

Minute of the Meeting of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council held in the St Magnus Centre, Palace Road, Kirkwall, on Wednesday, 15 May 2019 at 19:00

Present:

D L Flett, C Gee, C E Marcus, C A Hourie, R F Leslie, R A Lidderdale, S Metcalf, J R Mowat and T Rendall.

In Attendance:

- Councillor A G Cowie.
- Councillor J A R Scott.
- Mrs H Flett, Clerk.
- One member of the local press.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that no formal apologies for absence had been intimated.

2. Appointment of Chair

Following a secret ballot, the result of which was as follows:

- R F Leslie – one vote.
- S Metcalf – one vote.
- T Rendall – 5 votes, it was:

Resolved that T Rendall be appointed Chairperson of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council.

T Rendall then took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

C Hourie and C Gee joined the meeting at this point.

3. Appointment of Vice Chair

Resolved that C Hourie be reappointed Vice Chairperson of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council.

4. Appointment of Planning Representative

Resolved that, as the current arrangement whereby the Clerk received the weekly lists and forwarded on to members, worked well, this should continue.

5. Appointments

A. Finance Sub-committee

Resolved that the following members be appointed to the Finance Sub-committee:

- Chair.
- Vice Chair.
- C E Harcus.
- R A Lidderdale.

B. Kirkwall Places and Spaces Sub-group

Resolved that the following members be reappointed to the Kirkwall Places and Spaces Sub-group:

- T Rendall.
- C A Hourie.
- C Gee.
- J R Mowat.

C. WellBeing Orkney Advisory Board

Resolved that R A Lidderdale be reappointed to represent the Community Council on the WellBeing Orkney Advisory Board.

6. Police Scotland Matters

Resolved to note that there were no Police Scotland matters.

7. Room in Roof Insulation

Resolved to note that the Insulation King representative was not available to give a presentation on the Room in Roof Insulation programme.

8. Women's Aid Orkney

Resolved to note that the presentation by Women's Aid Orkney had been postponed until the next meeting.

9. Adoption of Minute

The minute of the meeting held on 18 March 2019 was approved, being proposed by S Metcalf and seconded by R A Lidderdale.

10. Matters Arising

A. Green Plaques

The Clerk advised that the plaque commemorating Christina Costie had been installed, and it was:

Resolved to note the position.

B. Scotland's Tree of the Year – Promotion and Use of Care Grant

The Chair advised that no further promotional work was planned at the present time and that he was still seeking a replica of the award, to be displayed locally, and it was:

Resolved to note the position.

C. Financial Assistance – Notes of Thanks

The Clerk had received notes of thanks from the following groups and individuals for financial assistance received from the Community Council:

- Kirkwall Squash and Racketball.
- Orkney Folk Festival.
- Orkney Climbing Club Youth Squad.
- Under 17 Netball.

D. Shrub Bed at Scapa Junction

C Hourie advised that the Blide Trust had provided an estimate of £1,365 to remove all the shrubs from the bed at the Scapa junction and thereafter replace the topsoil and plant out with new shrubs, and that she was still awaiting a response from Robertson, the main contractor at the new Balfour Hospital, on financial support, and it was:

Resolved to await a response from Robertson before progressing with works at the shrub bed at the Scapa junction.

11. Correspondence

A. Self-Build Loan Fund

Following consideration of correspondence from The Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust advising of the Self Build Loan Fund, a fund provided by the Scottish Government to act as lender of last resort in relation to self-build finance, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

B. Road Closures for Special Events

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council advising of the cost of road closures for special events, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the Community Council would be charged £110.52 for the road closure associated with the bonfire and fireworks display to be held in November 2019.

C. Community Council Insurance

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding insurance cover for the community council, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising that the community council was content with the documentation provided.

D. Safer Streets Bill

Following consideration of correspondence from Mark Ruskell MSP regarding the next stage of his Safer Streets Bill, copies of which had been circulated, C Gee, seconded by R A Lidderdale, moved that the Community Council should support the Safer Streets Bill which would see the introduction of 20mph speed limits throughout residential areas.

C A Hourie, seconded by J R Mowat, moved an amendment that the Community Council should not support a blanket proposal for 20mph speed limits within residential areas, although consideration could be given to designated areas.

On a vote being taken 6 members voted for the amendment and 2 for the motion, and it was:

Resolved that the Community Council should not support a blanket proposal for 20mph speed limits within residential areas, although consideration could be given to designated areas.

E. Finstown Substation

Following consideration of correspondence from SSEN Transmission advising of submission of the planning application for the Finstown substation, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

F. Best Kept War Memorial Competition

Following consideration of correspondence from the Kirkwall branch of Royal British Legion Scotland regarding the Best Kept War Memorial Competition for 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk should enter the war memorial in the category, memorial without a garden.
2. That the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council enquiring on a timescale for cleaning the war memorial, now that the path leading up to the memorial was complete.

