

# Minute of the Meeting of Holm Community Council held in the Graeme Room, Holm Community Centre, Holm, on Wednesday, 15 March 2023 at 19:30

## Present:

Alan Scott, Martin Lee, Erland Drever, Christine Muir, Bill Robertson, Richard Shearer and Robbie Thomson.

## In Attendance:

- Councillor James R Moar.
- Councillor Gillian Skuse.
- Hazel Flett, Clerk.
- Jackie Montgomery, Empowering Communities Liaison Officer (for Items 1 to 4).

## Chair:

- Alan Scott in the Chair.

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## **1. Apologies**

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Raymie S Peace.

## **2. Orkney Native Wildlife Project**

The Clerk advised that Tom Hadley was unable to attend to provide an update on the work of the Orkney Native Wildlife Project, and it was:

Resolved to note the position.

## **3. Adoption of Minute**

The Minute of the Meeting held on 18 January 2023 was approved, being proposed by Martin Lee and seconded by Bill Robertson.

## **4. Matters Arising**

### **A. Various Roads Matters, including School Bus Routes**

Bill Robertson and Martin Lee provided an update on the on-site meeting with a representative from the Council's Roads Service and, following discussion, it was:

Resolved that Councillor Gillian Skuse should contact the Corporate Director for Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure, Orkney Islands Council, to get an update on the matters discussed on-site and to invite a representative to attend the next meeting.

### **B. Gate in Old Kirkyard**

The Clerk had received correspondence, including a video of the gate at the Holm kirkyard, advising that all gates were in working order, although one was missing a slat and could benefit from the application of preservative, and it was:

Resolved that Robbie Thomson should provide an estimate for mending the gate, as suggested, together with preservative, to the Clerk, and, if agreed, submit an application for Community Council Grant Scheme funding.

### **C. Christmas Tree Lighting**

Following consideration of correspondence from the Chair regarding the proposal for siting a living Christmas tree on the corner of the village near the Loch of Ayre walkway, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Chair should contact Ewan MacKenzie to ascertain whether it would be viable to site a tree at that location and, if so, the species, size and cost.

2. That the Clerk should seek clarification on whether planning permission was required, should groundworks be carried out to provide a hard standing in the area suggested.

## **D. Holm Graffiti**

After hearing an update from Robbie Thomson regarding the graffiti, it was:

Resolved that Robbie Thomson should purchase masonry paint and arrange to paint over the offending graffiti, with Erland Drever to assist, the cost of which would be refunded by the Community Council.

## **5. Correspondence**

### **A. Memorials Update and Reminder**

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Islands Council regarding a press release aimed at encouraging and reminding the public to check the Council's list of memorials identified as needing remedial work to "make safe" and to contact the burials team if a memorial/headstone they cared for was listed, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

### **B. Deposit Return Scheme, Events and Consultations**

Following consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Islands Federation regarding the Deposit Return Scheme, various events and ongoing consultations, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

### **C. Orkney Harbours – Pre-application Notification**

Following consideration of correspondence from Sweco advising of pre-application notices submitted to Orkney Islands Council regarding the proposed Scapa Deep Water Quay and the proposed Logistics Base at Hatston, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

### **D. Creating a Home Emergency Plan with SSEN**

Following consideration of correspondence from SSEN regarding creating a home emergency plan, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

### **E. Scottish Islands Federation – Member Evening and AGM**

Following consideration of correspondence from the Scottish Islands Federation advising of its Member Evening and AGM which was held on 2 March 2023, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **F. West of Orkney Windfarm – Orkney Community Panel**

Following consideration of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Orkney Community Panel held on 23 January 2023, together with a project update presentation on the West of Orkney Windfarm, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **G. West of Orkney Windfarm – March PAC Events**

Following consideration of correspondence from the West of Orkney Windfarm advising that the March Pre-Application consultation events had been postponed, that Royal Mail had inadvertently distributed a mail shot with the wrong dates and advising that events would now be held in May 2023, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **H. National Lottery Community Fund – Funding Information Event**

Following consideration of correspondence from VAO advising of National Lottery Community Fund information events to be held in Orkney from 22 to 24 March 2023, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **I. Crofting Commission Area Representatives Recruitment 2023**

Following consideration of correspondence from the Crofting Commission advising of their recruitment campaign for Area Representatives, who acted as a valued link between the Commission and their local crofting communities, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

## **6. Kirkyard Grass Cutting**

Following consideration of tenders received in respect of kirkyard maintenance for 2023 and 2024, it was:

Resolved:

A. To award the tender to Chris Shearer.

B. That the Clerk should send the relevant paperwork to Chris Shearer.

## **7. Financial Statements**

### **A. General Finance**

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 2 March 2023, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance as at 2 March 2023 of £14,621.76.

