

Minute of the Meeting of Orphir Community Council held in Orphir Community Centre on Tuesday, 5 November 2024 at 19:30

Present:

Mr M Clouston, Mrs B Clubley, Mr J Mackay, Mr A Marwick, Mr S Pyke and Mr N Sclater.

In Attendance:

- Councillor K Leask.
- Councillor I Taylor.
- Mrs J McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer/Interim Clerk.
- Miss C Kelday, Community Council Liaison Assistant.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Councillors S Cowie and L Manson, and representatives of Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure.

2. Adoption of Minute

The minute of the meeting of Orphir Community Council held on 27 August 2024 was adopted, being proposed by Mr M Clouston and seconded by Mrs B Clubleby.

3. Matters Arising

A. Bus Shelter, Smoogro Road End

The Chair advised that he was still in conversation with the contractor about a proposed start date for the shelter, and that he would contact the Men's Shed and ask them to make a start on the construction of the shelter meantime, so that it would be ready to be installed once the groundworks had been completed, and it was:

Resolved to note the update.

B. Orkneyinga Saga Centre Refurbishment

The Chair advised that the centre was now closed for the season, the last day of opening being 27 October, and that the Community Council Liaison Officer would be in touch with the caretaker to receive any feedback, and to empty the donations box. The Chair also reported that he was awaiting an update from the contractor about a potential start date for the works, once he knew his availability over the winter months, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Road Speed Limits

Resolved to note that there was no available update on this item.

D. School Transport and Road Safety

The Chair advised that he had spoken to the school and made them aware of the community council's concerns regarding road safety and school transport, and had been assured that the School Travel Plan was being progressed, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the update and await further information.
2. To request an update once more regarding the safety review.

E. Houton Car Park

Resolved to note that no update was available, but that Democratic Service would make contact with the Flotta Terminal operators.

4. Correspondence

A. OIC Winter Treatment Contracts

Members had been previously sent correspondence in relation to the introduction of a framework to formalise what happens in periods of extreme weather or for civil engineering works, to ensure those helping are recompensed appropriately and so that a list of parties can be compiled. The Chair suggested it would be useful to know if people had come forward following this call, and it was:

Resolved that Councillor K Leask would ask how many contractors or individuals had come forward, particularly for the Orphir area, and report back to the community council.

B. Winter Service Plan 2024/2025

Copies of correspondence from OIC Roads had previously been emailed to members, with feedback on the comments that had been received from community councils during the WSP consultation at the beginning of the year, and it was:

Resolved to note the response from Roads regarding the grit bin.

5. Consultations

A. Orkney Towns Fund Board – Online Community Engagement

Members had been previously forwarded an invite to a community engagement event in relation to the Orkney Towns Fund, and it was:

Resolved to note that the event had taken place on 1 October 2024.

B. Orkney Matters 2 – Online Meetings

Invitations had previously been circulated to members for online meetings, on 29 October for Mainland areas and 30 October for isles, to conclude the Orkney Matters 2 consultation series, and it was:

Resolved to note that the Chair had attended the mainland session.

6. Financial Statements

A. General Fund

Following consideration of the general fund statement for Orphir Community Council as at 24 October 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £22,979.50.

B. Orkneyinga Saga Centre

Following consideration of the Orkneyinga Saga Centre fund statement as at 24 October 2024, it was:

Resolved to note the estimated balance of £48,579.87.

C. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 24 October 2024, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval in the capping limit was £1,550.28.

D. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund statement as at 24 October 2024, it was:

Resolved to note that there was £18,755.42 available to allocate to projects.

E. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund statement as at 24 October 2024, it was:

Resolved to note that there was £2,606 available to allocate to projects.

7. Requests for Financial Assistance

A. Orkney Pilgrimage – St Magnus Way

Following consideration of correspondence from the Orkney Pilgrimage, copies of which had previously been circulated, requesting financial assistance with the cost of maintenance and insurance for the St Magnus Way, it was:

Resolved to award £200, subject to CCGS approval.

B. Orphir Community Association – Christmas Events

Following consideration of correspondence from Orphir Community Association, copies of which had previously been circulated, requesting financial assistance towards the repair and erection of festive lighting and the community Christmas tree, it was:

Resolved to award £700 towards the erection and taking down of the festive lighting, and £280.80 towards the purchase of a tree, subject to CCGS approval.

C. Orphir Community School – Outdoor Activities

Following consideration of correspondence from Orphir Community School, copies of which had previously been circulated, requesting financial assistance with the cost of four P6 children taking part in Outdoor Activities in October 2024, it was:

Resolved to award £50 per pupil, totalling £200, subject to CCGS approval.

D. C and C Seatter – Highland Dance Competitions

Members considered a request from C and C Seatter, copies of which had previously been circulated, for assistance with the cost of their daughter to attend competitions out with Orkney on 5 October and 17 November, and it was:

Resolved to make a general fund donation of £50 per trip, totalling £100.

E. Remembrance Wreath

Resolved to note that members had previously agreed to cover the cost of community wreaths, to be funded through CCGS.

F. Harray Young Farmers Club – Speechmaking

Following consideration of a request from Harray Young Farmers Club, copies of which had previously been circulated, for assistance with the cost of one Orphir resident attending the North Area Junior Speechmaking finals in Inverness on 9 November, it was:

Resolved to make a general fund donation of £50 towards the trip.

G. Orphir Community School – Backdrop

Members considered a request from Orphir Community School, copies of which had previously been circulated, for assistance with the cost of purchasing a new backdrop for use on the stage at the school hall. The cost of the works was £252.78, and it was:

Resolved to fund 50% of the cost, being £126.39, subject to CCGS approval.

H. Orphir Community School - Halloween Party

Members considered a request from Orphir Community School, which was read out at the meeting, for assistance with the cost of holding an event for pupils, and it was:

Resolved to make a general fund donation of £50 towards the party.

8. Publications

The following publications had been previously emailed to members and were noted:

- VAO - Newsletter – August, September and October 2024.
- VAO - Training and Funding Update – September and October 2024.
- Scottish Rural Action - Newsletter - September 2024.
- ORSAS – Newsletter – October 2024.
- National Care Service – Online Sessions – 18/19 September 2024.
- PSTN Leaflet.

9. AOCB

A. Orphir Kirk

Members discussed concerns regarding the future of the kirk, and it was:

Resolved to note the concerns and monitor the situation.

B. 20mph Limits

A member asked if there was any update on forthcoming consultations on the proposed 20mph limit implementation on current 30mph roads. Councillor K Leask advised that this should be happening soon and that although public meetings may not be planned, the consultants may be able to attend a future community council meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. CC Conference

The Chair advised that he, along with Mr N Sclater, had attended the recent community council conference and that there had been information on reporting issues via MyOrkney, a presentation on the Island Games, and a good opportunity to network with other representatives from across Orkney. He also reported that there had been a discussion on local place plans, and the volume of information contained in consultation documents and whether this could be condensed, and it was:

Resolved to note the update.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Resolved that it had previously been agreed that the next meeting of Orphir Community Council would be held on 4 February 2025 at Orphir School and via Teams at 19:30.

11. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:15.