

## ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 27 November 2007 at 4.00 pm.

**Present:** Councillors DAVID MAY, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, FRANK ELLIS, IAIN GAUL, ALEX KING, IAN MACKINTOSH, JIM MILLAR, PETER MURPHY, ROBERT MYLES, HELEN OSWALD, RALPH PALMER, MARK SALMOND, ROBERT SPINK, SANDY WEST and JOHN WHYTE.

Councillor MAY, Convener, in the Chair.

### 1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

There were no apologies intimated.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mackintosh declared an interest in item 16 as a member of the Local Access Forum.

Councillor Whyte declared an interest in item 5 as a member of the TACTRAN Board.

### 3. MINUTES

#### (a) Previous Meeting

The [minute of meeting of this Committee of 16 October 2007](#) was submitted as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

Councillors Myles and Gaul paid tribute to Jim Matthew (Head of Environmental Health and Consumer Protection) who was to retire after 11 years service with Angus Council. Members acknowledged Mr Matthew's dedicated and outstanding service to the authority and wished him well for the future.

#### (b) Executive Sub-Committee

The [minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of this Committee of 8 November 2007](#), a copy of which is appended hereto, was submitted and noted (APPENDIX I).

#### (c) Arbroath Harbour Joint Consultative Committee

The [minute of meeting of the Arbroath Harbour Joint Consultative Committee of 23 November 2007](#), a copy of which is appended hereto, was submitted and noted (APPENDIX II).

### 4. NOTICE OF MOTION - GULLS AND FERAL PIGEONS

Councillor Gaul, who had given notice in terms of Standing Order 24(1), seconded by Councillor King, moved that the Committee agree:-

- (i) to request a Report from the Director of Infrastructure Services regarding the possible introduction of a policy to contain the growing problem of gulls in coastal towns of Angus and the nesting of feral pigeons throughout Angus;
- (ii) that the Report contain costings for the introduction of nets (working with the Rail Network) to be placed under rail bridges to prevent pigeons from nesting;

- (iii) that the Report contain a budget provision to contain the ever growing problem of nesting gulls throughout coastal areas of Angus, which would include a means tested grants scheme to allow those on low incomes to remove nesting gulls from their homes;
- (iv) that the budget include clearly stated signage throughout the town, not just at harbour areas stating "not to feed the gulls"; and
- (v) finally, to introduce educational items for visitors and residents, including signs within fast food establishments, visitor attractions, schools and other community buildings advising against feeding gulls.

COUNCILLOR WHYTE, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR SALMOND, MOVED AS AN AMENDMENT, THAT THE COMMITTEE INSTRUCT THE DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES TO BRING A REPORT TO A FUTURE COMMITTEE ON THE ISSUES RELATED TO SEAGULL AND PIGEON NUISANCE SETTING OUT THE OPTIONS FOR DEALING WITH THEM AND THE POSSIBLE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND FUNDING OPTIONS.

On a vote being taken, the members voted:-

For the motion:

Councillors Ellis, Gaul, King, Oswald, Palmer and West (6).

For the amendment:

Councillors May, Fairweather, Mackintosh, Millar, Murphy, Myles, Salmond and Whyte (8).

No vote:

Councillor Spink.

The amendment was declared carried and became the finding of the meeting.

## 5. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTING

There was submitted [Report No 1108/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services providing members with an update on progress being made by the department in implementing the actions set out in the Service Plan. It also sought approval of the revisions by lead officers for Service Plan actions.

The Report indicated that the Council had committed itself to Performance Management as its key business management tool. The Excelsis performance management system would hold all the actions agreed by the Council and its Committees as contained in all plans and strategies.

Having had a number of questions asked and answered, the Committee agreed to note the progress being made in delivering the actions in the Infrastructure Services Service Plan, and in particular:-

- (i) to approve the recommendation for each of the "Overdue" actions listed in Appendix 1 to the Report;
- (ii) to note the revisions made during the reporting period for those actions listed as "On Target" in the summary report at Appendix 2; and
- (iii) to note the actions marked as "Completed" during the reporting period.

