

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 13 March 2018 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors BOB MYLES, ANGUS MACMILLAN DOUGLAS OBE, BRIAN BOYD, BRADEN DAVY, LYNNE DEVINE, BILL DUFF, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, SHEILA HANDS, ALEX KING, RICHARD MOORE, MARK SALMOND, RON STURROCK, DEREK WANN and BETH WHITESIDE.

Councillor BOB MYLES, Convener, in the Chair

1. **APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES**

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Cheape.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Duff declared a financial interest in item 10 as he was a member of Montrose Tennis Club. He indicated that he would not participate in any discussion or voting and would leave the meeting during consideration of this item.

3. **MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 30 January 2018 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. **INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 30 DECEMBER 2017 TO 9 FEBRUARY 2018**

There was submitted and noted Report No 93/18 by the Chief Executive with regard to services in the Chief Executive's Unit, appending Schedules in relation to:-

- (i) Schedule 1 – Overview of Business Support and Investment Activities; and
- (ii) Schedule 2 – Economic Briefing.

5. **INFORMATION REPORT: CHANGE PROGRAMME UPDATE**

There was submitted and noted Report No 94/18 by the Head of Strategic Policy, Transformation and Public Sector Reform in relation to the Council's Change Programme.

6. **INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 31 JANUARY 2018 TO 13 MARCH 2018**

There was submitted and noted Report No 95/18 by the Strategic Director – Place with regard to services in the Communities Directorate, appending Schedules in relation to:-

- (i) Schedule 1 – Arrears Update; and
- (ii) Schedule 2 – Angus Citizen's Survey.

7. **CAPITAL MONITORING – GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME – 2017/18**

With reference to Article 9 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 30 January 2018, there was submitted Report No 96/18 by the Head of Corporate Finance apprising members of the capital expenditure incurred for the period from 1 April 2017 to 31 January 2018 and measuring the projected capital expenditure for the year against budgeted provision for the year.

The Report indicated that with ten months (83%) of the financial year gone the actual spend levels presented in tables 1 and 2 in the Report could be considered low, although historically around 10% of capital spends came through as accruals at the year end. Work was ongoing on a number of significant projects for which no payment had yet been made by virtue of the

phasing of such projects. The projected net expenditure of £17.275million would be indicatively funded from the sources detailed in Table 3 in the Report.

The Committee agreed to note the expenditure position on the General Fund Capital Programme as at 31 January 2018 as per tables 1 and 2 within the Report and the Capital Monitoring Statement, attached as Appendix I to the Report.

8. REVENUE MONITORING 2017/18 AND RENEWAL AND REPAIR FUND POSITION 2017/18

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 30 January 2018, there was submitted Report No 97/18 by the Head of Corporate Finance providing revenue budget information and the latest projected year end position for each Council directorate and main service area. The Report also provided an update on the expenditure funded through the Council's Renewal and Repairs Fund.

The Report indicated that an underspend of £5.736million was projected at this point in the financial year in respect of General Fund services. There were a number of adjustments required to this total to reflect previously approved policy decisions, leaving an adjusted projected underspend of £3.561million.

Having heard from the Head of Corporate Finance in relation to the potential significant overspend within the Winter Maintenance budget and having also heard from the Convener who commended all who had worked extremely hard to ensure the roads infrastructure in Angus were gritted over the recent spell of severe weather, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the context, commentary and paragraph 3.2 of the Report and the relevance of the Report to the Council's 2018/2019 revenue budget strategy;
- (ii) to note the contents of the Report, and in particular the comments on the financial implications section regarding the projected year end position;
- (iii) to note the Renewal and Repair Fund position; and
- (iv) to approve the virement proposed in paragraph 4.11 of the Report.

9. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS – OPEN MARKET DISPOSAL – 39-41 KINNAIRD STREET, ARBROATH

There was submitted Report No 98/18 by the Head of Technical and Property Services seeking approval for a property transaction which had been provisionally agreed that would result in a capital receipt of £91,000 to the General Fund. The proceeds from the sale being "ring fenced" to support the costs of the construction of the new Brambles Cottages children's home in Arbroath.

The Committee agreed to approve the open market disposal of the former children's home at 39-41 Kinnaird Street, Arbroath after advertising on the open market to Anne Charles Estates Ltd for £91,000.

Councillor Duff, having declared a financial interest at item 2 above, left the meeting during consideration of the following item.

10. COMMON GOOD FUNDS – PROJECT APPROVALS

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 30 January 2018, there was submitted Report No 99/18 by the Head of Technical and Property Services seeking approval for 2017/18 Common Good funded projects.

Having noted the correction required within the table at paragraph 5.1 in the Report, the Committee agreed:-

(i) Forfar Common Good

to approve funding of £33,250 (as a one off towards a £107,750 project) to the Strathmore Rugby Club Community Trust for the employment costs of an officer to manage, develop and co-ordinate rugby related projects;

(ii) Montrose Common Good

to approve funding of £1,000 towards a £39,759 project to Montrose Tennis Club for the replacement of the playing surface of three old tennis courts (the southern courts).

11. DIGITAL STRATEGY

There was submitted Report No 100/18 by the Strategic Director – People seeking approval for the Digital Strategy for Angus and associated work plans.

The Report indicated that the Angus Digital Strategy was a customer centric approach to ensuring that Angus Council delivered digital services so good that customers preferred to use them, and to ensure that support was available to those who needed it. The Strategy built on previous work under the Transforming Angus programme and supported the themes in the Council Plan.

