

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of SPECIAL MEETING of **ANGUS COUNCIL** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 21 February 2019 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, BILL DUFF, BRENDA DURNO, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, CRAIG FOTHERINGAM, SHEILA HANDS, ALEX KING, BEN LAWRIE, DAVID LUMGAIR, ANGUS MACMILLAN DOUGLAS OBE, MARK McDONALD, IAN McLAREN, BOB MYLES, GAVIN NICOL, MARK SALMOND, LOIS SPEED, TOMMY STEWART, RON STURROCK, DEREK WANN and BETH WHITESIDE.

PROVOST RONNIE PROCTOR, in the Chair

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies intimated.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Bell, Myles and Speed declared an interest in items 3(iii) and 3(iv) as members of Angus Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board. Each indicated that they would take part in any discussion and voting on these items.

Councillors Devine, Brown, Proctor and Duff each declared an interest in item 3(v) as Council appointed directors of ANGUSAlive. Each indicated that they would participate in any discussion and voting on this item.

3. REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET 2019/20 AND BEYOND AND SETTING OF THE 2019/20 COUNCIL TAX AND RELATED ISSUES

At this point in the meeting, the Democratic and Members Services Manager reported on the discussions that had taken at the meeting of the Central Consultative Committee held earlier in the day.

This was noted.

The Depute Chief Executive then advised members that at a special meeting of the Children and Learning Committee held earlier that day the Committee had considered Report No 67/19 being Proposed Budget Efficiencies within the School Staffing Budget. An amendment had been submitted in relation to the reduction in additional primary teachers and that following a vote, the recommendations of the Report had been agreed.

The Council resolved to note the position.

Thereafter, there was submitted the following:-

- (i) Report No 51/19 by the Chief Executive, being the Council Plan, Financial Plan and Workforce Plan setting out the Council's strategic direction, vision, priorities and planned changes;
- (ii) Joint Report No 52/19 by the Head of Finance and Legal, the Head of Communities and Head of Infrastructure, being a review of charges within the Place Directorate and setting out proposals for the changes to be levied by service areas for the financial year 2019/20 (along with an Addendum that corrected a reference within item 5 "Special Uplift of Bulky Household Items").
- (iii) Report No 53/19 by the Chief Officer, Angus Health and Social Care Partnership, setting out proposals to revise the Support and Care and Residential fees for services provided by Angus Health and Social Care Partnership through Angus Council with effect from April 2019;

- (iv) Report No 54/19 by the Head of Finance and Legal, summarising the proposed revenue budgets being devolved to Angus Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board for 2019/20 which had responsibility for the delivery of Adult Care Services;
- (v) Joint Report No 55/19 by the Head of Finance and Legal and the Head of Strategic Policy, Transformation and Public Sector Reform, summarising the proposed 2019/20 budget settlement between Angus Council and ANGUSALive;
- (vi) Report No 56/19 by the Head of Strategic Policy, Transformation and Public Sector Reform, providing details in relation to the Council's Change Programme for budget setting purposes;
- (vii) Report No 57/19 by the Head of Finance and Legal, apprising members of the provisional revenue budget submissions of each Council service and the budget savings considered necessary to allow the Council to deliver a sustainable revenue budget within the resources expected to be available and setting out the provisional Capital Budget submissions for those services with capital expenditure;
- (viii) Report No 58/19 by the Head of Finance and Legal, being the provisional revenue budget for 2019/20 (including budget issues for 2019/20);
- (ix) Report No 59/19 by the Head of Finance and Legal, being the 2018/2023 Financial Plan and provisional capital budget for 2019/20;
- (x) Report No 60/19 by the Head of Finance and Legal, being the Capital Strategy for the financial year 2019/20;
- (xi) Report No 61/19 by the Head of Finance and Legal, setting out the further steps that required to be taken with regard to the setting of the Council Tax Charge for Angus Council in respect of the financial year 2019/20;
- (xii) Report No 62/19 by the Head of Finance and Legal, summarising the outcome from an assessment of the long-term affordability of the Council's 2018/2023 Financial Plan carried out as part of the Council's longer term financial management strategy; and
- (xiii) Report No 63/19 by the Head of Finance and Legal, advising members of the prudential indicators which the Council was required to consider and approve as part of the Budgets setting process.