## 6. FEED, FOOD AND SAFETY SERVICES PLAN 2007-2008

With reference to Article 3 of the minute of meeting of the Environmental and Leisure Services Committee of 22 August 2006, there was submitted [Report No 1109/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services advising that the Council was required, on an annual basis, to devise and implement a plan for the enforcement of legislation associated with Feeding Stuffs, Food and Health and Safety.

The Report indicated, that in accordance with the requirements of the Food Standards Agency as defined in the Framework Agreement on local authority Food Law Enforcement and the Health and Safety Commission, the following aspects of the service provision were contained in the plan:-

- A brief description of the duties relating to the various areas of enforcement carried out by staff of the Environmental and Consumer Protection Division
- A description of the Council's Committee Structure
- A description of the Division and Management Structures which would be utilised to deliver the targets defined in Plan
- The resources allocated for the delivery of the work defined in the Plan

The Committee agreed to adopt the Feed, Food and Safety Services Plan 2007-2008 as detailed in the Report.

## 7. USE, DISTRIBUTION, SALE AND POSSESSION OF ELECTRONIC TRAINING AIDS FOR CATS AND DOGS - RESPONSE TO THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION

There was submitted [Report No 1110/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services containing a response to the Scottish Government consultation of the use, distribution, sale and possession of electronic training aids for cats and dogs. The consultation paper listed a number of devices which could be used either to control behaviour or to contain an animal within a certain area.

The Committee agreed to forward the response outlined in the Appendix to the Report to the Scottish Government as Angus Council's response to the consultation.

## 8. WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PERIOD

With reference to Article 7 of the minute of meeting of the Environmental and Leisure Services Committee of 21 November 2006, there was submitted [Joint Report No 1100/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services and the Director of Neighbourhood Services advising the Committee that, due to statutory staff holidays over the festive period, the arrangements for the various waste management services required to be altered.

Having heard the Director of Infrastructure Services on the need to manage peaks in demand, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the adjusted rota for waste and recycling collection over the festive period 2007/2008; and
- (ii) to approve the arrangements for the delivery of other cleaning and waste management services over the festive period, as detailed in the Report.

## 9. REVIEW OF OPENING TIMES AT RECYCLING CENTRES

There was submitted [Joint Report No 1111/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services and the Director of Neighbourhood Services indicating that, in line with other local authorities and in the interest of best value, officers had undertaken a survey and review of operating arrangements at Angus Council's seven recycling/civic amenity centres.

COUNCILLOR MAY, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR FAIRWEATHER, MOVED THAT THE COMMITTEE AGREE:-

- (i) TO NOTE THE CONTENTS OF THE REPORT AND THE OPTIONS FOR ADJUSTING THE OPERATING TIMES AT THE RECYCLING CENTRES;
- (ii) TO APPROVE OPTION 4, AS DETAILED AT PARA 4 OF THE REPORT; AND
- (iii) TO IMPLEMENT THIS OPTION EFFECTIVE FROM 4 JANUARY 2008.

Councillor King, seconded by Councillor West, moved as an amendment, that the Committee note the contents of the Report.

On a vote being taken the members voted:-

For the motion:

Councillors May, Fairweather, Mackintosh, Millar, Murphy, Myles, Salmond, Spink and Whyte (9).

For the amendment:

Councillors Ellis, Gaul, King, Oswald, Palmer and West (6).

The motion was declared carried and became the substantive motion.

Thereafter, Councillor Oswald, seconded by Councillor West, moved as a further amendment that the recycling centres continue to operate the extended hours over the Christmas/New Year period, subject to the availability of the relevant staff.

On a vote being taken, the members voted:-

For the substantive motion:

Councillors May, Fairweather, Mackintosh, Millar, Murphy, Myles, Salmond, and Whyte (8).

For the further amendment:

Councillors Ellis, Gaul, King, Oswald, Palmer, Spink and West (7).

No vote:

Councillor Spink.

The substantive motion was declared carried and became the finding of the meeting.

