

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of **ANGUS COUNCIL** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 8 February 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, BILL DUFF, BRENDA DURNO, CRAIG FOTHERINGAM, SHEILA HANDS, ALEX KING, BEN LAWRIE, DAVID LUMGAIR, ANGUS MACMILLAN DOUGLAS OBE, MARK McDONALD, IAN McLAREN, RICHARD MOORE, BOB MYLES, GAVIN NICOL, 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 Perth and Kinross Council Leader Ian Campbell. The Provost indicated that on behalf of the Council he had written to Mr Campbell's widow sending his condolences.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors David Fairweather and Mark Salmond.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Braes, Cheape, Lumgair and Sturrock each declared a financial interest in item 4(iv) as they were shareholders in the Royal Bank of Scotland. All indicated that they would not participate in any discussion and voting and would leave the meeting during consideration of this item.

Councillors Duff, King, Myles, McLaren, MacMillan Douglas and Nicol each declared an interest in item 4(iv) in that they were customers of the Royal Bank of Scotland. All indicated that they would participate in any discussion and voting on this item.

3. MINUTES OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

(i) Minutes of Council Meetings

(a) Angus Council

The minute of meeting of Angus Council of 7 December 2017 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

(b) Angus Council (Special)

The minute of the special meeting of Angus Council of 30 January 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 18 December 2017 was submitted and noted.

(d) Civic Licensing Committee

The minute of meeting of the Civic Licensing Committee of 4 January 2018 was submitted and noted.

(e) Development Standards Committee

The minute of meeting of the Development Standards Committee of 4 January 2018 was submitted and noted.

(f) Children and Learning Committee

The minute of meeting of the Children and Learning Committee of 9 January 2018 was submitted and noted.

(g) Communities Committee

The minute of meeting of the Communities Committee of 16 January 2018 was submitted and noted.

(h) Development Management Review Committee

The minute of meeting of the Development Management Review Committee of 23 January 2018 was submitted and noted.

(i) Scrutiny and Audit Committee

The minute of meeting of the Scrutiny and Audit Committee of 23 January 2018 was submitted and noted.

(j) Children and Learning Committee (Special)

The minute of the special meeting of the Children and Learning Committee of 30 January 2018 was submitted and noted.

(k) Policy and Resources Committee

The minute of meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee of 30 January 2018 was submitted and noted.

4. MOTIONS IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 25(1)

(i) Membership of Tayside Valuation Joint Board

Councillor Myles, seconded by Councillor Brown, moved that in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 2(2)(4) of Statutory Instrument 1995 No 2589 (S186) whereby "A constituent authority may at any time terminate the membership of any person appointed by them as a member of a Board":

- (i) this Council replaces Councillor Cheape as a member of Tayside Valuation Joint Board with Councillor Sturrock, thus maintaining political balance; and
- (ii) as a consequence of (i) above, as Councillor Cheape was appointed Convener of Tayside Valuation Joint Board, to recommend that Councillor Nicol be appointed Convener.

Councillor Devine, intimated that she had an amendment, the terms of which were made available to the Provost.

The meeting adjourned for ten minutes to allow the Provost to obtain advice from the Head of Legal and Democratic Services.

The meeting reconvened at 2.12pm, following which the Provost ruled that the terms of the amendment by Councillor Devine was not competent as it did not comply with the principles of maintaining political balance.

Consequently, the motion was declared carried and the Council resolved accordingly.

(ii) Policy Budget and Strategy Group

Councillor Myles, seconded by Councillor Brown, moved that this Council replaces Councillor Cheape as a member of the Policy Budget and Strategy Group with Councillor Sturrock, thus maintaining political balance.

The Council resolved to approve the motion.

(iii) Webcasting of Council and Committee Meetings

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

- (i) notes that members of the public may not always be able to attend Council meetings or access Council minutes on the Council's website;
- (ii) notes that many Councils both larger and smaller than Angus have webcasting facilities such as Moray and Edinburgh at varying costs; and
- (iii) requests that a short briefing is provided by the relevant Council officers outlining proposed systems and an estimated cost of webcasting/broadcasting of Angus Council and committee meetings.

Having heard from a number of members, the Council resolved to approve the motion.

Having declared a financial interest at item 2 above Councillors Braes, Cheape, Lumgair and Sturrock left the meeting during consideration of this item.

(iv) RBS Branch Montrose

Councillor Duff, seconded by Councillor Bell, moved that this Council:-

- (i) notes that RBS had announced the closure of its branch in Montrose which left the state owned bank with branches in Arbroath and Forfar within Angus and left customers in the Mearns and North Angus without any RBS branch within easy travelling distance;
- (ii) calls on the Chief Executive to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer objecting to the closure of the RBS Branch in Montrose as this would have an adverse effect on many of our residents who were unable to access electronic or telephone banking; and
- (iii) notes that the UK Government held over 70% of the shares in RBS and had kept the bank afloat after the financial crash of 2008. Closing rural branches in Scotland was a sore dividend for loyal customers of RBS, and that the provision of mobile vans provided an inadequate response in terms of a full range of services, confidentiality and access for disabled customers.

Having heard from a number of members, the Council resolved to approve the motion.

5. APPOINTMENTS

(i) Scrutiny and Audit Committee

The Council resolved to note that with reference to Article 6(i) of the minute of meeting of 7 December 2017, as Councillor Brown was already a member of the Committee, that Councillor Fairweather was appointed to Scrutiny and Audit Committee to fill the existing vacancy.