## **B. Community Council Grant Scheme**

Following consideration of the 2022/2023 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 2 March 2023, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that, as at 2 March 2023, projects to the value of £1,651.86 had been approved, of which £1,332.86 had been claimed.
2. To note the balance remaining for approval within the main capping limit of £2,674.89.
3. To note the balance remaining for approval within the additional capping limit of £743.

## **C. Community Development Fund**

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 2 March 2023, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

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

## **D. Seed Corn Fund**

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund Statement as at 2 March 2023, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

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

## **8. Financial Requests**

### **A. Girlguiding Orkney**

Following consideration of correspondence from Girlguiding Orkney requesting financial assistance towards attending a Westend performance of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory in Aberdeen on 18 March 2023, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 should be awarded in respect of the one participant from the Holm area.

### **B. Holm Community Heritage at St Nicholas Kirk**

Following consideration of correspondence from Holm Community Heritage at St Nicholas Kirk requesting support towards an exhibition to be held in May 2023, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should write to Holm Community Heritage at St Nicholas Kirk expressing the Community Council's support for the event.

### **C. T Drever – Gymnastics**

Erland Drever declared an interest in this item and did not take part in discussion thereof.

Following consideration of correspondence from T Drever requesting financial assistance towards her daughter participating in a gymnastics competition held in Fyrish on 25 February 2023, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be awarded.

### **D. J Ewing – Netball and Football**

Following consideration of correspondence from M Ewing requesting financial assistance towards her daughter participating in the KGS netball team in the Scottish Cup, in Alness and Glasgow, in March 2023, and participating in the Orkney Women's football team in the Highland League from March to August 2023, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved that a grant of £30 be awarded for each netball game and football match which J Ewing participated in, noting the capping limits in each financial year.

## **9. Meetings Attended by Members**

### **A. Holm Community Association**

Holm Community Association had arranged a meeting on 20 February 2023 to plan for the Gala Day and, although no one was able to attend, it was:

Resolved that the Chair should attend the next meeting scheduled for 20 March 2023.

### **B. SCOTO Community Tourism Roadshow**

SCOTO had arranged a community tourism roadshow in Orkney on 10 March 2023, and it was:

Resolved to note that the Community Council had not been represented at the roadshow.

## **10. Publications**

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

- VAO Newsletters – January and February 2023.
- VAO – Training and Funding Updates – January and February 2023.

## **11. Any Other Competent Business**

### **A. Funding for Coronation Events**

The Clerk had received correspondence from Orkney Islands Council advising that an application had been submitted to the National Lottery Awards for All Scotland Fund in respect of Coronation events, and it was:

Resolved to note that, as it would be some time before the outcome of the application was known, Community Councils could provide donations from either their general fund or use the Community Council Grant Scheme to support community events marking the King's Coronation.

## **B. Flooding at Midway Garage**

The Clerk advised that M Shearer had raised the issue of flooding adjacent to Midway Garage, particularly after heavy rain, resulting in water pooling across the main road, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should advise M Shearer to report the matter direct to Orkney Islands Council.

## **C. Flower Tubs/Planters in the Village**

Following discussion regarding the flower tubs and planters in the village, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should arrange for summer bedding plants to be planted in the six tubs throughout the village, the two tubs at the war memorial and the two planters at the Italian Chapel, subject to assistance from the Community Council Grant Scheme being approved.

## **D. Play Park**

Following discussion on the condition of the play park to the rear of the Holm Hall, it was:

Resolved that the Chair should ascertain ownership of the play park in the first instance.

## **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 3 May 2023 in the Holm Community Centre, commencing at 19:30.

## **13. Conclusion of Meeting**

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