

Minute of the Meeting of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council held in the North Walls Community Centre and via Teams on Tuesday, 21 September 2021 at 19:00

Present:

G Robertson, T Avis, C Bates, A Sinclair and R Thomson.

In Attendance:

- Councillor R Crichton.
- Councillor J Stockan.
- K Dobrzynski, Island Link Officer (ILO)/Clerk.
- One member of the public.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from A Clark and J Traynor and Councillor M Thomson.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 7 July 2021 was approved, being proposed by C Bates and seconded by T Avis.

3. Matters Arising

A. Verges

Following consideration of a complaint regarding the encroachment of the verge by a resident placing a fence on the verge outside their property, and an update by the ILO that the matter was being investigated by OIC, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the content of the update.
2. That the ILO would request an update in the Business Letter to Democratic Services.

B. Aggregate

Following consideration of an update from the ILO to advise that residents had been contacted to inform them of their allocation, and invoices for the haulage and aggregate had been received from JMF Groat, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the update from the ILO.
2. To note that the haulage costs from JMF Groat was £799.49 and the aggregate costs was £531.96.

C. Campervans and Chemical Toilet Facilities

Following consideration of an update from Democratic Services regarding chemical toilet facilities, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the contents of the update.
2. That the ILO would contact SEPA/Scottish Water to look at costs of installing a disposal facility and also to look into what grants were available to help towards the cost of such an installation.
3. To note that Visit Scotland, via OIC were developing a Strategic Tourism Infrastructure Development Plan to identify which infrastructures are needed.

D. Uplift of Household Items

Following consideration of an update from the Strategic Policy and Projects Manager, it was:

Resolved:

1. That Councillor J Stockan would continue to investigate the possibility of utilising the current Council transport.
2. That the ILO would contact Restart to look at the possibility of arranging a pick-up of household items that could be donated.

E. Community Council visit to the Scapa Flow Museum

Following consideration of correspondence from Jude Callister advising that a date for a visit would be arranged in the near future, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

F. Graemsay Winter Service

Following consideration of an update to advise that a tractor and gritter would be transported to Graemsay, pre-winter, to allow gritting to commence, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the update.

G. Community Benefit Scheme – Wind Farm Project

Following consideration of correspondence from the Project Officer (Communication and Engagement), Strategic Projects, with an update on the recent consultation exercise, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

H. Tourism Group Formation

Following consideration of correspondence from Steven Rhodes advising of the formation of a Tourism Group for Hoy, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence and for the ILO to attend any future meetings on behalf of the Community Council.

I. Hoy, Walls and Graemsay Biosecurity Plan

Following consideration of correspondence from Chris Bell, Orkney Native Wildlife Project, with a final version of the Hoy, Walls and Graemsay Biosecurity Plan, it was

Resolved to note the contents of the plan and extend an invitation to Chris Bell to join a future meeting.

J. Bent Lamp Post

Following consideration of an update from Democratic Services advising that works to repair the bent lamp post at Longhope have been added to the programme, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the contents of the update.
2. That the ILO would report a fault with the street lighting at St Colms, as they were currently lit 24/7.

K. Kirkyard Gate, Graemsay

Following consideration of an update from Democratic Services advising that work will be carried out to install a new gate and repair a section of paving, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

4. Correspondence

A. Graemsay – Plastic Bottle Recycling

Following consideration of the correspondence from Sian Thomas requesting that Graemsay be included in the attempts to have plastic bottle recycling available on the Isles, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the contents of the correspondence.
2. That the ILO would request an update on the trial on Shapinsay.

B. Hoy and Flotta Winter Service - Sundays

Following consideration of correspondence from the Orkney Ferries Manager, requesting feedback from the community on the timetable for winter Sunday ferries, copies of which had previously been circulated and posted to the Community Council Facebook page, it was:

1. Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.
2. To note that feedback had been forwarded to Orkney Ferries but, to date, no further correspondence has been received.

C. Ferry Timetables – Summer 2022

Following consideration of correspondence from OIC with draft timetables for Summer 2022, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note contents of the correspondence.

D. Rural Spaces

Following consideration of correspondence from HITRANS advising of available grants for small scale projects, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

E. Connecting Scotland Round 3 Phase 2

Following consideration of correspondence from OIC regarding the opening of applications for phase 2 of Connecting Scotland, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

F. Briefing Note – Guidance for CC's

Following consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services regarding guidance for attendance at Community Council meetings, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

G. Preparation for Remembrance 2021

Following consideration of correspondence from RBLI regarding the purchase of a 'Tommy' for Remembrance 2021, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the contents of the correspondence.
2. That the CC was happy to continue with the existing wreaths for Remembrance.