G. Continental Market

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council in response to the Community Council's concerns raised regarding the proposed continental market to be situated in the car park adjacent to the war memorial, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence, including that the Community Council's concerns would be borne in mind should further applications be submitted for similar type activities.

H. Wind Farm Events

C E Marcus declared an interest in this item and was not present during discussion thereof.

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council advising of various events relating to its proposed Community Wind Farm development, copies of which had been circulated, together with correspondence received from a resident in relation to the proposed development at Quanterness, St Ola, it was resolved:

1. To note the contents of the correspondence from Orkney Islands Council and the resident meantime.
2. That representatives from Orkney Islands Council be invited to the next meeting to provide further details on the proposed Community Wind Farm project.

3. That consideration be given thereafter to arranging a public meeting.

I. Annual Grants

Following consideration of correspondence received from Orkney Islands Council advising of annual grants to community councils for 2019 to 2020, copies of which had been circulated, it was resolved:

1. To note that the annual grant to Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council for financial year 2019 to 2020 amounted to £6,550.61.
2. To note that the Community Council Grant Scheme capping limit for financial year 2019 to 2020 remained set at £3,322.

12. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 26 April 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 26 April 2019 of £7,058.66.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement for 2018 to 2019, as at 26 April 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £587.10.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 26 April 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval of £3,688.42.

13. Applications for Financial Assistance

A. Kirkwall Squash and Racketball

Following consideration of correspondence from Kirkwall Squash and Racketball requesting financial assistance towards five residents participating in the Scottish Inter-Regional Competition held in Edinburgh on 30 and 31 March 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be awarded to each of the five residents, subject to confirmation of participation.

B. Orphir Community School

Following consideration of correspondence from Orphir Community School requesting financial assistance towards three residents participating in the P5-7 Outdoor Education trip to Hoy in May 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £10 be awarded to each of the three residents, subject to confirmation of participation.

C. National Youth Brass Band of Scotland

Following consideration of correspondence from L Spence requesting financial assistance towards her son participating in the Easter and Summer Courses of the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland held in April and July 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be awarded in respect of each of the courses, subject to confirmation of participation.

D. 1st Kirkwall Company Boys Brigade

Following consideration of correspondence from the 1st Kirkwall Company Boys Brigade requesting financial assistance towards 14 residents participating in the Annual Camp at Invergarry, near Fort William, from 12 to 17 August 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a total grant of £320 be awarded, subject to confirmation of participation by the 14 residents.

E. Orkney Amateur Swimming Club

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club requesting financial assistance towards two residents participating in the Inverness Graded Meet held on 20 April 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be awarded to each of the two residents, subject to confirmation of participation.

F. Hockey Senior District Final

Following consideration of correspondence from E Poke requesting financial assistance towards his daughter participating in the hockey Senior District Final held in Glasgow on 5 May 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be awarded, subject to confirmation of attendance.

G. Papdale Primary School

Following consideration of correspondence from Papdale Primary School requesting financial assistance towards 70 P7 pupils travelling to Lagganlia in June 2019 and 62 P6 pupils participating in a three-day trip to the Hoy Outdoor Centre in September 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £400 be awarded in respect of the P7 trip to Lagganlia.

H. Bag the Bruck

Following consideration of correspondence from the Rotary Club requesting financial assistance towards participating in the Bag the Bruck event in 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was resolved:

1. To note that, at the previous meeting, members had agreed to split the £300 evenly between applicants.
2. To note that, although two applications had been received in respect of Bag the Bruck, one was retrospective.
3. That the following grant awards be made:
 - 1st Kirkwall Guides – £200.
 - The Rotary Club – £100.

I. Orkney Youth Development Group

Following consideration of correspondence from the Orkney Youth Development Group's Under 15 Squad coach requesting financial assistance towards three residents participating in various football competitions during 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that grants of £30 be awarded to each of the three residents for the four football competitions, namely inter-county matches in Shetland, Inverness and Caithness, and a 4-day trip to Edinburgh, subject to confirmation of participation.

J. Netball Competition

Following consideration of correspondence from K Brown requesting financial assistance towards her daughter participating in a netball competition in Perth from 26 to 28 April 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be awarded, subject to confirmation of participation.

K. Kirkwall Grammar School

Following consideration of correspondence from Kirkwall Grammar School requesting financial assistance towards 13 residents participating in a leisure trip to Inverness from 29 to 31 May 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a total grant of £300 be awarded, subject to confirmation of participation by the 13 residents.

L. Orkney Amateur Swimming Club

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club requesting financial assistance towards seven residents participating in the Thurso Mini Meet held on 4 May 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be awarded to each of the seven residents, subject to confirmation of participation.