Having heard from Councillor Hands who raised a number of concerns and from Councillor Moore who requested that the document be revised to ensure it complied with Plain English Standards, Councillor Myles, seconded by Councillor Macmillan Douglas, moved that the Committee:-

- (i) approves the Angus Digital Strategy, the Technology Roadmap and the Angus Digital Work Plan all as appended to the Report; and
- (ii) instructs officers to bring forward, as required, specific reports with details and updates of the implementation programme, including any resource implications.

COUNCILLOR HANDS, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DEVINE, MOVED AS AN AMENDMENT, THAT CONSIDERATION OF REPORT NO 100/18 BE DEFERRED UNTIL ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES WERE ADDRESSED AND EMBEDDED IN THE STRATEGY.

On a vote being taken, members voted:

For the motion:

Councillors Myles, Macmillan Douglas, Davy, Moore, and Sturrock. (5)

For the amendment:

Councillors Boyd, Duff, Devine, Hands, King, and Whiteside. (6)

No votes:

Councillors Fairweather, Salmond and Wann. (3)

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

12. SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT WITH VOLUNTARY ACTION ANGUS FOR 2018/19

There was submitted Report No 101/18 by the Head of Strategic Policy, Transformation and Public Sector Reform, seeking approval of the proposed Service Level Agreement with Voluntary Action Angus (VAA).

The Report indicated that Voluntary Action Angus had been formed in 2012 by the merger of Angus Association of Voluntary Organisations and Voluntary Sector Angus in response to the

Scottish Government's requirement for key local third sector interfaces in each local authority area. The Council had entered into a Service Level Agreement to provide services which the Council wished to support with grant funding.

The provision of services by VAA was subject to the monitoring arrangements as set out in the Corporate Standard for Service Level Agreements. In addition, the Service Level Agreement required corporate reporting on the level and quality of the services provided, with the reports actively monitored by staff within the People and Place Directorates.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the provision of grant funding for the amount of £95,718 to Voluntary Action Angus for the financial year 2018/19 for the services outlined in paragraph 3.2 in the Report;
- (ii) to authorise the Head of Strategic Policy, Transformation and Public Sector Reform, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to agree the terms of a Service Level Agreement with Voluntary Action Angus to document the grant funding to support the provision of said services;
- (iii) to note the intention to bring forward an outcome focused agreement for future years which properly reflected the strategic role which VAA had in supporting implementation of the Angus Single Outcome Agreement and transforming the delivery of public services; and
- (iv) to note that the Strategic Director – Place would bring back a Report on the work of other Friday night projects.

13. ANGUS INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD – REVIEW OF THE INTEGRATION SCHEME – CARERS (SCOTLAND) ACT 2016

There was submitted Report No 103/18 by the Chief Executive advising members of the commencement of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 and of the exercise by the Chief Executive of delegated authority to require the review of the Integration Scheme between the Council and NHS Tayside in respect of the Angus Integration Joint Board and seeking approval to delegate authority to the Chief Integration Officer to require reviews of the Integration Scheme in certain circumstances.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 was due to commence on 1 April 2018 and that the Regulations required that certain functions of the Council required to be delegated to the Angus Integration Joint Board;
- (ii) to note the exercise by the Chief Executive of delegated authority to require a review of the Integration Scheme between the Council and NHS Tayside to provide for the delegation of certain Council functions to the Angus Integration Joint Board; and
- * (iii) to delegate authority to the Chief Integration Officer to require reviews of the Integration Scheme solely for the purposes of amending the Integration Scheme to incorporate statutory amendments to the functions that required to be delegated by NHS Tayside or the Council to the Angus Integration Joint Board.

COUNCILLOR MYLES, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MACMILLAN DOUGLAS, MOVED THAT CONSIDERATION OF ITEM 16 (REPORT NO 104/18) BE TAKEN IN PRIVATE, SO AS TO AVOID THE DISCLOSURE OF EXEMPT INFORMATION.

Councillor Duff, seconded by Councillor King, moved as an amendment, that consideration of item 16 be taken in public.

On a vote being taken, members voted:

For the motion:

Councillors Myles, Macmillan Douglas, Davy, Fairweather, Moore, Salmond, Sturrock, and Wann. (8)

For the amendment:

Councillors Boyd, Duff, Devine, Hands, King, and Whiteside. (6)

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

14. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Committee having agreed the above, resolved that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of item 15 also, so as to avoid the disclosure of information which was exempt in terms of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, paragraphs 6, 8 and 9.

15. EXEMPTION FROM TENDERING FOR PROVISION OF SUPPORT SERVICES FOR ADULTS WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

With reference to Article 9 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 7 June 2016, there was submitted Report No 102/18 by the Chief Officer, Angus Health and Social Care Partnership requesting exemption from the usual requirement under the Council's Financial Regulations Section 16.24 and to approve a direct award of the contract for the Provision of Support Services for Adults with Mental Health Problems for a period of one year.

The Committee agreed to approve the recommendations, as detailed in the Report.

16. 5-7 THE CROSS, FORFAR

With reference to Article 12 of the minute of meeting of Angus Council of 11 September 2014, there was submitted Report No 104/18 by the Head of Technical and Property Services, seeking approval for the sale of 5-7 The Cross, Forfar.

Having heard from a number of members, the Committee agreed to approve the sale of 5-7 The Cross, in principle, to allow the purchaser to undertake its survey of the premises, thereafter to formally accept the offer and to vacate the property.