COUNCILLOR MACMILLAN DOUGLAS, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR FAIRWEATHER MOVED THAT THIS COUNCIL:-

1. NOTES THE VIEWS OF THE TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES ON THE CENTRAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ARISING FROM THEIR MEETING EARLIER TODAY;
2. NOTES THE VIEWS OF THE SPECIAL CHILDREN & LEARNING COMMITTEE ARISING FROM THEIR MEETING EARLIER TODAY;
3. APPROVES THE DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN, SUMMARY FINANCIAL PLAN & WORKFORCE PLAN AS SET OUT IN REPORT 51/19, NOTING THAT THESE DOCUMENTS WOULD BE UPDATED FOR FINAL PUBLICATION FOLLOWING THE DECISIONS MADE AT THIS MEETING;
4. NOTES THE EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS THAT HAD BEEN PREPARED AS PART OF THE 2019/20 REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS AND THE FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY ASSESSMENT (APPENDIX 4 OF REPORT 57/19);
5. NOTES THE LATEST 2018/19 REVENUE AND CAPITAL MONITORING POSITION AS REPORTED TO THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON 29 JANUARY 2019 AS SET OUT IN REPORTS 25/19 AND 26/19;
6. APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS SET OUT IN REPORT 52/19 RELATING TO THE 2019/20 PLACE DIRECTORATE REVIEW OF FEES & CHARGES (INCLUDING THE ADDENDUM, AS TABLED);

7. APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS SET OUT IN REPORT 53/19 AS SUBMITTED BY THE CHIEF OFFICER, ANGUS IJB RELATING TO THE 2019/20 REVIEW OF SUPPORT AND CARE SERVICES AND RESIDENTIAL FEES;
8. NOTES THE RECOMMENDATION AS SET OUT IN REPORT 54/19 AS SUBMITTED BY THE HEAD OF FINANCE & LEGAL RELATING TO HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION – DEVOLVED BUDGET TO ANGUS HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD 2019/20;
9. APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATION AS SET OUT IN REPORT 55/19 AS SUBMITTED BY THE HEAD OF FINANCE & LEGAL AND THE HEAD OF STRATEGIC POLICY, TRANSFORMATION AND PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM RELATING TO ANGUSALIVE BUDGET SETTLEMENT 2019/20;
10. APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS SET OUT IN REPORT 56/19 AS SUBMITTED BY THE HEAD OF STRATEGIC POLICY, TRANSFORMATION AND PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM RELATING TO THE CHANGE PROGRAMME UPDATE INCLUDING SCHEDULES 4A AND 4B OF THAT REPORT;
11. APPROVES THE PROVISIONAL BASE REVENUE BUDGET SUBMISSIONS FOR EACH DIRECTORATE FOR 2019/20 IN REPORT 58/19;
12. APPROVES THE BUDGET ISSUES TOTALLING £1.333 MILLION (£1.277 MILLION ONGOING AND £0.056 MILLION ONE OFF) TO BE ADDED TO DIRECTORATE BASE BUDGETS AS SET OUT IN REPORT 57/19;
13. APPROVES THE CAPITAL FINANCING COSTS BUDGET OF £13.198 MILLION; THE PROVISION FOR 2018/19 PAY AWARD OF £4.015 MILLION; THE PROVISION FOR THE 2019/20 PAY AWARD OF £3.903 MILLION; THE PROVISION FOR ENERGY COST INCREASES OF £0.420 MILLION; A PROVISION FOR INCOME FROM COUNCIL TAX ON LONG TERM EMPTY PROPERTIES AND SECOND HOMES OF £0.250 MILLION; A PROVISION FOR SURPLUS LOCAL COUNCIL TAX INCOME OF £0.200 MILLION; A PROVISION FOR NON-DOMESTIC RATES COST INCREASES OF £0.153 MILLION; ALL OF WHICH WERE SHOWN ON THE NET EXPENDITURE SUMMARY (APPENDIX 1) OF REPORT 57/19;
14. APPROVES THE PROVISIONAL REVENUE BUDGET SUBMISSION (EXCLUDING LOAN CHARGES) FOR 2019/20 FOR THE TAYSIDE VALUATION (ASSESSORS) JOINT BOARD AT £0.743 MILLION AS SHOWN ON THE NET EXPENDITURE SUMMARY (APPENDIX 1) IN REPORT 57/19, NOTING THAT THE FINALISED BUDGET SUBMISSION FOR 2019/20 OF THE TAYSIDE VALUATION JOINT BOARD WAS AGREED AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD IN JANUARY 2019;
15. APPROVES THE PROVISIONAL REVENUE BUDGET SURPLUS FOR 2019/20 OF THE TAYSIDE CONTRACTS JOINT ARRANGEMENT OF £0.460 MILLION, AS SHOWN ON NET EXPENDITURE SUMMARY (APPENDIX 1) IN REPORT 57/19, NOTING THAT THE BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR THE TAYSIDE CONTRACTS JOINT ARRANGEMENT HAD YET TO BE FORMALLY APPROVED BY THE JOINT COMMITTEE;
16. APPROVES THE TOTAL REVISED ESTIMATED NET REVENUE EXPENDITURE FOR 2019/20 RESULTING FROM REPORT 57/19 OF £269.420 MILLION FOR ANGUS COUNCIL AS SHOWN IN APPENDIX 1 OF REPORT 57/19;
17. APPROVES THE PROPOSED 1.75% LEVEL FOR COUNCIL TAX NON-COLLECTION IN 2019/20. THIS WOULD RESULT IN A BAND D EQUIVALENT TAX BASE OF 46,477 AS SET OUT IN STATEMENT 1 (AS CIRCULATED WITH THIS MOTION);
18. APPROVES THE DRAWDOWN OF £1.910 MILLION FROM GENERAL FUND BALANCES FOR INVESTMENT PROPOSALS AS SET OUT IN STATEMENT 2 (AS CIRCULATED WITH THIS MOTION);
19. APPROVES THE DRAWDOWN OF £0.500 MILLION FROM GENERAL FUND BALANCES FOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE CHANGE FUND AS SET OUT IN STATEMENT 2;

