

Minute of the Meeting of Holm Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 30 June 2021 at 19:30

Present:

Martin Lee, Kenny Rendall, Bill Robertson, Shelagh Sneesby and Robbie Thomson.

In Attendance:

- Councillor Steve Sankey.
- Hazel Flett, Clerk.
- Jackie Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer.

Chair:

- Martin Lee, Vice Chair, in the Chair.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Jacqui Hirst and Councillors Norman R Craigie and Andrew Drever.

2. Police Scotland Matters

As apologies had been received from the Police Scotland representative, it was:

Resolved to note that there were no Police Scotland matters.

3. Adoption of Minute

The Minute of the Meeting held on 5 May 2021 was approved, being proposed by Kenny Rendall and seconded by Bill Robertson.

4. Matters Arising

A. Policy on Financial Assistance

Following consideration of financial policies of other community councils, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to adopt the policy currently operated by St Andrews and Deerness Community Council, namely:

- For travel within the Orkney Islands – £10 grant per person (qualifies for Community Council Grant Scheme).
- For travel within the UK and outwith the Orkney Islands – £30 grant per person.
- For travel outwith the UK – £60 grant per person.
- Conditions:
 - All individuals receiving travel grant must be named in the financial application or no grant will be paid.
 - All recipients of travel grant must reside in the Holm parish.
 - Any individual can claim travel grants up to a maximum of £180 in any given financial year – this can be any combination of the travel grants detailed above.
 - School curriculum travel will be considered on finance available at any given time.

B. Tourist Brochure

Following consideration of correspondence from a representative of St Andrews and Deerness Community Council regarding the East Mainland tourist brochure, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To confirm the previous decision that Holm Community Council should have no involvement in a reprint of the tourist brochure.

2. To note that Democratic Services were in the process of compiling a questionnaire for the three community councils in order to consider the way forward for an East Mainland tourist brochure.

C. Fair Start Scotland

As the Chair had intimated her apologies, there was no update on further contact with the Fair Start Scotland Delivery Manager, and it was:

Resolved to defer consideration to the next meeting.

D. Roads Matters

Bill Robertson confirmed that he had taken photos of potholes and collapsed verges, including from the Wilderness junction to the war memorial, from Hurtiso to the junction down to the kirkyard, as well as Barrier number 1, and it was:

Resolved that the photos and descriptions be forwarded to Democratic Services, via the Clerk, for appropriate action.

E. Plastic Recycling Collections

Following consideration of correspondence from the Community Council Liaison Officer regarding plastic recycling collections, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the issues with toploaders when collecting recyclates during windy conditions and the introduction of twin pack style of vehicle when replacing top loading recyclers, which should reduce and/or remove the issues raised.

Sheelagh Sneesby joined the meeting at this point.

F. Scapa Deep Water Quay – Onshore Element – Update

The Clerk had been advised that, due to annual leave, Marine Services was unable to provide an update on the onshore elements of the proposed Scapa Deep Water Quay project for this meeting, and it was:

Resolved that an update would be provided for the next meeting.

5. Correspondence

A. Agri-Environment Climate Scheme – Improving Public Access

Following consideration of correspondence from the Community Council Liaison Officer regarding the Agri-Environment Climate Scheme which helped landowners create and/or develop existing access routes on their land, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. Surface Dressing Programme

Following consideration of correspondence from the Community Council Liaison Officer regarding Orkney Islands Council's surface dressing programme, including estimated dates, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the contents of the correspondence.
2. That the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising of issues with regard to road surfaces, surface dressing, damage caused due to the width of the roads and the size of vehicles now using the roads, particularly when passing, and, if necessary, to arrange on-site inspections at identified areas.

C. Loch of Ayre Walkway

Following consideration of correspondence from the Loch of Ayre Walkway Association thanking the Community Council for financial assistance towards improvement works at the walkway, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

D. 5G Connectivity – Workshop 3 – Mobile Networks

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding a third workshop on the 5G New Thinking Project in relation to mobile networks, held virtually on 17 June 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

E. Island Communities Fund

Following consideration of correspondence from the Community Council Liaison Officer regarding a new Island Communities Fund, launched by the Scottish Government to support delivery of the National Islands Plan, seeking applications for transformative capital projects costing between £10,000 and £150,000, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence, which had been passed to Holm Community Association as a potential funding source for the proposed new heating system for the Holm Hall.

