

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 3 March 2015 at 2.00 pm.

Present: Councillors MAIRI EVANS, SHEILA HANDS, BILL BOWLES, BILL DUFF, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, IAIN GAUL, JEANETTE GAUL, MARTYN GEDDES, ALEX KING, IAN MCLAREN, DAVID MAY, ROB MURRAY, BOB MYLES, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE and BOB SPINK.

Councillor EVANS, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

There were no apologies intimated.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 20 January 2015 was submitted and approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

4. ANGUS COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME REVIEW

With reference to Article 7 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 20 January 2015, there was submitted Report No 110/15 by the Chief Executive, advising members of applications to Angus Council of £1,000 or less, submitted, and/or approved since 20 January 2015. The Report also proposed changes to the processing of the Angus Council Community Scheme to take effect from 1 April 2015 and recommended the ring fencing of funds to support the Scottish Government Focus Years.

The Report indicated that it was proposed that within the Fund there was an annual £15,000 ring fenced in line with the Scottish Government Focus Years, this followed on from the work done on the legacy of the Commonwealth Games and the benefits associated with ring fencing some funding specifically for sports/Commonwealth related projects. This generated a lot of activity around the focus year and raised awareness.

It was noted that the new focus years programme included:-

- 2015 – Year of Scotland's Food and Drink
- 2016 – Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design
- 2017 – Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology
- 2018 – Year of Young People

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the grant awards for 2014/15 of £1,000 or less made since 20 January 2015;
- (ii) to note the proposed changes to the processing of the Angus Council Community Grant Scheme; and
- (iii) to approve the ring fencing of funds to support the Scottish Government Focus Years, subject to confirmation of the 2015/16 and future years' budgets.

5. BUSINESS SUPPORT GRANTS

With reference to Article 9 of the minute of meeting of the Infrastructure Services Committee of 22 November 2011, there was submitted Report No 111/15 by the Chief Executive, informing members of the current grant assistance available to businesses from Angus Council and proposed amendments to the current approval process.

The Report proposed that nominated Economic Development Officers assess all grant applications and be authorised to approve or reject applications up to £1,000 and that the Service Manager – Economic Development, in consultation with the Convener of Development and Enterprise (or Vice-Convener in their absence, be authorised to approve or reject grant applications of over £1,000 and up to £5,000. The Report also informed the Committee of new processes to be introduced as of 1 April 2015.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the grants from Angus Council currently available to businesses;
- (ii) to authorise nominated Economic Development Officers to assess all grant applications from businesses;
- (iii) to authorise nominated Economic Development Officers to approve or reject applications of up to £1,000 as appropriate;
- * (iv) to authorise the Service Manager – Economic Development, in consultation with the Convener of Development and Enterprise, or Vice-Convener of Development and Enterprise to approve or reject grant applications of over £1,000 and up to £5,000;
- (v) to note that the application and assessment processes would be streamlined and approved with new procedures being adopted as of 1 April;
- (vi) to note proposals to better promote the availability of these funds to business; and
- (vii) to note that Committee would be informed of all grant awards made to businesses via future information reports.

6. ANGUS LEADER PROGRAMME – UPDATE AND SLA 2014-2020

There was submitted Report No 112/15 by the Chief Executive updating the Committee on the process for bidding for European LEADER Funds and European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) funding to support rural development activities and fishing communities in decline in the period 2014-2020.

The Report sought approval, in principle, of the Angus Local Development Strategy and Business Plan; and also for the Council as Lead Partner on behalf of partners (the Local Action Group and Fisheries Local Action Group) to sign the Scottish Government Service Level Agreement to deliver the programme and accept the associated risks.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve, in principle, the Angus Local Development Strategy and Business Plan submitted in February 2015 and attached as Appendices 1 and 2 to the Report; and
- (ii) that the Service Manager – Economic Development signs the Scottish Government Service Level Agreement and accepts the risk involved in its role as Lead Partner for the Programme on behalf of partners (the Local Action Group and Fisheries Local Action Group) as outlined in the LDS and Business Plan.

7. ANGUS DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME – 6TH ANNUAL REVIEW

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 4 March 2014, there was submitted Report No 113/15 by the Head of Planning and Place, setting out the 6th Annual Review and roll forward of the Angus Development Plan Scheme, including revisions to the timetable for preparation of the Local Development Plan for Angus.

The Report indicated that the review and roll forward of the Angus Development Plan Scheme set out the revised timetable for the Council to replace the Angus Local Plan Review, which had been adopted on 19 February 2009, with the Angus Local Development Plan.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the revision and roll forward of the timetable for preparation of the Angus Local Development Plan;
- (ii) to approve the revised Angus Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement set out in Appendix 1 to the Report for submission to Scottish Ministers and general publication by 31 March 2015; and
- (iii) to note that a copy of the revised Angus Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement would be placed in all Angus Libraries and Access Offices, and made available on the Council's website.