

# Minute of the Meeting of Stronsay Community Council held via Teams on Monday, 18 April 2022 at 19:00

## Present:

Mr I Cooper, Mrs S Whiteman, Mr P Riley, Mr J Seaton and Mr S Weaver.

## In Attendance:

- Mrs J McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer.
- Mr C McAlpine, Island Link Officer/Clerk.
  
- Three members of the public.

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## **1. Apologies**

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mr C Fraser and Mr D Stout.

## **2. OIC Elected Members Announcement**

Resolved to note that Orkney Islands Council's pre-election period had commenced on 14 March 2022 and that, following advice from the Head of Legal Services, the current Elected Members of Orkney Islands Council should not be included in any Teams invitations for Community Council meetings, and that if any current Elected Members of Orkney Islands Council were present at a Community Council meeting, then they were attending as a member of the public only.

## **3. Adoption of Minutes**

The minute of the meeting held on 28 February 2022 was approved, being proposed by Mr S Weaver and seconded by Mrs S Whiteman.

## **4. Matters Arising**

### **A. Chemical Toilets**

Members heard that the Corporate Director for Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure had issued a draft note on the disposal of waste from mobile homes and that this had been previously forwarded to members for consideration, and that there had been no reply to their response, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **B. Village Play Park**

Members were shown details of three equipment and two surfacing options, their location within the play park, and the transport and installation costs, copies of which would be emailed to members, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information provided.
2. That members wished to thank the officers concerned for preparing details of equipment and surfacing options and the costs involved.
3. That there would be a public consultation on the options for replacement equipment in the Village play park.

### **C. Scrap Vehicles**

Members heard that eighteen vehicles had been registered under the scrap vehicle scheme, with some still waiting to be removed, and that enquiries would continue into receiving the scrap repayment, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **D. Grass Cutting Contracts**

Members had previously been consulted on the grass cutting tenders for 2022 and these had been agreed and awarded, subject to Community Council Grant Scheme approval. Letters had been sent to two local farmers in response to their offer to assist in maintaining two burial grounds, free of cost, as this had been agreed by the Burial Grounds Officer, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **E. Bag the Bruck**

Members had previously been consulted on this year's Bag the Bruck event, which had been advertised twice and had received one application for Community Council sponsorship, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information.
2. That Community Council Grant Scheme funding had been approved for this year's Bag the Bruck event.
3. That members would award up to £300 in sponsorship for the event, subject to confirmation that a collection had taken place.

## **F. Road Flooding, Ditching and Road Resurfacing Work**

Members had previously been asked for feedback on areas prone to flooding, ditches that needed clearing and poorly resurfaced roads and their concerns had been forwarded to the Corporate Director for Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure. It was also reported that ditching work had been planned for week commencing 7 March 2022, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information.
2. That a request would be made for confirmation and details of ditching work having been undertaken.

## **G. Damaged Footpath**

Members had previously been notified of work having been undertaken to repair the damaged footpath in Whitehall Village by a local contractor, and that a letter of thanks had been forwarded to the officers concerned, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

## **H. Damaged Sign**

Members heard that the Chair had not been able to fix and relocate the sign to St. Catherine's Bay as this had gone missing, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information.
2. That the Clerk would try and locate the whereabouts of the missing sign.
3. That, if the sign could not be located, Orkney Islands Council would be asked to provide a replacement sign.

### **I. Pier Waiting Room Toilets**

Members had previously been informed of work having been undertaken to clean the pier waiting room toilets, and it was:

Resolved to note the information and the quick response to have the toilets cleaned.

### **J. Whitehall Flood Defence**

Members heard that the Team Leader (Operations) had arranged for the flood defence barrier to be lifted to let accumulated water drain away and that this arrangement would continue after any heavy weather, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

### **K. Fishermen's Pier**

Members heard that a meeting had taken place with the Deputy Harbour Master (Operations), local fishermen, boat owners and a representative from Cooke Aquaculture, and areas of concern regarding the existing piers were raised and discussed, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

## **5. Slaughterhouse Report**

Members had previously been provided with details of the slaughterhouse usage and income between April 2021 and March 2022, and details were given of the latest electricity invoice covering the period 3 November 2021 to 15 March 2022, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

## **6. Fish Mart Report**

Members heard that quotes had not yet been received for improvements to the heating system and that members had previously been consulted on the Operator's request to increase the hostel charges, and the recommendations from a recent Health and Safety inspection, and it was:

Resolved:

- A. To note the information.

