

Minute of the Meeting of Stronsay Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Thursday, 14 October 2021 at 19:00

Present:

Mr I Cooper, Mr P Riley, Mr J Seaton, Mr D Stout and Mr S Weaver.

In Attendance:

- Councillor G Sinclair.
- Councillor H Woodbridge.
- Mr K Moar, Orkney Drugs Dog Handler.
- Mr C McAlpine, Island Link Officer/Clerk.

- One member of the public.

Order of Business

No table of contents entries found.

1. Presentation by the Orkney Drugs Dog Handler

Following a presentation from the Orkney Drugs Dog Handler, at which members were informed of the work undertaken by the Orkney Drugs Dog Charity, it was:

Resolved:

A. To note the information provided by the Orkney Drugs Dog Handler.

B. That a donation of £100 from the Stronsay Community Council General Fund would be forwarded to the Orkney Drugs Dog Charity.

The Chair thanked the Orkney Drugs Dog Handler for the presentation.

The Orkney Drugs Dog Handler left the meeting at this point.

2. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mrs S Whiteman and Mr C Fraser.

3. Adoption of the Minutes

A. General Meeting – 25 August 2021

The minute of the General Meeting held on 25 August 2021 was approved, being proposed by Mr J Seaton and seconded by Mr P Riley.

B. Special Meeting – 30 August 2021

The minute of the Special Meeting held on 30 August 2021 was approved, being proposed by Mr P Riley and seconded by Mr S Weaver.

4. Matters Arising from the General Meeting held on 25 August 2021

A. Bay Kirkyard

Members heard that the Burial Grounds Officer had advised that members' request for the ground to be levelled in the Bay Kirkyard was not considered as a high priority repair but would be added to the list of reactive works to be reviewed and prioritised before the end of the financial year, and that recommendations had been made regarding members' concerns with rabbits getting into the Bay Kirkyard. Work to remedy this had been put out to tender and forwarded to Orkney Islands Council for consideration, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Community Benefit – Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project

Members heard that details on how the Spurness Community Fund was administered by Sanday Community Council had been forwarded to members, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Holland (St. Nicholas) Kirkyard

Members heard that a quote had been received to cut the overgrown grass in the Holland (St. Nicholas) Kirkyard and that this had been approved and would be paid by Orkney Islands Council, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Chemical Toilets

Members heard that responses had been received from SEPA and Orkney Islands Council to a request for advice on the safe disposal of chemical toilet waste from visiting motorhomes, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information provided.
2. That Councillor Sinclair would pursue the issue with Orkney Islands Council and request a briefing note on the safe disposal of chemical waste from visiting motorhomes be circulated to all the island Community Councils.

E. Ferry Departure Times During Breakdowns

Members heard that an explanation had been provided and previously forwarded to members on the later morning departure time from Kirkwall whenever there was a combined Eday, Sanday and Stronsay sailing, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

5. Matters Arising from the Special Meeting Held on 30 August 2021

Members heard that, following a retendering process, repair to the play park boundary fence had been completed and members had been forwarded a copy of the Orkney Play Area Strategy. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

- A. To note the information.
- B. That Orkney Islands Council would be asked to provide details of approved play equipment and where it could be positioned in the play park.
- C. That residents would be consulted on the Orkney Islands Council approved play equipment once this information had been received.

6. Repairs to Stronsay Bird and Seal Hides

Members heard that repairs to the seal and bird hides had been completed and that additional funding had been secured to remove and replace two sky lights that had been fitted in error in the bird hide, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

7. Armistice Day

Consideration was given to the purchase of a poppy wreath for this year's Armistice Day commemoration and who should be invited to lay the wreath, and it was:

Resolved:

A. That a poppy wreath would be purchased, subject to Community Grant Scheme approval.

B. That an identified person would be asked to lay the wreath on behalf of the community.

8. Stronsay Slaughterhouse Report

Members heard that there would be an increase in the electricity supplier's Variable Business Rate Tariff from 1 November 2021, and it was:

Resolved:

A. To note the information.

B. That electricity charge enquiries would be made from other electricity suppliers.

9. Fish Mart Report

Members heard that consultation had taken place with representatives from Zero Waste Scotland resulting in a detailed Energy Efficiency Assessment, which had been forwarded to members and other interested parties for consideration, and that there were several outstanding maintenance and improvement issues awaiting conclusion, and it was:

Resolved:

A. To note the information.

B. That Councillors Sinclair and Woodbridge would have a discussion about the lack of response from officers and see what could be done to improve this.

C. That the Chair was willing to meet with officers from Orkney Islands Council to discuss ongoing Fish Mart issues.

D. That liaison would continue with representatives from Zero Waste Scotland on the Energy Efficiency Assessment and how the report's recommendations could be implemented.

10. Stronsay Development Trust – Co-opted Representative’s Report

Members were given an update on the Stronsay Development Trust’s activities and projects, some of which were on-going and had raised a lot of money, yet to be utilised, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

11. Transport Representative’s Report

Members heard that there was nothing major to report from the Ferry and Air Consultative Forum meetings and that the COVID 19 situation was still affecting ferry timetables. He also advised that island events requiring a change to the ferry timetable should be notified as soon as possible, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

12. Consultation Documents

A. NHS Orkney Clinical Strategy

Members had previously been consulted on the NHS Orkney Clinical Strategy and a community survey, open until 11 October 2021, had been promoted locally, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. National Care Service

Members had previously been consulted on the National Care Service Consultation – Orkney Digital Engagement Session, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Aviation Strategy

Members had previously been consulted on the Aviation Strategy, and had been invited to a drop-in session at Kirkwall Airport on 28 October 2021, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information provided.
2. That details of the drop-in session would be advertised locally.