20. APPROVES THE DRAWDOWN OF A FURTHER £1.605 MILLION FROM GENERAL FUND BALANCES WHICH WAS REQUIRED TO DELIVER A BALANCED BUDGET IN 2019/20 AS SET OUT IN STATEMENT 2;
21. APPROVES THE COUNCIL TAX CALCULATION STATEMENT, WHICH ENCOMPASSED ALL OF THE APPROPRIATE ELEMENTS OF THIS MOTION AS SET OUT IN STATEMENT 2.
22. AGREES THAT THE ANGUS COUNCIL BAND D COUNCIL TAX CHARGE FOR 2019/20 BE AS FOLLOWS: -

COUNCIL TAX (BAND D) £1,171.40 (AS SET OUT IN STATEMENT 2).
23. NOTES THE IMPACT OF THE 3% INCREASE IN COUNCIL TAX WHICH IS REQUIRED TO DELIVER A BALANCED BUDGET IN 2019/20, AS SET OUT IN STATEMENT 3 (AS CIRCULATED WITH THIS MOTION);
24. NOTES THE IMPACT ON THE LEVEL OF EARMARKED RESERVES OF THE PROPOSALS DETAILED IN THIS MOTION, AS DETAILED IN STATEMENT 4 (AS CIRCULATED WITH HIS MOTION);
25. AGREES THAT THE PROJECTED UNCOMMITTED GENERAL FUND BALANCE AT 1 APRIL 2020 OF £5.838 MILLION AS SHOWN IN STATEMENT 4 REMAIN UNCOMMITTED AT THIS TIME TO PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY FOR FUTURE YEAR BUDGETS AND AS AN ADDITIONAL CONTINGENCY AGAINST BUDGET RISKS WHICH MAY EMERGE DURING 2019/20;
26. APPROVES THE INDIVIDUAL DIRECTORATE CAPITAL BUDGETS WHICH GAVE A TOTAL ESTIMATED NET CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2019/20 OF £31.551MILLION FOR ANGUS COUNCIL AS SHOWN ON PAGE 4 OF REPORT 59/19;
27. NOTES THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT 60/19 REGARDING THE CAPITAL STRATEGY FOR 2019/20;
28. APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT 62/19 REGARDING THE LONG TERM AFFORDABILITY OF THE GENERAL FUND FINANCIAL PLAN; AND
29. APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT 63/19 REGARDING THE SETTING OF PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS FOR THE 2019/20 BUDGET PROCESS AMENDED TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE CHANGES TO THE REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS OUTLINED ABOVE AS SET OUT IN STATEMENT 5 (AS CIRCULATED WITH THIS MOTION).