B. That members had agreed to increase the Hostel charges from £20 to £25 per adult per night and that the Hostel charge for a child would remain at £15 per child per night.

C. That Orkney Islands Council had been notified of the recommendations made in the Health and Safety report and a request made for these to be addressed within the specified time frame.

D. That the Operator would be asked to identify a replacement microwave oven chopping boards and that these would be purchased, subject to Community Council Grant Scheme approval.

## **7. Reports from Representatives**

### **A. Stronsay Development Trust – Co-opted Representative’s Report**

Members were given an update on the Stronsay Development Trust’s activities and projects, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information.
2. That members would consider a request for financial assistance towards the travel costs of a visiting podiatrist once details were known.

### **B. Planning Representative’s Report**

Members had previously been notified of two planning applications, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **8. Consultation Document - Winter Service Plan**

Members had previously been consulted about the Winter Service Plan 2021-22 and heard that Roads Support were now starting to review the plan for winter 2022-23, which members were invited to comment on, and it was:

Resolved:

- A. To note the information.
- B. That members requested a change from Priority 3 to Priority 2 for Kirbuster Road and Leaquoy Road.

## **9. Correspondence**

### **A. Climate Action Funding**

Members had previously been forwarded information on climate action hub funding available for small grants for community groups, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **B. Orkney Ferries – Island Community Update**

Members had previously been forwarded the Island Community Update March 2022 from the Ferry Services Manager, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information provided.
2. That members request the on-line booking service and the telegram app for cancellations, currently operated by Orkney Ferries, be re-examined and identified glitches be rectified.

## **C. Orkney Islands Council Marine Planning Update**

Members had previously been forwarded an update from Development and Marine Planning on the work that had been taking place over the past few months regarding the preparation of the Orkney Regional Marine Plan, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

## **D. Councillor Attendance at Community Council Meetings**

Members heard that a communication had been received from the Democratic Services Manager regarding Elected Members' attendance at Community Council meetings from 14 March and that, as requested, clarification on this had been given at the start of the meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

## **E. Letter of Introduction - West of Orkney Windfarm**

Members had previously been forwarded a letter of introduction regarding the West of Orkney windfarm, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **F. Stronsay Medical Practice**

Members had previously been consulted about the lack of information on staff changes at the local medical practice and had made a request for improved communication from NHS Orkney. It was also noted that a reply from the Head of Primary Care Services had been forwarded to members, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information.
2. That the Island Link Officer/Clerk would be point of contact for NHS Orkney and Stronsay Community Council.

## **G. Disability Consultation – 30 March 2022**

Members had previously been forwarded details of a Disability Equality Scotland consultation event, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **H. Scottish Flood Forum Visit**

Members, and residents, had previously been provided with information on the Scottish Flood Forum visit, where residents could register for free flood assessments, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **I. Winter Service Plan Response**

Members had previously been forwarded a response from Roads in relation to their comments on the Winter Service Plan, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **J. iPads Available**

Members had previously been consulted about free iPad availability through the Service Manager (Community Learning, Development and Employability) and that a notice had been displayed advising residents of how to apply for a free iPad, and it was:

Resolved to note the information.

## **K. Services from Planning Aid Scotland for Community Councils**

Members had previously been forwarded information on Services from Planning Aid Scotland for Community Councils, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

# **10. Financial Statements**

## **A. General Finance**

Members considered a request to transfer £1,000 from this account to the Stronsay Community Council Cheque Book Account, and after consideration of the General Finance statement as at 25 March 2022, and discussion thereof, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that the estimated balance was £12,289.73.
2. To note the transfer of £1,000 to the Cheque Book Account.

## **B. Fish Mart Account**

After consideration of the Fish Mart account statement as at 25 March 2022, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £9,443.29.