## **10. ANGUS COMMUNITY WARDEN SERVICE – FIXED PENALTY NOTICES**

With reference to Article 16 of the minute of meeting of the Neighbourhood Services Committee of 22 November 2007, there was submitted [Joint Report No 1092/07](#) by the Director of Neighbourhood Services and the Director of Infrastructure Services outlining the intention to address the ongoing community concerns regarding anti-social behaviour, litter and dog fouling by amending the Council's current approach to enforcement to tackle these issues directly by empowering the Angus Community Warden Service to issue fixed penalty notices harnessing the existing legal powers available to appropriately designated Council officers.

The Report concluded that the recommendations contained therein demonstrated Angus Council's commitment to identifying where anti-social behaviour was occurring, what types of behaviour was prevalent, as well as seeking to expand the range of officers empowered to take direct action to attempt to moderate this behaviour.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to approve the proposal in line with Section 56 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 for delegated authority to be given to the Community Wardens to issue fixed penalty notices for:
  - Litter
  - Dog fouling
  - Fly tipping offences

#### **11. RESTENNETH LANDFILL SITE – COMPOSTING DEVELOPMENT**

There was submitted [Report No 1112/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services bringing forward proposals for the latest development intentions at the Council's landfill site at Restenneth.

The Report indicated that the Council operated its own landfill site at Restenneth near Forfar and, in June, 2003 the Director of Environmental and Consumer Protection had commissioned consultants Carl Bro (now Grontmij) to produce a report on the projected engineering development of the site. The consultants' report had outlined development costs and an anticipated implementation programme for the construction, capping and closure management of a lined disposal site. Cost included other ancillaries such as leachate control and access roads. The report also recognised the likely cost implications of meeting the requirements of the new Pollution Prevention Control (PPC) licence issued by the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) and other risk items, should later assessment find a further increase in specification was required. A Capital Project Appraisal (CPA) had been produced by the Director on the basis of the consultant's report and the Council's Financial Plan had been updated to accommodate the development project at the Restenneth site at an estimated cost of £5.545 million funding over financial years 2004/2005 - 2014/2015.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the adjustment in the Financial Plan for the Restenneth landfill site for the provision of a dedicated composting area;
- (ii) to note the the capital funding for the construction of the compost area would be met from the Infrastructure Services (Environmental and Consumer Protection) Financial Plan allocation for the Restenneth landfill site; and
- (iii) to subject the project to a competitive tendering process in accordance with Financial Regulations, using the select list of tenderers previously approved by Committee.

#### **12. MIGRANT WORKERS PROJECT (THE LOWLAND AND UPLAND SCOTLAND ESF FUNDING PACKAGE) AND THE EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES WELCOME PACK**

With reference to Article 26 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 27 April 2006, there was submitted [Report No 1113/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services seeking financial assistance to allow Angus College to assist local employers meet the needs of the current local labour market, subject to funding secured through the European Social Fund. It also sought financial assistance for the new "Welcome to Angus" booklet aimed at giving international communities a guide to local services.

The Report indicated that supporting these projects would allow many local employers in Angus to respond to change and meet the market demands placed upon them.

Having heard various members on the contents of the Report, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve a financial contribution of £6,000 from the Economic Development Revenue Budget in 2007/2008 and £4,000 in 2008/2009 to allow Angus College to build on past success in assisting local companies to set up systems enabling the integration of migrant workers into the workforce across Angus; and
- (ii) to approve a financial contribution of £1,000 from the Economic Development Revenue Budget in 2007/2008 and £2,000 in 2008/2009 to assist the International and European Communities Initiative with the production of a new welcome pack for migrant workers.

### **13. THE OPEN 2007 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT GRANT SCHEME**

With reference to Article 5(b) of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 15 February 2007, there was submitted [Report No 1114/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services informing the Committee of the success of the Open 2007 Environmental Improvement Grant Scheme which had run from 1 May to 30 September 2007.

