

Minute of the Meeting of Harray and Sandwick Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 16 March 2022 at 19:00

Present:

Mr D Hamilton, Mr G Brown, Mrs E Grant, Mr C Kirkness, Mrs E Rendall and Mrs K Ritch.

In Attendance:

- Mrs J McGrath, Community Council Liaison Officer/Interim Clerk.
- One member of the press.

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1. Apologies

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mr K Groundwater and Mr G Sinclair.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the general meeting held on 26 January 2022 was approved, being proposed by Mrs K Ritch and seconded by Mrs E Grant.

3. Matters Arising

A. Festive Lighting

The Community Council Liaison Officer advised that the lights had not yet been ordered, and it was:

Resolved to note that this will be discussed in April 2022, in the new financial year.

B. Harray Hall Car Park

The Community Council Liaison Officer advised that the Council would be carrying out works at the car park, but that this would be into next financial year, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Rats in Harray Kirkyard

The Community Council Liaison Officer reported that she had spoken to the Burial Grounds Officer, who had said the trap was very unlikely to be set there (or removed) by the Council. Members again explained that rats were causing damage, and that there definitely used to be a trap on the step between the old and new kirkyard. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that Mrs E Rendall would take photographs to provide evidence of the problem and pass to Democratic Services.

D. Car Park at Bay of Skail

Members discussed the potholes in the car park, and the Community Council Liaison advised that this was not land owned by Orkney Islands Council. Members agreed that permission would need to be gained before anything could be proposed in terms of undertaking works at this location, and funding would need to be agreed, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That Mr C Kirkness would investigate who owned this piece of land.
2. That this would be discussed again at the next meeting.

E. Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Members discussed various ideas such as beacons, tree planting, Sunday school picnic, etc. They agreed that they were very keen to do something and noted that the

minister and the head teacher would like to meet with the community council to discuss this, as well as attend the Dounby Plan meeting, which was due to be held on 20 April. It was agreed that both things could be discussed on the same night, as members of Birsay CC would also be in attendance. Members discussed other people within the community that should be invited to come along, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would write up a list of suggested invitees and circulate to members for approval prior to the meeting, so that additional invites could be sent out.

F. Market Green Car Park

Members again discussed the car park, and it was confirmed that OIC Roads did not maintain this area. A member reported that recycled tar was available at the quarry and suggested purchasing a load to dump on the area and scrape/roll to fill potholes. It was agreed that this would need to be done soon, and it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Community Council Liaison Officer would confirm with OIC Roads that they had no objection to the Community Council carrying out this work.
2. That, once confirmation had been given, Mr C Kirkness would arrange for the material to be purchased and taken by haulier to the Market Green.
3. That Mr C Kirkness would engage a contractor to do the necessary work to fill the potholes.
4. That all invoices for these works and materials would be forwarded to Democratic Services for payment.
5. That the Interim Clerk would apply for CCGS on a cost of £600.

G. Phone Box in Dounby

Members agreed to leave the phone box as it was in the meantime and wait for the Dounby Plan meeting to discuss with members of Birsay CC, and it was:

Resolved to discuss again at the Dounby Plan meeting.

4. Correspondence

A. Bag the Bruck 2022

Following consideration of correspondence from the Democratic Services Manager, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding the 2022 Bag the Bruck event, it was:

Resolved:

1. That the Interim Clerk would advertise the event locally, inviting groups to apply to the CC for sponsorship for taking part.
2. That the Interim Clerk would apply for CCGS on a cost of £300.

B. SSEN Resilient Communities

Members considered the correspondence on the SSEN Resilient Communities Fund, copies of which had previously been circulated, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Climate Action Funding

Members considered correspondence from the Scottish Flood Forum, copies of which had previously been provided, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

D. Letter of Introduction – West of Orkney Windfarm

Members considered correspondence which had been emailed to members prior to the evening, regarding the proposal for an offshore wind farm to the West of Orkney, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

E. OIC Marine Planning Update

Members considered correspondence from OIC Marine Planning, a copy of which had been emailed to members prior to the meeting, and it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

5. Consultation – Orcadian Identity Survey

Members had previously been sent a copy of a survey being carried out by a student at Orkney College, in relation to Orcadian Identity, and it was:

Resolved to note that the consultation deadline had now passed.

6. Financial Statements

A. 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 £10,179 as at 24 February 2022.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

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

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for approval in the main capping limit was £2337.23, and the balance in the additional capping limit was £676 as at 24 February 2022.

C. Community Development Fund

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

Resolved to note that the balance remaining available for allocation was £9,640 as at 24 February 2022.