13. Correspondence

A. Relief Roads Operative

Members had previously been forwarded an explanation on why Stronsay did not have a Relief Roads Operative, and details of an advert inviting applications for a Relief Roads Operative, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Small Grants – Community AT Projects/School Streets

Members had previously been forwarded information of a grant available from HiTrans, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Briefing Note – Guidance for Community Councils

Members had previously been forwarded details of a guidance note from the Head of Executive Support in relation to COVID19 implications on attendance at Community Council meetings, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Connecting Scotland Round 3 Phase 2

Members had previously been forwarded correspondence from the Service Manager, Community Learning, Development and Employability, on Connecting Scotland Round 3 Phase 2, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

E. Review of Inter-Island Fare Structure

Members had previously been forwarded a press release regarding the review of the inter-island fare structure on Orkney Ferries, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

F. Special Collection Rotas

Members had previously been forwarded details of the Isles Special Collections Rotas up to March 2022, copies of which had also been displayed locally, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

G. Alteration to Ferry Timetable Request

Members had previously been forwarded a request from Stronsay Community Association to support alterations to the ferry sailings to accommodate the Stronsay Massive Weekend 2022, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information contained in the request.
2. That members supported the request from Stronsay Community Association to alterations in the ferry timetable to accommodate the Stronsay Massive Weekend 2022.

3. That the Transport Representative and the Clerk would forward the request for alterations to the ferry timetable to accommodate the Stronsay Massive Weekend 2022.

H. Local Transport Strategy

Members had previously been forwarded details of the Local Transport Strategy, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note information.
2. That the document accompanying the Local Transport Strategy would be forwarded to members again as some had been unable to access the information.

14. Financial Statements

A. General Finance

After consideration of the General Finance statement as at 21 September 2021, and discussion thereof, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £15,992.12.

B. Fish Mart Account

After consideration of the Fish Mart account statement as at 21 September 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £9,917.38.

C. Slaughterhouse Account

After consideration of the Slaughterhouse account statement as at 21 September 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance was £10,275.15.

D. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the 2020/2021 Community Council Grant Scheme statement as at 21 September 2021, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for approval in the main capping limit of £2,251.95.

E. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the Community Development Fund Statement as at 21 September 2021, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining for allocation of £8,723.40.

F. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the Seed Corn Fund Statement as at 21 September 2021, it was:

Resolved to note that the balance had been fully utilised.

15. Requests for Financial Assistance

A. Travel Grants

In response to the interest shown by applicants for Community Council travel grants, it was:

Resolved that the awarding of travel grants would be discussed at the next Community Council Meeting.

B. Request Withdrawal

Members had previously been consulted and agreed to award a travel grant request, subject to Community Council Grant Scheme approval, but this had since been withdrawn by the applicant, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Stronsay Community Association - Fireworks

Consideration was given to a request from Stronsay Community Association for financial assistance of £700 towards the cost of fireworks for the annual fireworks and bonfire display, and it was:

Resolved that members had agreed to award £700 to Stronsay Community Association for fireworks, subject to Community Council Grant Scheme approval.

D. Stronsay Community Association – Christmas Tree

Consideration was given to a request from Stronsay Community Association for financial assistance towards the cost of a Christmas tree for use at the annual tree lighting ceremony, and it was:

Resolved that members had agreed to award a maximum of £200 to Stronsay Community Association for a Christmas tree, subject to Community Council Grant Scheme approval.

E. Mrs M Dennison

Following consideration of a request from Mrs M Dennison for financial assistance for seven return air flights for her daughter's attendance at athletic, gymnastic and netball training sessions in Kirkwall, it was:

Resolved to award Mrs M Dennison £25 towards the cost of seven return air flights, subject to Community Council Grant Scheme approval.

16. Publications

The following publications had been forwarded to members:

- Orkney Ferries Statistics - May and June 2021.
- Loganair Inter-Isle passenger figures - July and August 2021.
- Police Scotland Orkney Area Newsletter – July 2021.
- Community Development Fund Update.

17. Any Other Competent Business

A. Climate Change and COP 26

Members heard that an island community event to mark the start of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 26) meeting in Glasgow would be held on 31 October 2021, and it was:

Resolved that members gave their support to a community event to mark the start of the United Nations Climate Change Conference.

B. Coastal Erosion Near Millbank

Members' attention was directed towards sea erosion near Millbank and how this could affect the road between Millbank and Holin Cottage, and it was:

Resolved to ask if the Roads Support Manager was aware of sea erosion between Millbank and Holin Cottage and how this might affect the road between the two properties.

C. Rothiesholm Beach Car Park Entrance Road

Members heard that repair to the Rothiesholm beach car park entrance road had been completed on 16 September 2021, and it was:

Resolved:

1. To note the information provided.
2. That the Roads Department staff would be thanked for the work undertaken to repair the Rothiesholm beach car park entrance road.

18. Date of Next Meeting

Following consideration of future meeting dates, it was:

Resolved that the next meeting of Stronsay Community Council would be held on Wednesday, 24 November 2021 commencing at 19:00 in the Stronsay Fish Mart.

19. Conclusion of Meeting

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