

Minute of the Meeting of Birsay Community Council held in Birsay Community Hall and via Teams on Thursday, 25 August 2022 at 19:30

Present:

Mr R Delday, Ms K Coghill, Mrs D Hay, Mr M Leitch, Mrs V Sinclair and Mr S Spence.

In Attendance:

- Councillor J Stevenson.
- Councillor O Tierney.
- Mr K MacPherson, Head of Property, Asset Management and Facilities.
- Mr M Bailey, Voluntary Action Orkney.
- Mrs J Montgomery, Interim Clerk.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies had been received from Mrs V Sinclair.

2. Election of Office Bearers

A. Appointment of Chair

Following a secret ballot, it was:

Resolved that Mr R Delday was duly appointed as Chair of Birsay Community Council.

B. Appointment of Vice Chair

Following a secret ballot, it was:

Resolved that Ms K Coghill was duly appointed as Vice Chair of Birsay Community Council.

C. Appointment of Planning Representative

Following a secret ballot, it was:

Resolved that Mr M Leitch was duly appointed as Planning Representative of Birsay Community Council.

3. Adoption of Constitution

Copies of the constitution for Birsay Community Council had previously been circulated, and it was:

Resolved to adopt the constitution for Birsay Community Council.

4. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 14 April 2022 was approved, being proposed by Ms K Coghill and seconded by Mr M Leitch.

5. Matters Arising

A. Foreshore from Ministry Huts to Zanzibar

Members heard an update from the Chair advising that the Transport Manager had been in contact regarding a proposal for a bus turning area and had asked if the Community Council could obtain three quotes for the provision of a bus turning area on the foreshore, and it was:

Resolved that the Chair would endeavour to obtain three quotes.

B. Slip at Buckquoy

Members heard an update from the Chair advising that no further information had been obtained yet. Members also raised that the handrail at the step required to be

repaired and that an inspection should be undertaken by Orkney Islands Council of the coastal erosion along the road, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the content of the update.
2. That Orkney Islands Council should be advised of the required repairs and the coastal erosion along the face edge of the road.

C. Facebook Page

The Chair advised that a Facebook page for Birsay Community Council had been set up, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the update.

D. Road Accidents – Clean Up

The Interim Clerk advised members that, following their query regarding the clearing of the road following an accident, if Police had been advised of the accident it was their responsibility to arrange for the road to be cleared of the debris, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the report.

E. Memorial Bench

Ms K Coghill advised members that the bench was now fitted as previously agreed, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the update.

6. Correspondence

A. West Mainland Tourist Brochure

Following consideration of correspondence from the Clerk to Evie and Rendall Community Council, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding the West Mainland Tourist Brochure and the decision to ask Orkney.com if the brochure could be put online via their website, it was:

Resolved to note that this had been agreed and completed.

B. West of Orkney Windfarm – Community Engagement Plan

Following consideration of correspondence from West of Orkney Windfarm, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding the Sustainable Communities Fund, their community engagement plan, which was hoped would guide engagement going forward, and the Orkney Community Panel, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

C. Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm – Consent Application

Following consideration of correspondence from Copenhagen Offshore Partners, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding the submission of the consents application for the PFOWF and the Environmental Impact Assessment, it was:

Resolved to note the content of the correspondence.

D. Scottish Water – Annual Consultative Meeting

Following consideration of correspondence from Scottish Water, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding their ACM which was to be held on 30 August 2022, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

7. Financial Statements

A. Annual Accounts

Members considered the Annual Account Statement for Birsay CC for the financial year ended 31 March 2022, and it was:

Resolved to note the balances.

B. General Fund

Following consideration of the General Fund statement, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £10,222.25 as at 18 August 2022.

C. Birsay Energy Fund

Following consideration of the Birsay Energy Fund, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £19,726.09 as at 18 August 2022.

D. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the financial statement for the Community Council Grant Scheme, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for approval in the main capping limit was £3,338.40 and the balance in the additional capping limit was £743 as at 18 August 2022.

E. Community Development Fund

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

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for allocation was £8,183.37 as at 18 August 2022.

F. Seed Corn Fund

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

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for approval was £21.64 as at 18 August 2022.

8. Financial Requests

A. OASC – Thurso Mini Meet

Following consideration of a request from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, copies of which had previously been circulated, for financial assistance towards one swimmer attending the Thurso Mini Meet on 7 May 2022, it was:

Resolved that a general fund donation of £30 be granted.

B. E Miller – U17's Netball Finals

Following consideration of correspondence from Mrs T Miller, copies of which had previously been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards a Birsay resident travelling to compete in the Scottish Sirens Netball Final in Glasgow and Edinburgh in April 2022, it was:

Resolved that an award of £50 should be made towards the trip.

C. Birsay Community Association

Mr S Spence declared an interest in this item.

Members considered a request from Birsay Community Association towards the annual cost for grass cutting, and it was:

Resolved to award £1,000 towards the annual cost and that Community Council Grant Scheme assistance should be applied for on the cost of £1,000.

9. Consultation Documents

Resolved to note that no consultation documents were listed for consideration.

10. Publications

The following publications had been received and made available to members via email:

- VAO Newsletter – February and March 2022.
- VAO Training and Funding Update – February and March 2022.
- VAO Third Sector Emergency Covid Fund.
- Police Scotland Orkney Area Newsletter – April 2022.

- Scottish Water – New Customer Engagement Campaign.

11. Any Other Competent Business

A. Narrow Public Roads

Members discussed concerns regarding the width of several roads in the Birsay area and the difficulties created when large vehicles were meeting. Members asked if there was any possibility of at least passing places being provided at particularly concerning areas, and it was:

Resolved to note that the Head of Property, Asset Management and Facilities would raise their concerns with the relevant department.

B. Orkney Islands Council - Planning

Members raised concerns regarding the difficulty in making contact with officer in the planning section to discuss any planning matters prior to submitting any applications, and it was:

Resolved that Councillor O Tierney would raise this with the planning section.

C. Dog Waste

Members raised concerns regarding the quantity of dog waste at Marwick Beach and asked if bins could be provided, and it was:

Resolved to make enquiries regarding the provision of dog waste bins.

D. 30mph Sign Towards Birsay

Members commented that the 30mph sign leaving Dounby heading for Birsay was too far out from Dounby and that there were no lights or footpaths, and it was:

Resolved to note the content of the discussion.

E. Commonwealth Games

Members discussed Mrs T Paterson's participation in the recent Commonwealth Games and the connection with Birsay, and it was:

Resolved to provide a donation of £250 towards costs involved in participating in the Commonwealth Games on behalf of Orkney.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Following a discussion regarding a date for the next meeting, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, 24 November 2022 at 19:30 in Birsay Community Centre and via Microsoft Teams.

13. Conclusion of Meeting

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