The Report indicated that the Open 2007 Environmental Grant Scheme had been a very successful scheme, easily implemented and offered a welcome support to businesses and community groups in Angus as well as a lasting legacy and enhanced environment.

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the Report and the successful completion of the Grant Scheme.

### **14. WORKING FOR FAMILIES FUND**

With reference to Article 25 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 25 January 2007, there was submitted [Report No 1115/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services informing the Committee of progress made with the Working for Families initiative.

The Report indicated that the Working for Families Fund had made great progress on its first year of operation. The figures at the mid point of the year (2007/2008) were either on target and in some cases, such as those entering part employment, would shortly exceed the whole target for the project. This success was due to rectification of the previous delays in staff appointments and the continuing promotion of the project with various agencies and individuals throughout Angus. Up to 30 September, 93 clients who had previously been unemployed were now in sustainable employment. A further 39 had entered or completed education or training and the project had assisted 62 families to sustain their employment or education.

The Committee agreed to note the progress achieved within the first 18 months of the Working for Families project in Angus.

### **15. AUCHMITHIE ENHANCEMENTS – ADDITIONAL WORKS**

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 13 October 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1116/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services seeking Committee agreement to the acquisition of 38 square metres or thereby of ground at Auchmithie from the Angus Housing Association for the construction of a section of footway.

The Report indicated that the construction of the short length of footway would provide a useful pedestrian link between the bus bay and car parking and the access road to the beach. The Angus Housing Association was willing to transfer ownership of the strip of ground to the Council at nil cost to allow these works to proceed.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to acquire 38 square metres or thereby of ground in Auchmithie from the Angus Housing Association;
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Corporate Services to negotiate the terms of the acquisition; and
- (iii) to the provision of a section of footway as outlined in section 3 of the Report.

## 16. **ANGUS COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS STRATEGY 2007-2012**

With reference to Article 7 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 8 March 2007, there was submitted [Report No 1117/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services summarising the response to the consultation exercise in relation to the Angus Countryside Access Strategy 2007-2012 and seeking approval of the revised strategy.

The Report indicated that consultation on the Strategy had taken place between July and September 2007 and around 350 organisations and individuals who had previously expressed a wish to be consulted on countryside access matters had received a copy of the draft Strategy and the response questionnaire. In addition, copies had been made available on the Council's website and at libraries and ACCESS Offices throughout Angus. The consultation exercise was reported in the local press and the consultation draft had been considered by the Local Access Forum in September. Following internal discussions and the consultation exercise, a number of significant changes to the Strategy had been made, with an expansion of the Core Paths Plan and two new sections created which dealt with "Biodiversity" and "Countryside Access and Public Transport".

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the outcome of public consultations; and
- (ii) to approve the Angus Countryside Access Strategy 2007-2012 as contained within Appendix B to the Report.

## 17. **CONSERVATION GRANT APPLICATION – FORMER LOGIE SCHOOLHOUSE**

There was submitted [Report No 1118/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services advising that the National Trust for Scotland had applied to Angus Council for a conservation grant to assist with the refurbishment of the Category A listed former Logie Schoolhouse.

The Report indicated that the former Logie Schoolhouse was a rare survivor of a building type that was possibly once widespread in northern Angus and southern Aberdeenshire. The National Trust for Scotland had invested considerable effort in assembling a funding package to save the building and negotiations were still ongoing to that end. An award of conservation grant from Angus Council would be of considerable assistance to the National Trust for Scotland and would contribute to saving an important part of the country's vernacular building heritage.

The Committee agreed to approve a grant of £10,000 towards the cost of refurbishing the Category A listed building known as Logie Schoolhouse in Logie Pert Parish.

## 18. **BRECHIN CONSERVATION AREA - CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PLAN**

There was submitted [Report No 1119/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services seeking authorisation to carry out public consultation on the proposed Conservation Area Management Plan for the Brechin Conservation Area.

The Report indicated that Conservation Area Management Plans would eventually be prepared for all 19 Conservation Areas in Angus. They would provide stakeholders with the information to assist with managing the development process and would help impart information on the built heritage of Angus to the wider public.