Councillor Cheape, seconded by Councillor Boyd, moved as an amendment, that this Council, in addition to the agreed priority projects within Appendix 2 to Report 62/19:

a) Approves: -

- The inclusion of a £2.464 million provision within the Provisional Capital Budget to allow the creation of a new South Angus waste management and recycling centre to replace the current facilities in Monifieth and Carnoustie. The estimated capital cost, as detailed in Appendix A (as circulated with this amendment);
- The funding of this provision through use of £2.464 million of the £3.239 million General Contingency Provision as detailed in Appendix 2 to Report 62/19.

b) Notes:-

- The estimated full-year savings of £26k arising from the creation of the new South Angus waste management and recycling centre and closure of the current facilities in Monifieth and Carnoustie, as detailed in Appendix B (as circulated with this amendment).

The Council resolved to adjourn for 20 minutes to allow the opportunity for members to consider the contents of both the motion and the amendment.

The meeting resumed at 3.20pm.

Having heard from a number of members, the members voted:-

For the motion:-

Provost Ronnie Proctor, Depute Provost Colin Brown, Councillors Davy, Fairweather, Fortheringham, Lawrie, Lumgair, Macmillian Douglas, McLaren, Myles, Nicol, Salmond, Speed, Stewart, Sturrock and Wann (16).

For the amendment:-

Councillors Bell, Boyd, Braes, Cheape, Devine, Duff, Durno, Hands, King, McDonald and Whiteside (11).

The motion was declared carried.

Thereafter, Councillor Duff, having given notice of a further amendment, seconded by Councillor Devine, moved that this Council accepts the proposals as set out in the recommendations of the Reports on this agenda, amended as follows:-

1. Notes the Equality Impact Assessments that had been prepared as part of the 2019/20 Revenue and Capital Budgets and the Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment (Appendix 4 of Report 57/19);
2. Approves the recommendations as set out in Report 52/19 relating to the 2019/20 Place Directorate review of fees & charges including the adoption of Option 2 as the basis for revised charging for street naming and house numbering charges (Schedule 1 of Report 52/19 refers);
3. Approves the recommendations as set out in Report 53/19 as submitted by the Chief Officer, Angus Health and Social Care Partnership relating to the 2019/20 review of Support and Care Services and Residential Fees, except for the following where the proposed charge increases are not to be implemented:-
 - Paragraph 4.1: Charges for Angus Council Support and Care Services (Assessed) - £31,000 additional income would not now be received;
 - Paragraph 4.2: Charges for Angus Council Support and Care Services (Flat Rate) - £32,000 additional income would not now be received;

Note that the £63,000 total loss of income arising would impact onto the Angus Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board's 2019/20 revenue budget and did not directly affect the Council's.
4. Notes the recommendation as set out in Report 54/19 as submitted by the Head of Finance & Legal relating to Health & Social Care Integration – Devolved Budget to Angus Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board For 2019/20, amended as follows:-
 - Paragraph 5: 1% budget reduction of £445,000 is not applied resulting in a revised devolved budget for 2019/20 of £47.947 million.
5. Approves the recommendations as set out in Report 56/19 as submitted by the Head of Strategic Policy, Transformation and Public Sector Reform relating to the Change Programme including the various schedules of that Report, except for the following where the proposed savings are not to be implemented:-
 - Schedule 4b, Paragraph 5.1: 8.5FTE reduction in Primary School teaching staff in nine schools based on an analysis of Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. This will reduce the savings to be applied by £204,000 in 2019/20.

