

# **Minute of the Meeting of Stromness Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Monday, 24 January 2022 2021 at 19:00**

## **Present:**

P McLaughlin, G Deans, K Bevan, K Donald, E Knight, W Mackay, J Mowat and J Park.

## **In Attendance:**

- Councillor R Crichton.
- Councillor J Stockan.
- Councillor M Thomson.
- S Craigie, Clerk.
- 1 member of the Press.

## **Chair:**

- P McLaughlin.

## **Order of Business**

1. Adoption of Minutes .....	2
2. Matters Arising .....	2
3. Correspondence .....	4
4. Consultations .....	4
5. Publication – Orkney Area Command Newsletter .....	5
6. Reports from Community Council Representatives .....	5
7. Financial Statements .....	6
8. Financial Request .....	7
9. Any Other Competent Business.....	7
10. Date of Next Meeting .....	8
11. Conclusion of Meeting .....	8

## **1. Adoption of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2021 were approved, being proposed by G Deans and seconded by W Mackay.

## **2. Matters Arising**

### **A. Welcome to Stromness Sign**

Following an update from K Bevan, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that a response had been received from the Roads Section indicating that they were supportive of the proposed location of the sign.
2. To note that K Bevan would obtain quotes for the work and apply for planning permission, which would be in the region of £200.

### **B. Defibrillator – Stromness Museum**

An update was provided by G Deans, advising that the defibrillator had recently been fitted in the former phone box at Stromness Museum by R S Merriman at no charge, and that it had been registered with the relevant organisation to link in with the 999 service, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information provided.
2. That G Deans would draft letters of thanks to both the donor and R S Merrimans.
3. That G Deans would source suitable signage indicating that it was a defibrillator.

### **C. Garson Amenity Site – Meeting**

K Bevan updated members of a meeting that had recently taken place between K Bevan, G Deans, Councillor R Crichton and the Strategic Policy and Projects Manager, Orkney Islands Council, regarding Garson Amenity Site. K Bevan indicated that the Strategic Policy and Projects Manager had been willing to listen and gave some good background surrounding the issues, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **D. Litter Bin Signs**

Following an update from K Donald and W Mackay regarding the proposed design of the sticker which had previously been circulated to members, it was:

Resolved:

1. That W Mackay would contact iDesign again regarding the cost of creating the stickers.

2. To note that K Donald had received confirmation from Stromness Primary School, the parents and the designer of the image, all of whom were happy to participate in any publicity surrounding the stickers.

### **E. Post Box on Hillside Road**

Members considered correspondence received from C Alway, Islands Manager, Royal Mail, regarding the proposed new site for the replacement post box at Hillside Road. He advised that no work had progressed as yet on the proposed new site and that it might take longer to complete as it was to be progressed through a third party. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **F. Bench at Brinkies Brae**

Following an update from G Deans and W Mackay, it was:

Resolved to note that W Mackay had arranged to meet a contractor on site to see what would be involved regarding the repair work.

### **G. External Ferry Fares**

K Bevan declared an interest in this part of this item and, although did not leave the meeting, took no part in discussions thereof.

The Chair advised that, unfortunately, herself and W Mackay had been unable to get together to draft the letter regarding the external fares but highlighted the recent article in the local press, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **H. GMB Garden**

Following an update from J Mowat, together with the list of maintenance work that was required at GMB Garden, copies of which had been circulated, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

1. That thank you letters were required to be sent to the two volunteers who worked on the garden.
2. That the two plant pots that had been donated by the Garden Club should be relocated to the stage area at the Pier Head.
3. That J Mowat would liaise with the Garden Club to water the plant pots occasionally once they had been relocated.
4. That a date should be arranged at the next meeting to organise a works party to get as many volunteers to GMB Garden to assist with the work needing to be done.
5. That the issue of the grass at GMB Gardens be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Councillor Magnus Thomson joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

### **I. Downie's Lane**

Councillor J Stockan informed the meeting that there had been no further progress on the matter, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **J. Memorial Permit**

Following consideration of correspondence received from the Strategic Policy and Projects Manager, Orkney Islands Council, copies of which had been circulated, clarifying issues previously raised by Stromness Community Council regarding the proposed memorial permits, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **3. Correspondence**

### **A. Free Childminding Course**

Following consideration of correspondence received from Orkney Islands Council regarding a free childminding course, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **B. GMB Legacy Artwork**

Following consideration of correspondence received from G Barnby, copies of which had been circulated, regarding the siting of proposed legacy artwork to mark the centenary of George Mackay Brown, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Chair would respond to G Barnby citing that Stromness Community Council were generally in favour of placing the finished work at a suitable location in the south end of Stromness and while thought the proposed location at Faravel was a good choice, would also suggest GMB Garden as a location.

## **4. Consultations**

### **A. Scottish Government – Aviation Strategy**

Following consideration of a consultation regarding the development of the Scottish Government's Aviation Strategy, copies of which had been previously circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the deadline for comments was 21 January 2022.

### **B. Fourth National Planning Framework**

Following consideration of a Scottish Government consultation regarding views on how space, land and environments in Scotland should be designed and planned, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the deadline for comments was 10 January 2022.

### **C. 2022 Verge Maintenance Plan**

Following consideration of a consultation regarding the 2022 Verge Maintenance Plan, copies of which had been circulated, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note that the deadline for comments was 4 March 2022.