Having heard a number of members commend the quality and depth of information provided, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to authorise the Head of Planning and Transport be remitted to carry out consultations with the Brechin community and other stakeholders on a Conservation Area Management Plan for the Brechin Conservation Area and to report back to this Committee once the consultation had been carried out; and
- (ii) that the Head of Planning and Transport write to Paul Mitchell, Conservation Officer, passing on the Committee's appreciation of his work.

## 19. DRAFT DEVELOPMENT BRIEF – LAND AT HILLHEAD, KIRRIEMUIR

With reference to Article 4(ii) of the minute of meeting of Angus Council of 22 August 2007, there was submitted [Report No 1120/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services establishing, for consultation purposes, the draft planning requirements that would guide the development of the site K2: Housing – Hillhead, identified in the Finalised Angus Local Plan (as proposed to be modified) for housing purposes at Hillhead, Kirriemuir.

The Report indicated that during preparation of the Finalised Angus Local Plan Review (FALPR) a site at Hillhead had been identified for housing purposes. There were objections to the site and the matter had been referred to a Public Local Inquiry (PLI) in early 2006. The Inquiry Reporter had recommended that the site be included in the Finalised Plan for up to 120 houses with a first phase of 40 houses in the period to 2011. The numbers associated with the phasing had been the subject of reports to Angus Council in November and December 2006, January 2007 and August 2007 and published modifications.

The Report concluded that the preparation of the development brief would assist in the implementation of the Angus Local Plan Review and also guide developers towards a successful planning submission. Circulation of the draft brief would enable community involvement in the process and seek endorsement of the planning principles and site specific requirements.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the draft development brief as detailed in Appendix 1 as a basis for consultation; and
- (ii) to note that a further report, detailing the consultation responses together with a finalised brief, would be submitted for approval to a future meeting of the Infrastructure Services Committee.

## 20. FINALISED ANGUS LOCAL PLAN REVIEW – OBJECTIONS TO PRE-SECOND INQUIRY MODIFICATIONS

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of the special meeting of Angus Council of 22 August 2007, there was submitted [Report No 1121/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services summarising and responding to objections received to the proposed pre-second inquiry modifications (published in September 2007) to the Finalised Local Plan Review.

The Report indicated that Angus Council (at its special meeting of 22 August 2007) had agreed its response to objections received to the proposed post inquiry modifications (first round) published on 14 February 2007. The proposed modifications were made following consideration of the Inquiry Reporter's conclusions and recommendations into unresolved objections to the Finalised Local Angus Plan by the Council in November and December 2006 and January 2007. The relevant pre-second inquiry modifications had been advertised as required by the Regulations and the six week period for objections had ended on 23 October 2007. A total of 8 individuals, companies and agents had submitted representations to the Local Plan Review second round modifications, all having been received within the prescribed period.

The Report concluded that following publication of the pre-second inquiry modifications of the Finalised Local Plan Review, a number of objections had been received some of which raised issues that required to be referred to the second PLI which was provisionally arranged for spring 2008.

Following discussion and having heard from the Head of Law and Administration with regard to a Notice of Petition for Judicial Review, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the objections received to the published pre-second inquiry modifications (September 2007);
- (ii) to approve the response to the objections set out in the Report; and
- (iii) to authorise the Head of Planning and Transport to continue the arrangements for a second Public Local Inquiry (PLI) for those objections deemed to be valid.

**21. ANGUS LOCAL PLAN SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE: DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR FARM STEADING CONVERSIONS**

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of the Planning and Transport Policy Committee of 25 January 2001, there was submitted [Report No 1122/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services setting out draft supplementary planning guidance that, when finalised, would assist in considering development proposals for farm steading conversions.

The Report indicated that, while the adopted Angus Local Plan policy on farm building conversion had been in place for some years, the preparation of supplementary guidance would assist in clarifying aspects of policy interpretation when dealing with development proposals.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the draft supplementary planning guidance on the conversion of farm steadings as set out in the Report as the basis for consultation;
- (ii) to approve the proposed consultation arrangements and reporting procedures for finalising the guidance; and
- (iii) to refer the Report to the Development Standards Committee for their information at this stage.