6. Approves the provisional revenue budget submissions for each directorate for 2019/20 detailed in Report 58/19 amended as follows:-
 - Communities: increase the budget provision by £82,000 through not applying the compensating savings from amendment of local bus services provision as detailed in Report 57/19, Paragraph 7.3;
 - Infrastructure: increase the budget provision by £98,000 through not applying the compensating savings from amendment of winter maintenance provision as detailed in Report 57/19, Paragraph 7.3.
7. Approves the total revised estimated net revenue expenditure for 2019/20 resulting from the above noted amendments of £270.249 million for Angus Council, as shown in Appendix A (as circulated with this amendment);
8. Approves the reduction in the General Fund contingency from £4m to £3m over a 3 year period. This would release £333,000 to General Fund balances for 2019/20, as set out in Appendix B (as circulated with this amendment);
9. Approves £3.940 million of the £3.990 million of Investment Proposals (detailed in Appendix 3 of Report 57/19) to be drawn down from General Fund balances, as set out in Appendix C (as circulated with this amendment);
10. Approves the provision of £500,000 to replenish the Change Fund (proposed in paragraph 5.4 of Report 61/19) to be drawn down from General Fund balances, as set out in Appendix C;
11. Approves £500,000 to be drawn down from General Fund balances to provide a contingency to address the impact of Brexit, as set out in Appendix C;
12. Approves the drawdown of £50,000 from General Fund balances to improve digital connectivity of Access services to allow all Angus citizens to have equality of access to Council services and information, as set out in Appendix C;
13. Approves the drawdown of a further £2.434 million from General Fund Balances which was required to deliver a balanced budget in 2019/20, as set out in Appendix C;
14. Approves the Council Tax Calculation Statement, which encompassed all of the appropriate elements of this amendment, as set out in Appendix C;
15. Agrees that the Angus Council Band D Council Tax Charge for 2019/20 be as follows:-

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| Council Tax (Band D) | £1,171.40 (as set out in Appendix C) |
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16. Notes the impact of the 3% increase in Council Tax which was required to deliver a balanced budget in 2019/20, as set out in Appendix D;
17. Notes the impact on the level of Earmarked Reserves of the proposals detailed in this amendment, as detailed in Appendix B;
18. Agrees that the projected uncommitted General Fund balance at 1 April 2020 of £2.762 million as detailed in Appendix B remained uncommitted at this time to provide flexibility for future year budgets and as an additional contingency against budget risks which may emerge during 2019/20;
19. Approves the individual directorate capital budgets adjusted as detailed in Appendix E (as circulated with this amendment) noting that these adjustments have a neutral impact on the estimated 2019/20 net capital expenditure for Angus Council as set out in Report 62/19.
20. Approves the recommendations of Report 62/19 regarding the Long Term Affordability of the General Fund Financial Plan; and
21. Approves the recommendations of Report 63/19 regarding the Setting of Prudential Indicators for the 2019/20 budget process amended as shown in Appendix F (as circulated with this amendment) to account for the contents of this amendment.

There was also circulated a comparison paper produced by the Head of Finance and Legal in relation to the motion and the further amendment.

The Council resolved to adjourn for 20 minutes to afford the opportunity for members to consider the contents of the further amendment.

(Councillor Hands left the meeting at this point).

The meeting resumed at 4.20pm

Having heard from of a number of members, the members voted:-

For the motion:-

Provost Ronnie Proctor, Depute Provost Colin Brown, Councillors Davy, Fairweather, Fotheringham, Lawrie, Lumgair, Macmillan Douglas, McLaren, Myles, Nicol, Salmond, Speed, Stewart, Sturrock and Wann (16).

For the (further) amendment:-

Councillors Bell, Boyd, Braes, Cheape, Devine, Duff, Durno, King, McDonald and Whiteside (10).

The motion was declared carried and the Council resolved accordingly.