

## ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of **ANGUS COUNCIL** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 8 September 2016 at 2.00pm.

**Present:** Depute Provost ALEX KING, Councillors BRIAN BOYD, COLIN BROWN, LYNNE DEVINE, BILL DUFF, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM, IAIN GAUL, JEANETTE GAUL, MARTYN GEDDES, SHEILA HANDS, JIM HOUSTON, DAVID LUMGAIR, IAN McLAREN, GLENNIS MIDDLETON, DONALD MORRISON, ROB MURRAY, BOB MYLES, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, MARK SALMOND, EWAN SMITH, MARGARET THOMSON, PAUL VALENTINE and SHEENA WELSH.

DEPUTE PROVOST ALEX KING, in the Chair.

Prior to the commencement of business the Depute Provost Alex King indicated that Provost Helen Oswald was unwell and unable to attend the meeting and on behalf of the Council passed on best wishes to the Provost.

The Depute Provost also intimated that Councillor Bob Spink had resigned as a Councillor for Arbroath, East and Lunan Ward due to health problems. The Depute Provost indicated that Councillor Spink had been a member of Angus Council since 2003 serving on many committees and most recently as Convener of the Scrutiny and Audit Committee.

Having heard from a number of members who paid their individual tributes, the Council resolved that the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, on behalf of the Council, write to Cllr Spink extending best wishes and wishing him well for the future.

### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Provost Helen Oswald, Councillors Bill Bowles and David May.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Houston declared an interest in item 8 as Convener of Tayside Contracts Joint Committee. He indicated that he would participate in any discussion and voting on this item.

Councillor Jeanette Gaul declared an interest in item 8 as a Council appointee on the Northern Roads Collaboration Forum. She indicated that she would participate in any discussion and voting on this item.

Councillor Myles declared an interest in item 8 as a member of Tayside Contracts Joint Committee. He indicated that he would participate in any discussion and voting on this item.

### 3. MINUTES OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

#### (i) Minutes of Previous Meetings

##### (a) Angus Council

The minute of meeting of Angus Council of 16 June 2016 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

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

The minute of the special meeting of Angus Council of 4 August 2016 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 15 June 2016 was submitted and noted.

**(d) Scrutiny and Audit Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Scrutiny and Audit Committee of 21 June 2016 was submitted and noted.

**(e) Development Standards Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Development Standards Committee of 2 August 2016 was submitted and noted.

**(f) Civic Licensing Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Civic Licensing Committee of 4 August 2016 was submitted and noted.

**(g) Children and Learning Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Children and Learning Committee of 9 August 2016 was submitted and noted.

**(h) Communities Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Communities Committee of 16 August 2016 was submitted and noted.

**(i) Scrutiny and Audit Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Scrutiny and Audit Committee of 23 August 2016 was submitted and noted.

**(j) Policy and Resources Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee of 30 August 2016 was submitted and except as hereunder, noted:-

**Appeals Sub Committee**

With reference to Article 4 of the minute, subsequent to the meeting Councillor Myles had indicated that he would be willing to serve on the Appeals Sub Committee.

The Council resolved to approve the appointment.

**4. MINUTES OF PARTNERSHIPS AND JOINT BOARDS****(I) Angus Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board**

The minutes of meetings of the Angus Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board of 18 May and 29 June 2016 were submitted and noted.

**5. APPOINTMENTS****(i) Policy and Resources Committee**

The Council was advised that Councillor Thomson had resigned as a member of the Policy and Resources Committee.

The Council resolved to appoint Councillor May to the Policy and Resources Committee.

**6. ANGUS COUNCIL CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2015-2016**

With reference to Article 14 of the minute of meeting of the Scrutiny and Audit Committee of 23 August 2016, there was submitted Report No 312/16 by the Chief Social Work Officer presenting to members the Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) Report for 2015-2016.

The Annual Report provided details for elected members as to how the Chief Social Work Officer for Angus discharged the specific statutory element of the role and outlined the important contributions social work services made to the wellbeing and safety of the people of Angus. The Report also detailed key developments across the range of services and highlighted the challenges for the year ahead, which were outlined in Section 4 of the Report.