**22. POTENTIAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFORMATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT WITH YOUNG PEOPLE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH STAGECOACH**

There was submitted [Report No 1123/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services informing members of an approach made to Angus Council to work on a project with young people to identify what public transport information young people wanted, how they wished to access this and what would encourage them to travel by public transport.

The Report indicated that the project offered a unique means of addressing the major problem identified by the Council in developing its public transport information strategy, that of how to effectively promote public transport and deliver public transport information to young people. Through this project, it was hoped that public transport information could be tailored and marketed to meet their requirements resulting in increased bus usage, not only on the commercial network but, more importantly, on the subsidised network, making it more sustainable and cost effective.

The Committee agreed to the Council's participation in the project, as detailed in the Report.

**23. AFFORDABLE HOUSING POLICY IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE – MODEL SECTION 75 AGREEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT VIABILITY STATEMENT**

With reference to Article 14 of the minute of meeting of the Neighbourhood Services Committee of 22 November 2007, there was submitted [Joint Report No 1090/07](#) by the Director of Neighbourhood Services and the Director of Infrastructure Services seeking approval to incorporate a Model Section 75 Agreement and Guidance on the preparation of a Development Viability Statement as Annexes to the Affordable Housing Policy Implementation Guide to assist in securing the delivery of Affordable Housing Projects in Angus.

The Report indicated that the incorporation of the Model Section 75 Agreement and Guidance on the preparation of a Development Viability Statement as Annexes to the previously approved Affordable Housing Policy Implementation Guide would assist in securing the delivery of Affordable Housing Projects in Angus.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to approve the inclusion of a Model Section 75 Agreement and guidance on the preparation of a Development Viability Statement as Annexes to the Affordable Housing Policy Implementation Guide for use in securing the delivery of Affordable Housing Projects in Angus.

## 24. CONSULTATION ON REMOVAL OF CROWN IMMUNITY IN BUILDING CONTROL

There was submitted [Report No 1124/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services advising that the Scottish Building Standards Agency had issued on behalf of the Scottish Government a consultation paper in respect of implementation of Section 53 of the Building (Scotland) Act 2003. The implementation of this section would result in the loss of immunity from Building Regulations for all Crown bodies undertaking building projects that would consequently be subject to the building warrant process. The Report also gave background information to the proposals and put forward a suggested response to the consultation paper.

The Report indicated that the proposals were to be welcomed and they would allow Crown Buildings to come within the scope of the Building Standards Service. This would help ensure that building work in Crown Buildings was subject to independent third party assessment. The proposals would undoubtedly add to the workload of the Building Standards Service and this would require monitoring to ensure that the service did not suffer.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the proposals contained in the consultation document in respect of the removal of Crown immunity for buildings vested in the Crown in respect of Building Standards;
- (ii) to submit the comments set out in the Report to the Scottish Building Standards Agency as the Council's response to their consultation paper; and
- (iii) to monitor both applications and fee income received to ascertain the extent and quantity of building warrant applications received and to ask the Director of Infrastructure Services, if appropriate, to report back to the Committee in due course if it was felt that the workload created was an issue.

## 25. 20 MPH SPEED LIMIT AT SCHOOLS – SCHOOLS WITH NO PROPOSALS FOR A 20 MPH SPEED LIMIT

With reference to Article 25 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 28 August 2007, there was submitted [Report No 1125/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services updating the Committee on the schools where a decision had been taken not to introduce a 20 mph speed limit and outlining the reasons for each decision.

The Report indicated that Appendix B to the Report detailed the Angus Schools where it was deemed not appropriate to introduce a 20 mph speed limit. The conclusion of the year's programme of works to provide 20 mph speed limits at schools would bring to an end the five year programme, utilising the Scottish Government's ring-fenced capital allocation. The Scottish Government's stated aim for the project, to increase safety of children walking or cycling to and from school and to encourage walking and cycling to school, had been taken into consideration when compiling the five year programme of works which was now approaching its conclusion.

