



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR

Minute of Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Stornoway, on Wednesday 28 February 2018 at 5.00pm.

PRESENT

Members

Mr Norman A MacDonald (Convener)
Mr Roddie Mackay (Leader)
Mr Calum Macmillan (by video link)
Mr Iain A Macneil
Mr Paul Steele
Mr Iain M Macleod (by video link)
Mr Roddy Mackay
Mr Donald Manford (by video-link)
Mr John G Mitchell
Mr Uisdean Robertson
Mr Paul Finnegan
Mr Finlay Cunningham
Mr Angus Morrison
Mr Ranald Fraser
Mr Alasdair Macleod
Mr Finlay Stewart
Mr Norman MacDonald

Mr Rae Mackenzie
Mr Angus McCormack
Mr Charlie Nicolson
Mr Keith Dodson
Mr Gordon Murray
Mr Iain M Macaulay
Mr Neil Mackay
Mr Calum Maclean
Mr Donald Crichton
Mr John A Maciver
Mr John Mackay
Mr Kenneth Macleod
Mr Kenny J Macleod
Mr John N Macleod

Officers in Attendance

Mr Malcolm Burr
Ms Lesley McDonald
Mr Iain Mackinnon
Mr Ron Culley
Mr Robert Emmott
Mr Bernard Chisholm
Mr Calum Iain Maciver
Mr Tim Langley

Mr Derek Mackay
Mr Nigel Scott
Mrs Dolina Macleod
Mr Colin George Morrison
Mrs Marina Macaulay

Prayer

The Meeting was preceded by prayer led by Mr Finlay Stewart.

Tribute: Rev Kenneth M MacDonald

The Convener paid tribute to Rev Kenneth M MacDonald who had passed away on 20 January 2018. The Convener stated that Rev MacDonald had been elected to represent the new Coll Ward when Comhairle nan Eilean Siar had been formed in 1974 and he had served until 1976. He had then gone on to serve in the ministry at Rosskeen Free Church until he retired in 1995.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, extended condolences to Rev MacDonald's wife Rita, his children and grandchildren and wider family and friends.

Tribute: Mrs Catherine MacEachen

The Convener paid tribute to Mrs Catherine MacEachen, who had passed away recently. Mrs MacEachen had been a Councillor for the Benbecula area from 1980-1982 and she had worked for many years in the health service and had nursed in many different parts of the country until she returned to the islands in 1955, where she had been a district nurse serving communities from Berneray to Barra until 1985.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, extended condolences to Mrs MacEachen's daughter and son, her grandchildren and all her extended family and friends.

Tribute: Cllr Neil Mackay

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, extended condolences to Cllr Neil Mackay whose father had passed away recently.

Tribute: Mrs Kay MacKay MBE
The Convener paid tribute to Mrs Kay MacKay, MBE, who had passed away on 3 February 2018. He stated that Mrs MacKay had been very much involved with Cancer Research and as chair of the local committee had worked conscientiously to raise funds for this worthy cause.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, extended condolences to her husband, Jackie, her children, her brother and the extended family.

Tribute: Mr John Macleod
The Convener paid tribute to Mr John MacLeod who had passed away suddenly on 4 January 2018. Mr MacLeod, who was originally from Carloway, had made his home in Edinburgh where he had spent many years in the police service, achieving the rank of Inspector. Mr Macleod spent ten years as President of An Comunn Gàidhealach and worked with the Comhairle on the delivery of the Royal National Mods in 2011 and 2016.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, extended condolences to Mr Macleod's wife, Christine, his children and the wider circle of family and friends.

Tribute: Film G Awards
The Convener paid tribute to all the schools, organisations and individuals from the Western Isles who had participated in the 2018 FilmG competition.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, congratulated all short leeted and particularly all those who had won awards.

MINUTES

Minute of Meeting of 13 December 2017
1(a) The Minute of Meeting of 13 December 2017 was **approved**.

Minute of Meeting of 7 February 2018
1(b) The Minute of Meeting of 7 February 2018 was **approved**.

Declaration of Interest
2 There were no declarations of interest.

QUESTIONS

Written Questions to the Convener and Chairmen of Committees
3 Councillor Norman MacDonald submitted the following written question to the Convener.
2018 is the Year of Young People. Could the Convener please advise of what initiatives the Comhairle and the Community Planning Partnership are pursuing to mark this year.

The Convener responded as follows:

The CPP is pursuing a programme of activities under the banner Òigridh aig an Oir – Young People at the Edge...of life...of opportunity...of success with an overall purpose of creating a lasting legacy providing positive relationships and more opportunities to participate and contribute through education, employment and leisure.

Under the Celebrate theme and through a series of events throughout 2018, it is envisaged that a platform be provided for young people across the Outer Hebrides to participate in multi-disciplinary sports, cultural performances, youth seminars, the natural environment and fun activities.

Year of Young People 2018 provides a huge opportunity for young people across the age range to create a fantastic series of events which can build strong relationships with sectoral partners across the islands and form collaborative partnerships between islands, professionals, industry and young people throughout the Outer Hebrides.

The focus is on

- Participation – looking at how young people can influence public services and decisions which affect their lives
- Education – creating a stronger role for young people in shaping their learning
- Health and Wellbeing – supporting young people to lead healthier, active lives and have opportunities to learn about and improve their mental health and resilience
- Culture – celebrating young people’s talent and contribution to Scottish culture and arts

The outcomes sought are

- To address factors contributing to social isolation among young people
- To realise the benefits of our natural environment and cultural traditions
- A skilled workforce for the future that provides opportunities for young people
- Our young people are knowledgeable about the opportunities they are afforded by remaining on the islands to live, work and learn
- Children and young people are engaged and their views acted upon.