D. Seed Corn Fund

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

Resolved to note that the balance remaining available for approval was £2,500 as at 24 February 2022.

7. Applications for Financial Assistance

A. Kayla Harvey – U17's Netball

Mrs K Ritch declared an interest in this item and did not take part in any discussion thereof.

Members had agreed via email to provide financial assistance to Kayla Harvey towards a trip to Aberdeen for netball on 12 February, and it was:

Resolved to note that a £50 donation had been agreed via email.

B. Orkney Pilgrimage

Members had previously been sent a copy of a financial request from the Orkney Pilgrimage, asking for assistance with the cost of maintaining the St Magnus Way. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to award a donation of £100 towards the various costs.

C. Jenna Miller – U13's Netball

Mrs K Ritch declared an interest in this item and did not take part in any discussion thereof.

Following consideration of a grant application made on behalf of Jenna Miller, for a trip to Aberdeen to play netball on 25-27 February, it was:

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

D. Orkney Folk Festival 2022

Following consideration of correspondence received from Orkney Folk Festival, copies of which had been previously circulated, requesting funding towards the 2022 Orkney Folk Festival events, it was:

Resolved to award a £200 general fund donation.

E. Arwen West – Orkney Youth Climbing Squad

Following consideration of correspondence sent on behalf of Arwen West, copies of which had previously been circulated, asking for assistance towards the cost of travelling to take part in the Scottish Youth Bouldering Championship in Edinburgh on 30 April, it was:

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

F. Harray Senior Citizens – Supper and Entertainment

Following consideration of correspondence sent on behalf of Harray Senior Citizens, copies of which had been emailed round members prior to the meeting, requesting funding towards supper and entertainment, it was:

Resolved to award a £400 donation, subject to CCGS approval.

G. OASC – Pentland Pentaqua Meet - Wick

Following consideration of correspondence from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, a copy of which had been emailed to members prior to the meeting, asking for assistance with the cost of taking six swimmers to an event in Wick on 20 March, it was:

Resolved:

1. To note that two of the participants had already received the maximum funding for this financial year – Bradley Cormack and Arwen West.
2. To award a £50 donation per swimmer from the general fund to the following swimmers – Ruaridh Custer, Hannah Morrice, Robbie Morrice and Irving Norquoy.

8. Publications

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

- Scottish Water – Customer Engagement Campaign.
- Alistair Carmichael MP – Newsletter – 4 February, 18 February and 5 March 2022.
- VAO Newsletter – January and February 2022.
- VAO Training and Funding Update – February 2022.

9. Any Other Competent Business

A. Roads near Kierfold

A member reported that the Lynda Road was very uneven and had a number of potholes (Kierfold heading to Quoyloo). It was agreed that this stretch of road had been discussed before as being poor, and it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would advise Roads Support via the Business Letter to Democratic Services.

B. St Peter's Kirk Car Park

Members advised that the entrance to the car park at St Peter's Kirk required some filling material as there were dips and holes. Ownership was discussed, and it was suggested that the community council had removed sand from there at one point. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved that the Interim Clerk would ask Roads Support, via the Business Letter to Democratic Services, to consider repairs at this location in the first instance.

C. Community Council Elections

Members queried the process for the forthcoming community council elections, and whether current members would need to fill in nomination papers. The Community Council Liaison Officer advised that nominations would close on 16 June, and that papers could be sent to anyone who wished to receive them. The Chair suggested that, because Community Council meetings would cease from 22 April, any meeting would need to be ad-hoc, and suggested that they formed a planning group of volunteers at the meeting to discuss the Dounby Plan and Jubilee Celebrations. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

10. Kirkyard and Strathborg Grass Cutting 2022

The following item was taken in committee.

The member of the press left the meeting at this point.

The Interim Clerk provided information on the tenders received for the grass cutting at Harray Kirkyard, Sandwick Kirkyard and Strathborg seating area, from three different contractors. Following discussion, it was:

Resolved:

A. To award the contract for Harray Kirkyard to M Brass, the contract for Sandwick Kirkyard to K Foulis and the Strathborg seating area contract to Isbister Brothers.

B. That the Interim Clerk would write to all contractors confirming the outcome of the tender exercise.

11. Dates of Next Meetings

Following consideration of a date for the next meeting, and reflecting on the previous discussion, it was:

Resolved:

A. That the joint meeting of Birsay Community Council and Harray and Sandwick Community Council would be held on 20 April in the Milestone Kirk.

B. That a date for the next meeting of Harray and Sandwick Community Council would be decided in due course.

12. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 20:40.