Having heard Councillor Evans and a number of members of the Committee, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress with the introduction of 20 mph speed limits at schools in Angus as listed in Appendix A;
- (ii) to note the information listed in Appendix B relating to those schools where provision of such speed limits had not been considered appropriate; and
- (iii) to ask the Director of Infrastructure Services to give further consideration to those schools listed in Appendix B alongside on-going work considering accidents on the road network and bring a further Report to this Committee in due course covering all of this work.

## 26. SHARED USE ROADS AND SERVICE STRIPS

There was submitted [Report No 1126/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services considering the use of shared use roads with service strips.

The Report indicated that shared use roads in housing areas had become a common feature in recent years and the Report set out the reasons for using them and recommended acceptable formats.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) that shared use roads were acceptable in short cul-de-sacs for up to 20 houses; and
- (iii) that service strips could be finished in either grass or gravel with intermittent, shallow-rooted planting.

## 27. TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS - UPDATE

There was submitted and noted [Report No 1127/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services detailing the current stage of progress regarding pending Traffic Regulation Orders.

## 28. PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT KEPTIE STREET, ARBROATH BETWEEN HELEN STREET AND GARDEN STREET

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 28 August 2007 and Article 4(h)(i) of the minute of meeting of Angus Council of 20 September 2007, there was submitted [Report No 1128/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services setting out an option for the installation of a "puffin" style pedestrian crossing at Keptie Street in Arbroath, to be located between Helen Street and Garden Street, following earlier direction from the Infrastructure Services Committee and the full Council.

The Report indicated that, following additional detailed investigations, an option for the installation of a controlled crossing had been identified and the Committee's instruction was sought with regard to the progression of the option described.

Following discussion and having heard from the Convener and a number of other members, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the content of the Report;
- (ii) to defer any decision to allow members of the Committee to visit the site with appropriate Council officers and the Police;
- (iii) to instruct the Director of Infrastructure Services to arrange such a site meeting;
- (iv) to instruct the Director of Infrastructure Services to undertake the consultation described in paragraph 3.6 of the Report in parallel with the arrangements for the meeting set out above; and
- (v) to instruct the Director of Infrastructure Services to bring a further Report back to this Committee also addressing the accident risk associated with the installation at the location proposed complete with large scale detailed layout drawings.

*At this point, the Committee agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 20(8) that the meeting proceed beyond the three hour limit to the conclusion of the remaining business.*

## 29. GUIDELINES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF ROADSIDE TREES

There was submitted [Report No 1129/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services proposing guidelines for the management of roadside trees and seeking the Committee's approval for their adoption.

The Report indicated that the Report involved the continuation of safety inspections and the introduction of specialist inspections on trees owned by the Roads Division as part of the publicly manageable road network. The current procedure on dealing with overhanging vegetation, trees, etc was recommended for continuation. The current procedure of seeking arboriculture advice from Neighbourhood Services on all scheme works involving trees was also recommended for continuation.

Having heard various members on the contents of the Report, the Committee agreed to approve the guidelines for the management of trees in the vicinity of public roads as set out in the Report.

## 30. STANDING LISTS OF CONTRACTORS FOR CONSTRUCTION, CIVIL ENGINEERING AND ROAD MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS UNDER £200,000

With reference to Article 12 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 25 January 2007, there was submitted [Report No 1130/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services recommending an extension to the operating period of the current Roads Division's Standing Lists of Contractors for various categories of work up to a maximum of £200,000. This would provide the opportunity of developing and implementing a more effective and less resource-intensive method for compiling and administering standing lists in the context of sharing services and the work of the Tayside Procurement Consortium.