### **C. Slaughterhouse Account**

After consideration of the Slaughterhouse account statement as at 25 March 2022, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £10,298.15.

### **D. Community Council Grant Scheme**

Following consideration of the 2021/2022 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 25 March 2022, it was:

Resolved to note the main capping limit had been fully allocated and the balance remaining for approval was nil.

### **E. Community Development Fund**

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 25 March 2022, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for allocation of £8,723.40.

## **11. Requests for Financial Assistance**

### **A. Stronsay Development Trust – Stronsay Hotel**

Members had previously been consulted over a request from Stronsay Development Trust for financial assistance to clean and redecorate identified parts of the Stronsay Hotel, and it was:

Resolved to note that members had agreed award financial assistance of £1,500.00 to Stronsay Development Trust, for which Community Council Grant Scheme approval had been given and claimed.

### **B. Mrs M Dennison – Various**

Members were asked to consider a request from Mrs M Dennison for financial assistance for twenty-one return air flights for her daughter's attendance at athletic, gymnastic and netball training sessions in Kirkwall on specified dates in April and June 2022. Members were also asked to reconsider a previously awarded travel grant of £47.50 for ten return air flights when receipts had been received for only six return flights, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To award Mrs M Dennison £104.75 towards the cost of twenty-one return air flights, subject to Community Council Grant Scheme approval.
2. To reduce a previously awarded travel grant of £47.50 to £28.50 and for the unspent grant money to be returned to the Community Council Grant Scheme Fund.

## **C. Stronsay Community Association – Tea Party**

Members had previously been forwarded a request for financial assistance from Stronsay Community Association to help fund the cost of food for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Tea Party, and it was:

Resolved to award Stronsay Community Association £250 towards the cost of food for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Tea Party, to be paid from the Stronsay Community Council's General Fund, and that an additional £250 would be available, if requested.

## **12. Publications**

The following publication had been forwarded to members:

- Police Scotland - Orkney Area Command - Newsletter – April 2022.

## **13. Any Other Competent Business**

### **A. North Isles Ferry Summer Timetable**

Members heard previously been forwarded an email the Transport Representative and Clerk had received from a resident regarding the 2022 Orkney Ferries summer timetable, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the email and that no further action would be taken to pursue the issues raised by the resident.

### **B. Sea Wall on the Path to St. Peter's Cemetery**

Members had previously been forwarded photographs of damage to the sea wall on the path to St Peter's cemetery, and it was:

Resolved that Orkney Islands Council would be asked to inspect and comment on damage to the sea wall on the path to St. Peter's cemetery.

### **C. Rothiesholm Beach Car Park Road**

Members heard that potholes had appeared in the Rothiesholm beach car park road, and it was:

Resolved that Orkney Islands Council would be asked to fill in the potholes in the Rothiesholm beach car park road and that Stronsay Community Council could supply the aggregate for this.

### **D. Stronsay Development Trust Beach Clean**

Members heard that no further information had been received on the beach cleans that had been organised by Stronsay Development Trust, and it was:

Resolved that the Stronsay Community Council Development Trust Co-opted Representative would follow up requests made for photographs of items collected and recycled from the beach cleans.

## **E. Island Registrars**

Members heard that with the lifting of COVID restrictions there was no news on the resumption of services offered by island Registrars, and it was:

Resolved that Orkney Islands Council would be asked if services offered by island Registrars would resume and if an assurance could be given that island Registrars' posts were not in jeopardy.

## **F. Elected North Isles Councillors**

The Chair, on behalf of Stronsay Community Council, thanked the Elected North Isles Councillors for their attendance, contribution and support during the past five years, and it was:

Resolved to note the Chair's thanks to the Elected North Isles Councillors.

## **G. Chairman's Thanks**

The Chair reminded members that this was the final Community Council meeting before local elections and extended his thanks to all for their work and contributions, especially those in Democratic Services, and it was:

Resolved to note the Chair's thanks.

## **14. Date of Next Meeting**

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Stronsay Community Council would be held on Monday, 22 August at 19:00.

## **15. Conclusion of Meeting**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:10.