpark Fence

Following further concerns regarding the condition of the wooden fence around the playpark, it was:

Resolved to follow up the previous request regarding this matter.

D. Scrap Cars

Following consideration of the number of scrap cars around the island and whether a new scheme should be set up, it was:

Resolved:

1. That £1,000 should be allocated towards the transport cost only on scrap cars being delivered to Kirkwall.

2. To ask Westray Development Trust if they would consider providing financial assistance towards the cost of the project.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Following discussion of a date for the next meeting, members agreed that it should take place online again, and it was:

Resolved that the next meeting would take place virtually on Monday, 30 November 2020 at 19:00.

14. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 20:57.