The Report indicated that, in order to facilitate the development and successful implementation of an effective and efficient method for the compilation and administration of the Roads Division Standing Lists, it would be necessary to extend the life span of the current standing list. Furthermore, this extension would ensure the next cycle of standing lists was fit for purpose in terms of ensuring the implemented method was evenly balanced between the resource implications of compiling and administering the standing lists and the associated operational risk with the selected method.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve an eighteen month extension to the life span of the current Roads Division's Standing Lists of Contractors for various categories of work up to a maximum contract value of £200,000;
- (ii) to extend the expiry date of the current standing lists from November 2007 to May 2009; and
- (iii) to note that a further report on the outcome of the proposed review would be brought forward to a future meeting of this Committee.

## 31. TENDERS ACCEPTED – 1 JULY– 30 SEPTEMBER 2007

With reference to Article 17 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 8 March 2007, there was submitted and noted [Report No 1131/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services giving details of the tenders opened and accepted on behalf of the Council under delegated authority by the Head of Roads during the period 1 July to 30 September 2007.

## 32. VARIATION OF WAITING RESTRICTIONS (ARBROATH)

There was submitted [Report No 1132/07](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services dealing with proposed amendments to current waiting restrictions to take account of changing circumstances at Stobcross/Wellgate and Lochland Street and Rosemount Road/Infirmary Brae, Arbroath.

The Report indicated that, in the interest of pedestrian and traffic safety and free traffic flow, alterations to waiting restrictions were considered appropriate. The variation of existing Traffic Regulation Orders to implement these alternations was therefore necessary.

The Committee agreed to the promotion of the necessary Traffic Regulation Variation Orders to effect changes to the current waiting restrictions in Arbroath, as detailed in the Report.

**33. TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ORDERS**

There was submitted and noted [Report No 1133/07](#) by the Director of Corporate Services advising, that at the request of the Head of Roads, nine Temporary Traffic Orders had been made, as detailed in the Report.

**34. ANGUS COUNCIL (WHITEHILLS PRIMARY SCHOOL, FORFAR) (20 MPH ZONE) ORDER 2007**

With reference to Article 24 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 14 June 2007, there was submitted [Report No 1134/07](#) by the Director of Corporate Services relating to the introduction of an Order to introduce a 20 mph speed limit on roads in the vicinity of Whitehills Primary School, Forfar. No objections had been received following the advertisement of the proposed Order.

The Committee agreed to approve the making of the Order.

**35. ANGUS COUNCIL (BARNHEAD, MONTROSE) (VARIATION OF SPEED LIMITS) ORDER 2007**

With reference to Article 17 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 14 June 2007, there was submitted [Report No 1135/07](#) by the Director of Corporate Services relating to the introduction of an Order to introduce a 30 mph speed limit in the village of Barnhead, Montrose. No objections had been received following the advertisement of the proposed Order.

The Committee agreed to approve the making of the Order.

**36. 2007/2011 FINANCIAL PLAN AND 2008/09 CAPITAL BUDGET**

With reference to Article 27 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 23 November 2006, there was submitted [Report No 1136/07](#) by the Director of Corporate Services advising the Committee of the latest position with regard to the preparation of the 2007/2011 Financial Plan (incorporating the 2008/2009 capital budget) for the Infrastructure Services Department. Appended to the Report were the Departmental Financial Plan submissions for 2007/2011 as returned to the Head of Finance and subsequently reviewed by the Capital Budget Sub Group.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report for its interest at this stage in the Financial Plan process; and
- (ii) to note that more detailed reports, with specific recommendations, would be brought forward later in the Financial Plan cycle.

**37. 2008/2009 REVENUE BUDGET**

With reference to Article 26 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 23 November 2006, there was submitted [Report No 1137/07](#) by the Director of Corporate Services advising the Committee of the latest position with regard to the preparation of the Infrastructure Services Department (Directorate, Roads, Environmental & Consumer Protection, Planning & Transport and Economic Development) 2008/2009 Revenue Budget and associated issues.

Appended to the report was a summary of the Departmental Provisional Base Budget 2008/2009 as submitted to, and subsequently reviewed by, the Head of Finance.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report for its interest at this stage in the budget process; and
- (ii) to note that more detailed reports, with specific recommendations, would be brought forward later in the Revenue Budget cycle.