M. Athletics Competitions

Following consideration of correspondence from A Shearer requesting financial assistance towards her daughter participating in athletics competitions held in Inverness on 11 May and 18/19 May 2019 and in Shetland on 1/2 June 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be awarded in respect of each of the three competitions, subject to confirmation of participation.

N. Eunson Kloss Residents' Association

Following consideration of correspondence from the Eunson Kloss Residents' Association requesting financial assistance towards bus trips for the residents and the purchase of a PC for use by the residents, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £400 be awarded in respect of three bus trips and the purchase of a PC, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved.

O. Highland Hockey Under 16 District Squad

Following consideration of correspondence from E Poke requesting financial assistance towards his daughter participating in squad training for the Highland Hockey Under 16 District squad in Inverness on 25 May 2019, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be awarded, subject to confirmation of participation.

P. Orkney Rowing Club

D L Flett declared an interest in this item and was not present during discussion thereof.

The Clerk had received correspondence from Orkney Rowing Club requesting financial assistance towards two residents participating in the Ullapool Regatta from 24 to 26 May 2019, and it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be awarded to each of the two residents, subject to confirmation of attendance.

14. Consultations

A. Orkney Partnership Board – National Islands Plan

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding the Scottish Government's consultation on the National Islands Plan, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that, in the interim, members should submit any comments to the Clerk and/or the Chair, with a response to be submitted thereafter, direct to the Scottish Government by 6 July 2019, following the event planned for Kirkwall on 1 July 2019.

B. Supplementary Guidance: Housing in the Countryside

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding a consultation on revised Supplementary Guidance: Housing in the Countryside, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the consultation document.

C. 28 Junction Road, Kirkwall

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding a surplus property consultation in respect of 28 Junction Road, Kirkwall, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising that the Community Council had no interest or use for the property at 28 Junction Road, Kirkwall.

15. Publications

The Clerk had received the following publications which were passed on to members:

- Scottish Rural Action – March 2019 Newsletter.
- Scottish Health Council – News from your Local Office – March 2019.
- Voluntary Action Orkney – April 2019 Newsletter.

16. Any Other Competent Business

A. Community Led Support

Members were advised of an event being organised by Orkney Health and Care on Community Led Support, and it was:

Resolved that a taster session would be held in Room 2, Community Centre, Kirkwall Town Hall, on 28 May 2019.

B. Scottish Community Development Centre

A member advised of a funding opportunity for grants up to £250,000 over three years in relation to addressing poverty and inequality, and it was:

Resolved that the information be passed to the Clerk for onward distribution to all members.

C. Traffic Issues at Watersfield

A member queried whether any further information had been received from Orkney Islands Council in response to the petition in respect of traffic issues at the Watersfield housing development lodged by a resident, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council seeking an update on the position.

D. Headstones

A member queried whether Orkney Islands Council had commenced with re-erecting headstones which had been laid flat, and it was:

Resolved that Councillor J A R Scott should provide an update at the next meeting.

E. Visibility at Junctions

A member queried what could be done when visibility at junctions was impaired due to overgrown or overhanging bushes or branches, and it was:

Resolved to note that such matters should be reported to the Roads service at Orkney Islands Council, who would attempt to contact the owner in order to address the situation.

F. Works on Broad Street

A member commented on the high standard of workmanship in relation to the installation of flagstones at the junction of Castle Street and Albert Street, together with the work on the Kirk Green and how it had improved the appearance of the area, and it was:

Resolved to note the situation, although some practicalities remained an issue.

G. St Magnus Lane Toilets

A member expressed concern regarding alleged drug dealing taking place within the St Magnus Lane toilets, and it was:

Resolved to note that Orkney Islands Council was aware of the concerns which had been raised.

H. Bridle Path at Inganess

A member advised of broken slats on the walkway from Wideford to Inganess, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Orkney Islands Council advising of the broken slats and requesting that these be repaired.

I. Vacancies on Community Council

A member referred to the vacancies on the Community Council, and it was:

Resolved to note that arrangements were currently being made for a public meeting to be held immediately prior to the next meeting, scheduled for 1 July 2019, in order to fill the vacancies.

J. Papdale East Play Park

Following a request from Councillor J A R Scott, it was:

Resolved that a representative be invited to the next or following meeting to give a short presentation on proposals for the Papdale East play park.

K. St Magnus Cathedral Clock

Councillor J A R Scott advised that the clock at St Magnus Cathedral had been running fast, which was due to the calibration of the pendulum. Orkney Islands Council was aware of the situation and would take action to rectify the problem, and it was:

Resolved to note the current position.

17. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council be held on 1 July 2019 in the Garden Room, King Street Halls, Kirkwall, commencing at 19:00.

18. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:15.