

# ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of **ANGUS COUNCIL** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 10 May 2018 at 2.00pm.

**Present:** Provost RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, Depute Provost COLIN BROWN, Councillors JULIE BELL, BRIAN BOYD, KENNY BRAES, DAVID CHEAPE, BRADEN DAVY, LYNNE DEVINE, ANGUS MACMILLAN DOUGLAS OBE, BILL DUFF, BRENDA DURNO, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, CRAIG FOTHERINGAM, SHEILA HANDS, ALEX KING, BEN LAWRIE, DAVID LUMGAIR, MARK McDONALD, IAN McLAREN, RICHARD MOORE, BOB MYLES, GAVIN NICOL, MARK SALMOND, LOIS SPEED, TOMMY STEWART, RON STURROCK, DEREK WANN and BETH WHITESIDE.

PROVOST RONNIE PROCTOR, in the Chair

Prior to the commencement of business, the Provost referred to the recent sudden death of former Councillor Glennis Middleton following which a minute's silence was observed.

Thereafter, the Provost and several other members of the Council paid tribute to her, referring to the passion and commitment she had demonstrated in every aspect of her public life. The Provost intimated that he had written to former Provost Bill Middleton extending the sympathies of the Council to him and his family.

## 1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies intimated.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Myles, Braes and Nicol each declared an interest in Item 4 as they had attended various public meetings and had received correspondence in relation to this matter. Each indicated that they would participate in any discussion or voting on this matter.

## 3. RECEPTION OF A DEPUTATION

The Council resolved to receive a deputation from Ms Lee Ann Waddell, Vice Chair of Stracathro Parent Council in relation to item 4.

Following the deputation, Ms Waddell withdrew to the public benches.

*In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 11(1) the Council agreed that the order of business be varied and proceed in the following order.*

## 4. ANGUS SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE: PROPOSALS FOR RURAL SCHOOLS IN BRECHIN CLUSTER

With reference to Article 3 of the minute of the special meeting of Angus Council of 20 February 2018, there was submitted Report No 155/18 by the Strategic Director – People providing an update on the current consultation on the proposed closures of Lethnot, Tarfside and Stracathro Primary School and the adjustment to the catchment area for Edzell Primary School. The Report highlighted the Council's work to actively engage with stakeholders, listen to and respond to their views and that in response to the feedback received, it was proposed that the consultation to close Stracathro Primary School be stopped.

Councillor Myles, seconded by Councillor Nicol, moved that this Council:-

- (i) notes the contents of the Report and the comprehensive consultation process that had been undertaken, as detailed in section 4 of the Report;
- (ii) agrees to stop the formal consultation on the proposed closure of Stracathro Primary School and its Early Learning and Child Care Provision; and
- (iii) notes that the Council would produce a consultation report incorporating comments from Education Scotland and submit it to a future meeting of the Children and Learning Committee and full Council.

Having heard from several members, the Council resolved accordingly.

## **5. MINUTES OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES**

### **(i) Minutes of Council Meetings**

#### **(a) Angus Council**

The minute of meeting of Angus Council of 22 March 2018 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

#### **(b) (Special) Angus Council**

The minute of the special meeting of Angus Council of 19 April 2018 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

### **(ii) Minutes of Committees**

#### **(c) Development Management Review Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Development Management Review Committee of 3 April 2018 was submitted and noted.

#### **(d) Civic Licensing Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Civic Licensing Committee of 17 April 2018 was submitted and noted.

#### **(e) Communities Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Communities Committee of 17 April 2018 was submitted and noted with the exception of the undernoted:-

#### **Disposal and Buy Back for Majority Share**

The Council resolved to delegate authority to the Service Leader – Housing to approve the purchase and disposal of suitable properties in terms of Report No 117/18.

#### **(f) Children and Learning Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Children and Learning Committee of 19 April 2018 was submitted and noted.

#### **(g) Development Standards Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Development Standards Committee of 24 April 2018 was submitted and noted.

#### **(h) Scrutiny and Audit Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Scrutiny and Audit Committee of 24 April 2018 was submitted and noted.

#### **(i) Development Management Review Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Development Management Review Committee of 25 April 2018 was submitted and noted.

#### **(j) Policy and Resources Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee of 1 May 2018 was submitted and noted.

#### **(k) Development Management Review Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Development Management Review Committee of 2 May 2018 was submitted and noted.

## **6. COMMITTEE MEETING WEBCASTING**

With reference to Article 4(iii) of the minute of meeting of Angus Council of 8 February 2018, there was submitted Report No 156/18 by the Strategic Director – People outlining two options for delivering audio and video streaming and recording of committee meetings providing the capability for citizens to watch/listen to meetings on digital devices, either live or at a later date.

The Report indicated that no specific provision for the costs detailed in the Report had been provided in the 2018/19 revenue or capital budgets and that if members were minded to approve the adoption of webcasting Council meetings, it was recommended that final costs and funding options be brought forward in a further Report.

Councillor Davy, seconded by Councillor Lawrie, moved that this Council:-

- (i) thanks officers for their hard work and agrees with the principles of making Angus Council more transparent and accountable with webcasting;
- (ii) understands however, that this was not budgeted for in the current financial year 2018/19 and funding would need to be allocated from alternative options;
- (iii) also understands Angus Council is facing reductions in its budget every year and decisions about future budget allocations from the Scottish Government have yet to be made; and therefore
- (iv) delays the Report until the next budget cycle to see what budget settlement Angus would receive and to explore alternative options for the funding of this project, such as funding to implement the Scottish Government's Community Empowerment legislation. This would also provide more time to consider how those who have disabilities, such as BSL requirements, could engage with webcasting.

The Council resolved accordingly.

## **7. DIGITAL STRATEGY**

With reference to Article 11 of the minute of meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee of 13 March 2018, there was submitted Report No 157/18 by the Strategic Director – People seeking approval for the digital strategy for Angus Council and associated work plans.

The strategy set out the Council's approach and the measures intended to use to monitor progress. In order to deliver this a technology roadmap had been developed to ensure that the Council maintained and advanced each of the necessary components required to provide the platform for improving services.

Having heard from a number of members, the Council resolved:

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

## **8. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

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

**9. SALE OF ELLIOT DEPOT, ARBROATH**

With reference to Article 13 of the minute of meeting of Angus Council of 7 December 2017, there was submitted Report No 160/18 by the Head of Infrastructure seeking approval for the sale of Elliot Depot, Arbroath.

The Council resolved to approve the recommendation, as detailed in the Report.