

# **Minute of the Meeting of Firth and Stenness Community Council held in Stenness Community School, on Wednesday, 24 January 2018 at 19:30**

Present:

Ms W Dunnet, Mr J Horrocks, Mr V Muir, Ms M Murray and Mrs A Stevenson.

In Attendance:

- Councillor R King.
- Councillor O Tierney.
- Mrs L Leitch, Former Clerk.
- Mr I Heggie, Clerk.

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## **1. Apologies**

Resolved to note that no apologies had been received.

## **2. Adoption of Minutes**

The minute of the meeting held on 9 November 2017 was approved, being proposed by Mr J Horrocks and seconded by Mrs A Stevenson.

## **3. Matters Arising**

### **A. Repairs to War Memorials**

After hearing from the Clerk that three companies had expressed an interest in providing quotes for the repairs to the war memorials in Firth and Stenness, and that the War Memorial Trust had confirmed the Community Council's initial enquiry into funding for both memorials, it was:

Resolved to resume consideration at the next meeting.

### **B. Orkney Flag**

After members concluded that it was unlikely that the flag would be in situ during this time of year, it was:

Resolved to resume consideration at the next meeting.

### **C. Dog Fouling**

After consideration of correspondence from Democratic Services, copies of which had been previously circulated, reporting that a sign could be provided in the vicinity of the Firth Community Hall and that permission for and provision of a bin was yet to be approved, it was:

Resolved to resume consideration at the next meeting.

### **D. Stenness Village Septic Tank**

It was reported to the meeting that there had been no extra evidence collected. However, members had noticed considerable activity around the area concerned. Members also concluded that, before representatives from SEPA, Scottish Water and Environmental Health were asked to attend a meeting, the Community Council would like to ascertain "where are we now" and what evidence would be required to demonstrate there was an issue, and it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk would ask Democratic Services to approach the above bodies to determine if there were any reports on current activity.

2. That the Clerk would ask Democratic Services to approach the above bodies to determine the nature of evidence required to uphold an environmental issue.

### **E. Christmas Tree Lighting Events**

After a short discussion regarding the cancellation of the Christmas tree lighting due to poor weather, it was:

Resolved to revisit this issue at a future meeting closer to the 2018 event.

## **4. Correspondence**

### **A. Ring of Brodgar - Conservation Work**

Councillor King informed the members that there was currently a tourism volume study being undertaken that included the Ring of Brodgar. She advised that the results of the study would be available in time, and it was:

Resolved to continue to monitor the situation.

### **B. Energy Efficiency Funding**

Members heard that the documentation on energy efficiency funding had been passed on to the appropriate hall committee, and it was:

Resolved to continue to monitor the situation.

### **C. Letters of Thanks**

After having heard the contents of the letter, it was:

Resolved to acknowledge the letter of thanks.

## **5. Financial Statements**

### **A. General Finance**

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 12 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the estimate balance was £6,208.93.

### **B. Rennibister Wind Turbine Community Fund**

After consideration of the Rennibister Wind Turbine Community Fund statement as at 12 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note the balance of £3,000.

### **C. Community Council Grant Scheme**

After consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 12 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £1,082.17.

### **D. Community Development Fund**

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 12 January 2018, it was:

Resolved to note that the sum of £3,534.95 was available for allocation.

## **6 Financial Requests**

### **A. Firth Primary School – Nethybridge Trip**

Following consideration of correspondence received from Firth Primary School, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting financial assistance towards travel costs of eleven pupils attending a trip to Nethybridge, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £20 be given towards the cost of eleven participants attending the outdoor activity in April 2018, totalling £220.

### **B. Stenness Community School - Nethybridge Trip**

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mr B Pilkington, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting financial assistance towards travel costs of nine pupils attending a trip to Nethybridge on the Scottish Mainland, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £20 be given towards the cost of nine participants attending the outdoor activity in April 2018, totalling £180.

### **C. Glaitness School - Nethybridge Trip**

Following consideration of correspondence received from Glaitness School, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting financial assistance towards travel costs of one pupil, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £20 be given towards the cost of one participant attending the activity in May 2018.

