

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday, 26 February 2019, at 2.00 pm.

Present: Councillors MARK SALMOND, TOMMY STEWART, JULIE BELL, KENNY BRAES, DAVID CHEAPE, GAVIN NICOL, LYNNE DEVINE, BILL DUFF, BRENDA DURNO, COLIN BROWN, DAVID LUMGAIR, IAN McLAREN, RICHARD MOORE, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, and LOIS SPEED.

Councillor SALMOND, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Braden Davy and Craig Fotheringham, with Councillors Gavin Nicol and Colin Brown substituting, respectively.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Braes declared a non-financial interest in Item 5 (Report No 65/19) in that he had received correspondence and taken part in conversations with constituents, but had expressed no opinion on the subject of the Report. He indicated that he would participate in any discussion and voting on the item.

3. MINUTES

(a) Previous Meeting

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 15 January 2019 was submitted, approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

At this point the Convener gave the following updates arising from that meeting:-

(i) Proposed Pedestrian Crossing, Keptie Street, Arbroath (Article 6 refers)

The Convener advised that the site visit had taken place and the outcome would be reported to the next meeting of this Committee.

At this point, having heard from Councillor Moore who had not been notified of the site visit, the Head of Infrastructure gave an assurance that he would make arrangements for Councillor Moore to have an opportunity to visit the site on the same basis as had other members.

(ii) Development of Parking Charges (Article 10 refers)

The Convener advised that the Member/Officer Working Group had met on three occasions to date and had requested that possible options be tested through a public survey process. The results would inform the recommendations in a report to be presented to a future meeting of this Committee.

(b) Special Meeting

The minute of Special Meeting of this Committee of 12 February 2019 was submitted, approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

4. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 14 NOVEMBER 2018 TO 26 FEBRUARY 2019

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 13 November 2018, there was submitted and noted Report No 64/19 by the Strategic Director - Place, together with three schedules, namely :-

Schedule 1 Scottish Road Maintenance Condition Survey Results and Local Government Benchmarking Framework;

Schedule 2 Public Sector Housing Grant 2018/19 – Quarter 3 to 31 December 2018; and

Schedule 3 Planning Performance Framework.

These Schedules provided information to members with regard to services delivered in the Place Directorate for the relevant period.

With reference to Schedule 1, it was noted that the Council had moved out of the top quartile of roads authorities, from eighth to eleventh place out of thirty two authorities. The Convener noted that the Council had put an additional £750,000 into the relevant budget.

In response to a question from Councillor Cheape, the Head of Infrastructure advised that funds were allocated on needs assessed on a whole-Angus basis.

With reference to Schedule 3, having heard from Councillors Bell and Proctor, it was agreed that congratulations from the Committee be relayed to staff on the positive feedback received by the Council on the 2018 Planning Performance Framework.

5. DISPOSAL OF MOBILE HALF PIPE

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of the Environmental and Leisure Services Committee of 11 October 2005, there was submitted Report No 65/19 by the Head of Communities regarding the future of a Mobile Half Pipe, formerly used across burghs with no wheeled sports provision throughout the summer months. It had been in secure storage since 2016 with only occasional use from 2013. It was in relatively poor condition and would require expenditure of up to £6,000 to bring it into a serviceable condition. It was proposed to invite expressions of interest from community groups in acquiring this item, to be assessed by the Community Asset Transfer Group. The successful applicant would be responsible for on-costs including uplift and transportation from storage and any remedial works required.

The Committee heard Councillor Braes, who indicated that he was aware of one community group who had previously expressed an interest and who were ready to take on the work required to restore the half pipe to service. The group were still waiting to hear the outcome of this request.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the disposal of the Mobile Half Pipe to the Community Group; and
- (ii) that this matter be progressed expeditiously, with interested groups being kept fully informed of progress.

6. UPDATE OF THE WASTE AND RECYCLING BIN POLICY

With reference to Article 13 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 17 January 2017, there was submitted Report No 66/19 by the Head of Communities, proposing an update to the Council's waste and recycling bin policy to take account of the forthcoming extension to bin collection times each day. The new way of working was derived from the Change Programme, showing a significant annual saving target of £160,000 to the Council. Besides changing the waste and recycling bin policy to reflect that bins would now be collected from 6am, amendments were also proposed to arrangements for customers reporting missed waste bin collections and for missed food waste bin collections.

The Head of Communities responded to questions from Councillors Braes and Cheape. Thereafter, the Committee agreed to approve the updated waste and recycling bin policy as set out in Appendix 1 to the Report.