Having heard from the Chief Social Work Officer, the Committee agreed to note the contents of the Angus Council Chief Social Work Officer's Annual Report for 2015/16, attached as Appendix 1 to the Report.

Thereafter, Councillors Middleton, Welsh, Myles and Fairweather commended Mr Tim Armstrong who was attending his last Angus Council meeting as Chief Social Work Officer, and wished him well for the future.

## **7. ACCOUNTS COMMISSION BEST VALUE AUDIT REPORT 2016**

There was submitted Report No 328/16 by the Chief Executive introducing the Controller of Audit's report on the Best Value Audit of Angus Council undertaken prior to the 2016 recess.

Attached as an Appendix to the Report was the Best Value Audit report prepared for the Accounts Commission by the Controller of Audit, which in summary indicated that Angus Council had made progress since the Accounts Commission had last reported in 2010. In addition, important improvements had been made in the leadership provided by senior managers and elected members.

The Council resolved:-

- (i) to note the publication of the 2016 Best Value Audit; and
- (ii) to note the findings set out in the Best Value Audit report as published by the Accounts Commission.

*At this stage in the meeting, Councillor Proctor declared an interest in the following item as a member of the Northern Roads Collaboration Forum. He indicated that he would participate in any discussion and voting on this item.*

## **8. PROPOSAL FOR FORMATION OF JOINT COMMITTEE FOR NORTHERN ROADS COLLABORATION**

With reference to Article 13 of the minute of meeting of the Communities Committee of 18 August 2015, there was submitted Report No 329/16 by the Chief Executive outlining the work of the Northern Roads Collaboration Forum and seeking approval to join a Joint Committee to progress closer collaboration on specific projects in pursuit of savings and best practice now and in the future.

The Council resolved:-

- (i) to establish a Joint Committee in terms of Section 56 and 57 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 with Aberdeenshire Council, Aberdeen City Council, Angus Council, Argyll and Bute Council, The Highland Council, The Moray Council, The Orkney Islands Council and The Western Isles Council to be known as The Northern Roads Collaboration Joint Committee;
- (ii) to empower the Joint Committee by delegating to it the functions outlined in Appendix 1 of the Report;
- (iii) to amend the Order of Reference of Committees as outlined in Appendix 1 of the Report to give immediate effect to the establishment of the Joint Committee;
- (iv) to authorise the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to enter into an inter-authority legal agreement with the other member Councils to agree the governance and administrative arrangements for the Joint Committee, following consultation with the Strategic Director - Communities, and the Convener, Vice Convener and main opposition spokesperson of the Communities Committee;

- (v) to note that decisions on whether a council participated in roads collaboration projects would be reserved to the councils and not delegated to the proposed Joint Committee;
- (vi) that Aberdeenshire Council take the role of Lead Authority for year 1 of the Joint Committee; and
- (vii) to appoint Councillors Jeanette Gaul and Proctor as members of the Joint Committee and Councillors Duff and Myles as named substitutes.

**9. PREPARATION OF 2017/18 GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS AND PRIORITY BASED BUDGETING**

With reference to Article 13 of the minute of meeting of Angus Council of 10 September 2015, there was submitted Report No 330/16 by the Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance apprising members of the current position in relation to the 2017/18 Revenue and Capital Budget preparation process, identifying the main stages of the budget timeline and seeking approval to retain the Priority Based Budget approach introduced for the 2017/18 budget process.

The Report indicated that subject to the Council's agreement the budget strategy would be used to guide the preparation of an overall package of budget proposals for formal consideration by the Council in February 2017.

The Council resolved:

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to approve the broad strategy and approach to the budget preparation as set out in Section 5 of the Report;
- (iii) to approve the budget timeline as set out in Appendix A to the Report; and
- (iv) to note that final sign off of the Council's 2017/18 revenue and capital budgets will take place in February 2017 in line with previous practice.