As part of this partnership the Education and Children’s Department (principally through Community Learning and Development) is working on a range of initiatives throughout the Western Isles which focus on Young People but some also include intergenerational and wider community work. I have asked that a spreadsheet detailing these activities be circulated to all Members.

Mr MacDonald submitted the following supplementary question to the Convener:

Given the importance of young people to our communities and indeed our demographic balance going forward does the Convener agree that we should explore further initiatives including hearing from our Young Ambassadors at our meetings and exploring the use of the Year of Young People logo on all of our correspondence including Committee Reports.

The Convener responded as follows:

I think that that suggestion may fit well with the systems the Director of Education and Children’s Services proposed to the December 2017 series of meetings . Any further initiatives and the use of the logo that you suggest would require to be the subject of a further Report where issues such as permissions, practical implications and precedent could be addressed.

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Cùram is Slàinte nan Eilean Siar: Proposed Amendments to Integration Scheme

- 4 The Chief Executive submitted a Report which proposed amendments to the Cùram is Slàinte nan Eilean Siar (Western Isles Integration Joint Board) to reflect the terms of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016. The proposed amendments were shown in the Appendix to the Report.

The Report stated that the Act, which would come into effect on 1 April 2018, had imposed new duties which should appropriately be delegated to the IJB and had also repealed provisions which were currently delegated in terms of the approved Scheme. It was indicated in the Report that the review of the Scheme required to be the subject of consultation with the consultees laid down detailed in secondary legislation and it was stated in the Report that the consultation had taken place and no adverse comments had been received.

It was agreed to approve the amendments to the Schedule to the Cùram is Slàinte nan Eilean Siar Integration Scheme as detailed in the Appendix to the Report and authorise the Chief Executive to submit these amendments to the Scottish Government for formal approval.

OUTSIDE BODIES

Highland Council Pensions Board – Appointment of Substitute Member

- 5 The Chief Executive submitted a Report which proposed that a substitute Member be appointed to the Highland Council Pensions Board in addition to Councillor Charlie Nicolson. At the last meeting of the Board, it was agreed that substitute members should be appointed in order to ensure flexibility in achieving a quorum.

It was agreed to appoint Mr Alasdair Macleod as the Comhairle’s substitute Member on the Highland Council Pensions Board.

Uist Economic Taskforce 6 With reference to item 11 of the Minute of Meeting of 21 June 2017 the Director of Development submitted a Report which provided an update on the work being done by the Uist Economic Taskforce. A revised structure for the Uist Economic Taskforce was detailed in the Report which proposed that the Leader of the Comhairle be appointed to the Taskforce. To facilitate the revised remit and structure of the Uist Economic Taskforce, the Report stated that it would be necessary to expand the Comhairle membership on the Uist Economic Taskforce to include the Leader of the Comhairle.

It was agreed:

- (1) that the change to the structure of the Uist Economic Taskforce be noted; and
- (2) to appoint the Leader of the Comhairle to the Uist Economic Taskforce.

COMMITTEES

Committee Decision Reports 7 The Committee Decision Reports were approved, except as indicated below:

- (a) Communities and Housing Committee – 20 February 2018
- (b) Education, Sport and Children’s Services – 20 February 2018
- (c) Transportation and Infrastructure Committee – 21 February 2018
- (d) Sustainable Development Committee – 21 February 2018
- (e) Audit and Scrutiny Committee – 27 February 2018
- (f) Policy and Resources Committee – 28 February 2018

Councillor Charlie Nicolson, seconded by Councillor Paul Steele, moved the following as an additional recommendation to item 13 of the Policy and Resources Committee Decision Report:

“that the Chief Executive be requested to submit a Report to the relevant Committee at the next series in relation to the potential role and remit of a Carers’ Champion to enable the Comhairle to appoint an Elected Member to this position”.

It was agreed to accept the amendment.

Councillor Gordon Murray, seconded by Councillor Rae Mackenzie, moved the following amendment to item 17 of the Policy and Resources Committee Decision Report -

“that recommendation (a) be amended to read "allocate £500K to establish a Match Fund to support projects that will draw in external funding and contribute to the objectives in the Comhairle's Corporate Strategy and that the balance of £500K remain unallocated until the Comhairle has considered the Report commissioned by the Chief Executive, Director of Education and Children's Services and Director of Technical Services in relation to Stornoway Primary."

The Comhairle then proceeded to debate the motion against the amendment.

The vote was taken by roll call as follows:

MOTION

Mr Norman A MacDonald
Mr Roddie Mackay
Mr Iain A Macneil
Mr Paul Steele
Mr Roddy Mackay
Mr Iain M Macleod
Mr Uisdean Robertson
Mr Finlay Cunningham
Mr Paul Finnegan
Mr Ranald Fraser
Mr Angus Morrison
Mr Norman MacDonald
Mr Alasdair Macleod
Mr Finlay Stewart
Mr Keith Dodson
Mr Angus McCormack
Mr Charlie Nicolson
Mr Iain Macaulay
Mr Neil Mackay
Mr Donald Crichton
Mr Calum Maclean
Mr John Mackay
Mr John N Macleod
Mr Kenneth Macleod
Mr Kenny J Macleod

AMENDMENT

Mr Calum Macmillan
Mr Donald Manford
Mr John G Mitchell
Mr Rae Mackenzie
Mr Gordon Murray
Mr John A Maciver

The motion, having received the majority of the votes cast, became the finding of the meeting.

Notice of Motion 8 The following Notice of Motion was submitted by Cllr Norman MacDonald, seconded by Cllr Paul Steele:

I would move that a Report be submitted to the next meeting of the relevant Committee identifying further ways that the Comhairle could mark the Year of Young People including the use of its logo on all Comhairle correspondence and Reports and providing enhanced opportunities for young people to engage with elected members.