### **D. Stromness Academy - Geography Tour – Switzerland**

Following consideration of correspondence received from Stromness Academy, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the travel costs of seven pupils attending a trip to Switzerland, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £30 be given towards the cost of seven participants attending the tour in June/July 2018, totalling £210.

### **E. Mrs M Flett - Orkney U13's Netball Trip – Ellon**

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mrs M Flett, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the travel costs involved in her daughter's trip to Ellon, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £20 be given towards the cost of one participant attending the netball event in December 2017.

### **F. Mrs M Flett – Netball Scotland Development Competition**

Following consideration of correspondence received from Mrs M Flett, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting financial assistance towards travel costs of both her daughters attending a Netball Scotland competition, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £20 be given towards the cost of two participants attending the netball competition January 2018, totalling £40.

### **G. Orkney Amateur Swimming Club – North District Age Group Event - Inverness**

Following consideration of correspondence received from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting financial assistance towards travel costs of two participants, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £20 be given towards the cost of two participants attending the swimming meet in Inverness on November 2017, totalling £40.

### **H. Mr A Torbet – Scottish Junior Squash Competition - Aberdeen**

Following consideration of correspondence, which was distributed at the meeting from Mr A Torbet requesting financial assistance towards travel costs of one participant to Aberdeen, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £20 be given towards the cost of one participant attending the squash competition in Aberdeen on February 2018, totalling £20.

### **I. Brownies – Bag the Bruck 2018**

Following consideration of correspondence, which was distributed at the meeting from Miss A Ritch requesting financial assistance towards the Bag the Bruck event in April, it was:

Resolved to resume consideration of this request at next meeting.

### **J. Christmas Tree Festival**

Members noted that it had been agreed, via email, to grant assistance of £30 towards the Christmas Tree Festival, which had been organised by Orphir and Stenness Church Board, it was:

Resolved to note that a donation of £30 had been awarded.

### **K. Future Donations**

Members at this point discussed current community council funds and grants given to financial assistance requests, it was:

Resolved to resume consideration of funding levels at next meeting.

## **7. Consultation - Winter Service Plan 2017-18**

The Winter Service Plan was made available for 2017-18. Following a discussion by members regarding the dangerous state of the very narrow path between the joiners and Baikies Stores, with members of the public having to walk on the road, and in accordance with Orkney Islands Council Winter Plan 2017-18, it was resolved:

1. That the Clerk request that Democratic Services check on the priority of road gritting between Firth Church and Baikie's Stores due to this being on a school bus route.
2. That the Clerk request that Democratic Services check on the priority of pavement gritting and clearance priority between joiners and Baikie's Stores due to the narrow nature of path.
3. That the Clerk request that Democratic Services check if the Bigswell Road had been changed to a school priority 2S road as the map still shows it as a priority 2.
4. That the Clerk request, through Democratic Services, that more salt bins are located near the above areas for local spreading.

## **8. Publications**

The Orkney Policing Report was made available to members for viewing at the meeting.

## **9. Any Other Competent Business**

### **A. Letters of Thanks**

After discussion regarding Christmas tree event, it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should send letters of thanks to Mr A Tait and Mr E Fraser thanking them for their efforts.

### **B. West Mainland Community Brochure**

Members heard that the current stock of West mainland brochures had been used and a new print run would be required. The cost of printing a further 25,000 copies of the brochure would be the same price as before - £3,200 +VAT. This would be divided up equally between the five West Mainland Community Councils. It was agreed to pay the required share of the costs. It was also agreed that the matter of sponsorship from businesses should be taken to the next West Mainland Tourist Brochure meeting, and it was:

Resolved that the Clerk should apply for CCGS scheme funding to the amount of £768.00 towards the West Mainland Tourist Brochure reprint.

### **C. Happy Valley Development**

Mr J Horrocks gave members an update on proposed development of a path at Happy Valley. As Mr V Muir had to leave the meeting at this point, the meeting was not quorate, and, it was:

Resolved to resume consideration of this item at the next meeting.

## **10. Date of Next Meeting**

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of the Firth and Stenness Community Council would be held on Monday, 19 March 2018 in the Firth Community Centre, commencing at 19:30.

## **11. Conclusion of Meeting**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:55.