6. Accounts for year ended 31 March 2021

Following consideration of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the final certified accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021.

7. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 31 March 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 31 March 2021 of £11,848.18.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2020/21 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 31 March 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £1,585.96.

C. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 16 June 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 16 June 2021 of £15,078.87.

D. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2021/22 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 16 June 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £2,440.92.

E. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 16 June 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £1,950.00.

F. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement as at 16 June 2021, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £3,093.33.

8. Financial Requests

A. East United – Purchase of Football Goals

Following consideration of correspondence received from East United requesting financial assistance towards the purchase of football goals, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that a grant of £630 had been awarded, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved, following agreement from a majority of members via email prior to this meeting, for which East United had subsequently sent a note of thanks.

B. Loch of Ayre Walkway Association

Following consideration of correspondence received from the Loch of Ayre Walkway Association requesting financial assistance towards further improvements at the walkway, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £300 be given towards the cost of providing a car park area in front of The Inn (a triangle to accommodate 4/5 cars), subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved.

9. Consultation Documents

A. Under 22s Free Bus Travel

Following consideration of correspondence from Travel Scotland regarding an evidence gathering exercise on the impact the proposed free bus travel for under 22s might have on island communities, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the consultation.

B. Local Place Plan Regulations

Following consideration of correspondence from the Community Council Liaison Officer regarding a consultation by the Scottish Government on proposals for regulations to support the development of Local Place Plans, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the consultation.

10. Publications

The following publications had been sent to the Clerk and were forwarded to members via email:

- VAO Newsletter – May 2021.
- VAO Training and Funding Updates – May and June 2021.
- L McArthur MSP – Coronavirus/Covid-19: Latest Information and Advice – 11 and 19 May and 1, 15 and 22 June 2021.
- L McArthur MSP – Holyrood Highlights – 28 May and 4, 11, 18 and 25 June 2021.
- Orkney Ferries – Statistics – May 2021.
- Climate Challenge Fund Newsletter.

11. Any Other Competent Business

A. War Memorial

Following discussion regarding maintenance at the war memorial, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that an initial cut and trim of the area surrounding the war memorial had been undertaken.
2. That the Vice Chair undertook to rake out the weeds between the stone slabs and fill in with sand.
3. That consideration of further maintenance works be deferred to a future meeting.

B. Festive Street Lights

The Clerk had received correspondence from the Democratic Services Manager regarding proposals and options for new and more suitable festive lighting decorations, with the Community Council invited to send a representative to a meeting to be held on 6 July 2021 via Microsoft Teams, and it was:

Resolved that, if the Chair was unable to attend, the Clerk should attend the meeting.

C. Community Benefit Fund

The Chair advised that she had attended the Community Resilience meeting on 23 June 2021, where a presentation on Orkney Islands Council's consultation on the location-specific community benefit scheme for Orkney's Community Wind Farm project had been given, and it was:

Resolved that the Vice Chair should draft a response for circulation to all members for approval, prior to submission to Orkney Islands Council.

D. Waste Services

The Clerk had forwarded a briefing note for Community Councils on the current state of waste services provided by Orkney Islands Council, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the briefing note.

E. 2019 Reviews of Electoral Arrangements

The Clerk had forwarded correspondence from Boundaries Scotland advising that it had considered all responses to the public consultation on proposals for the number of councillors and electoral ward boundaries in the Orkney Islands Council area and had submitted its Final Proposals to Scottish Ministers, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

F. Get Into Summer

The Clerk had forwarded correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding the Get Into Summer campaign, funded by the Scottish Government and sportscotland and supported by Parent Club, aimed at creating opportunities for children and young people impacted by COVID-19 to socialise, play and reconnect this summer, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Holm Community Council should be held on 25 August 2021, commencing at 19:30.

13. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Vice Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:46.