### **5. Publication – Orkney Area Command Newsletter**

Following consideration of the Newsletter for Orkney Community Councils received from Orkney Area Command, Police Scotland, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the third edition of the Orkney Area Command Newsletter.

### **6. Reports from Community Council Representatives**

#### **A. MARS**

The MARS representative updated members that he had reported general roads issues. He also noted that work at the bottom of the steps at the footpath on Cairston Road had been completed and commented that, as had been raised previously by Stromness Community Council, something should have been done at the top of the steps.

He also raised concern regarding the state of the road from the cemetery to the beach. Councillor J Stockan informed members that the road was attended to every year and that the issue should be raised with the relevant section of the Council to ascertain what was going to happen with it this year.

The MARS representative also highlighted that unfortunately the lid and hinges on the new bin at Warebeth Cemetery had not been secured properly and had been damaged in the recent winds. He would monitor it meantime. He also noted that, despite reporting the issues with the two sheds in the cemetery, no action had been taken by the Council regarding them, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

#### **B. Stromness Community Business Forum**

The Stromness Community Business Forum representative updated members that the Stromness Bonanza had been well supported. There had been some publicity in The Orcadian with photos of the winners taken outside the winning shops, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

#### **C. Stromness Development Trust**

The Stromness Development Trust representative updated members as follows:

- That the festive lights had been erected over the festive period on North End Road.

- That the Festive Windows had taken place again this year and had been a great success.
- The Yule Log had not taken place. However, a commissioned video on the Yule Log had been broadcast on Hogmanay at the Pier Head. The fireworks display had also taken place.
- No response had been received as yet from the Council regarding the Community Centre.
- Work was ongoing with the Council to try to maintain the Development Officer post for a further 12+ months.

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **7. Financial Statements**

### **A. Community Council General Fund**

Following consideration of the General Finance statement as at 6 January 2022, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £8,844.48.

### **B. Donations Account**

Following consideration of the Donations Account statement as at 6 January 2022, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £1,557.72 of which:

- £100 had been donated from Stromness Drama Club towards purchasing a new flag but as the money was not ring-fenced, it would be put towards another worthwhile community project if replacing the flag did not go ahead.
- £1,050.72 was to be solely used for the upkeep and maintenance of the stage.

### **C. Community Council Grant Scheme 2021/2022**

Following consideration of the 2021/2022 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 5 January 2022, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval was £2,056.77.

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

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 5 January 2022, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval was £1,524.04.

### **E. Seed Corn Fund**

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund Statement as at 5 January 2022, copies of which had been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance remaining for approval was £2,273.78.

## **8. Financial Request**

### **A. Stromness Golf Club Juniors – Royal Dornoch Golf Club Links Academy**

Following consideration of correspondence received from Stromness Golf Club Juniors, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of four junior members attending six trips to the Links Golf Academy at Royal Dornoch Golf Club during March and April 2022, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £13 per junior member per trip, totalling £312, be given towards the cost of the four Stromness residents from Stromness Golf Club Juniors attending the six events at the Links Golf Academy at Royal Dornoch Golf Club.

### **B OASC – North District Spring Championships 2022 – Inverness – 5 and 6 February 2022**

Following consideration of correspondence received from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, requesting financial assistance towards the cost of three swimmers attending the North District Spring Championships 2022 in Inverness on 5 and 6 February 2022, it was:

Resolved that a donation of £13 per swimmer, totalling £39, be given towards the cost of three Stromness residents from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club attending the North District Spring Championships 2022 to be held in Inverness on 5 and 6 February 2022.

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

### **A. Coplands Road Issues**

A member raised concern regarding the tight turn due to the recent installation of the kerbing at Coplands Roads. He further highlighted that there had been a few near misses in that area in the last few days, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **B. Dog Waste Bins**

A member raised that there was a need for more Dog Waste Bins in outlying areas, such as The Loons and at the Waterworks, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

### **C. Ness Campsite**

A member queried when work was going to commence at Ness Campsite as they were due to open on 1 April. Another member updated members that she believed the work was due to start soon, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

## **D. Parking in Short Stay Parking**

The Chair raised concern regarding the short stay parking beside Wishart's being used on a long-term basis and, following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Chair would write to the Police highlighting Stromness Community Council's concerns.

## **E. What's On Board**

Following an incident that had occurred recently regarding the removal of all the posters from the board, the Chair queried what was happening regarding the new What's On Board, and it was:

Resolved that K Bevan would get an update on the new board for the next meeting.

## **F. Harbours Development**

Councillor J Stockan queried whether members thought it would be an idea to invite a representative from Marine Services to a future meeting of Stromness Community Council regarding proposed harbour developments, and it was:

Resolved that a representative from Marine Services would be invited to a future meeting.

## **G. Campus Update**

Councillor J Stockan informed members that with COVID-19 on the wane, it was hoped that in the next month or so there would be an opening for the Campus. He went on to say that Phase 1 had been complete for some time. He highlighted that he wanted to make the Community Council aware of the next phase for the campus which involved further upgrades to the Old Academy. He also highlighted a further Islands Deal project of the refurbishment of the Old Post Office for the Pier Arts Centre, and following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

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

Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of the Stromness Community Council would be held in the Warehouse Building, Stromness, on Monday, 14 March 2022, commencing at 19:00.

## **11. Conclusion of Meeting**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:25.