H. It's Good to Share

Following consideration of correspondence from NHS Healthcare Improvement Scotland Community Engagement Orkney Team regarding an information update, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

5. Consultations

A. Review of Gambling Policy

After consideration of the OIC's consultation seeking views on the Orkney Islands Area Licensing Board Gambling Policy, copies of which had been forwarded to members on 16 July 2021, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the consultation.

B. Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind for Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas Decarbonisation (INTOG)

After consideration of the consultation for the Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind for Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas decarbonisation (INTOG), copies of which had been forwarded to members on 25 August 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the consultation was open for comments until 20 October 2021.

C. Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm – Notice of Public Consultation Event

After consideration of the information on the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm Consultation event, copies of which had been forwarded to members on 25 August 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the project team would be available for a virtual public exhibition and live question and answer session on 5 October 2021.

D. Wind Farm Consultation

After consideration of correspondence from M Collop on whether the CC would arrange a community consultation on the Community Benefit Fund from the Wind Farm project, copies of which had been forwarded to members on 16 July 2021, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

6. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

Following consideration of the community council's general finance statement, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £18,298.11 as at 7 September 2021.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2021/2022 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 7 September 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that there was £1,034.43 left to allocate in the main capping limit, £676 in the additional capping limit and £549.26 in the island capping limit.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for allocation of £4,935.04 as at 7 September 2021.

D. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement, it was:

Resolved to note the funds remaining for approval of £3,258.47 as at 7 September 2021.

7. Financial Request - St John's Kirk SCIO

Following consideration of an application from St John's Kirk SCIO, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of the insurance for the Kirk, it was:

Resolved to grant the sum of £800 towards the cost of the annual insurance for the hall, subject to Community Council Grant Scheme approval.

8. Publications

Resolved to note that the following publications were made available at this meeting:

- Police Scotland - Orkney Area Newsletter - July 2021.
- Orkney Ferry Statistics - April and May 2021.
- VAO Newsletter - July and August 2021.
- VAO – Training Opportunities – August 2021.
- Community Development Fund Update.

9. Any Other Competent Business

A. External AED Box - Hoy Kirk

After consideration of correspondence from Ron Bulmer requesting funding towards moving the current internal AED box at the Hoy Kirk to an external position, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the contents of the correspondence.
2. That the ILO would contact Mr Bulmer and advise him to contact the Robertson Trust and the British Heart Foundation to look into available grants.
3. That the ILO would look into adopting the telephone box at Rackwick to install an AED there.

B. 5G Trials

Following consideration of an update from the ILO regarding asking 50 households in North and South Walls to sign up to the 5G New Thinking/OIC trials, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the update.

C. Graemsay and Moaness Summer 2022 timetable

After consideration of an email regarding required responses to the proposed changes to the Graemsay and Moaness Summer 2022 timetable, copies of which had been forwarded to members on 21 September 2021, it was:

Resolved that the ILO would post the timetables to the Community Council Facebook page for community feedback by 28 September 2021.

D. Scottish Flood Forum Visit

After consideration of an email from OIC regarding current Scottish Flood Forum engagement events, copies of which had been forwarded to members on 21 September 2021, it was:

1. Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.
2. That the ILO would post details on the Community Council Facebook page.
2. That the ILO would also put out a post to ascertain if any residents had experienced regular flooding to ensure that support and advice was provided where needed.

E. Graemsay Potholes

Following consideration of an email received from S Thomas regarding large potholes in need of repair on Graemsay, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the email and for the ILO to raise the issue with OIC in the Business Letter.

F. Scottish Land Commission – Orkney Virtual Public Meeting

Following consideration of an email received from the Scottish Land Commission regarding a Virtual Public meeting for Orkney on 29 September 2021, copies of which had been forwarded to members on 15 September 2021, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence and for the ILO to post the details on the Community Council Facebook page.

G. Retirement of Doctor Cromarty

Following consideration of concerns raised by members about the replacement of a permanent GP upon the retirement of Doctor Cromarty from the North Walls Medical Practice in 2022, it was:

Resolved to note the concerns raised and for the ILO to seek reassurance on the Business letter to OIC.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council would be held on Tuesday, 16 November 2021 at 19:00.

11. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:00.