

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of **ANGUS COUNCIL** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 9 February 2017 at 2.00pm.

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

PROVOST ALEX KING, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor David Fairweather.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Colin Brown, Bill Duff, Jeanette Gaul and Paul Valentine each declared an interest in item 7 as Council appointed Directors of Angus Alive. They indicated that they had a specific dispensation from the Standards Commission for Scotland and would therefore participate in any discussion and voting on this item.

3. MINUTES OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

(i) Minutes of Previous Meetings

(a) Angus Council (Special)

The minute of the special meeting of Angus Council of 8 December 2016 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

(b) Angus Council

The minute of meeting of Angus Council of 8 December 2016 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

(ii) Minutes of Committees

(c) Development Standards Committee

The minute of meeting of the Development Standards Committee of 5 January 2017 was submitted and noted.

(d) Civic Licensing Committee

The minute of meeting of the Civic Licensing Committee of 7 January 2017 was submitted and noted.

(e) Children and Learning Committee

The minute of meeting of the Children and Learning Committee of 10 January 2017 was submitted and noted.

(f) Communities Committee

The minute of meeting of the Communities Committee of 17 January 2017 was submitted and noted.

(g) Scrutiny and Audit Committee

The minute of meeting of the Scrutiny and Audit Committee of 24 January 2017 was submitted and noted.

(h) Policy and Resources Committee

The minute of meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee of 31 January 2017 was submitted and except as hereunder noted:-

Angus Council Community Grant Scheme – Proposal from New Scheme via Crowdfund Angus.

The Council resolved to approve Article 10(2) so that the maximum amount of match funding be £1,250 and that the Scheme of Delegation to Officers be amended accordingly.

4. CONVENER OF FINANCE

Following his election as Provost of Angus, Councillor King had intimated that in terms of custom and practice, he would not continue in his role as Convener of Finance. Consequently the Council was asked to approve the appointment of Councillor Duff, currently Vice Convener of Finance, as Convener of Finance.

The Council resolved to approve the appointment of Councillor Duff as Convener of Finance.

5. APPOINTMENT TO THE SCRUTINY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of the Scrutiny and Audit Committee of 24 January 2017, the Council noted that Councillor Bowles had resigned as a member of the Committee. The Council was asked to fill the vacancy, having regard to the principles of political balance.

The Council resolved to appoint Councillor Brown to the Scrutiny and Audit Committee.

6. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

There was submitted Report No 45/17 by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services detailing appointments to outside bodies which required to be made.

The Council resolved that in relation to the undernoted outside bodies:-

- Angus Citizens Advice Bureau Management Committee – to appoint Councillor Lungair;
- Age Concern – to note that the organisation had been dissolved;
- Angus Educational Trust – to appoint Councillor Hands;
- Carnoustie Golf Links Management Committee – to appoint Councillor Cheape;
- Scottish National Federation for the Welfare of the Blind – in the absence of further information to make no appointment at this stage;
- Scottish National War Memorial for Scotland – to nominate to COSLA the Provost Alex King; and
- Tayside Valuation Joint Board – to appoint Councillor Hands.

7. TRANSFORMING ANGUS: AGILE WORKING AND ESTATES REVIEW

With reference to Article 14 of the minute of meeting of Angus Council of 10 December 2015, there was submitted Report No 46/17 by the Strategic Director – Children and Learning seeking approval for the proposed implementation plans for the locality hub and democratic functions, which formed key components of the agile working and estates review programme.

The Report set out the current position with regard to back office implementation along with proposals for locality hub; democratic function planning and library/ACCESS office integration. Savings from the agile programme of £1.25 million would be built into the Council's 2017/18 budget process with some £1.16 million of this to be made up of staff costs savings in Directorate budgets with a balance of £0.09 million being savings in non-staff costs net of anticipated transition costs which would be accounted for through the Other Services budget.

Having noted a correction to the Report at para 4.2.5(i) which had stated “It is proposed that the current Kirriemuir Reform Street Access Office (former Police Station) be used for this purpose.” to be amended to read “It is proposed that the current shared arrangements with Police Scotland and Kirriemuir Reform Street Access Office be used for this purpose.”, the Council resolved:-

- (i) to note the progress that had been made in relation to service transition to agile working;
- (ii) to approve the proposed implementation plan for the various services’ transition to agile working relating to locality hub and democratic functions;
- (iii) to note the exit strategy proposals;
- (iv) to approve:-
 - the use of Kirriemuir Reform Street Access Office for a locality hub;
 - the use of Gowanlea in Arbroath for a locality hub (in lieu of the existing Arbroath Access Office);
 - the retention of Brechin Business Centre (leased) for operational purposes;
 - the removal of Gowanlea and Brechin Business Centre from the register of properties surplus to the Council’s operational requirements;
- (v) to remove William Wallace House and St Margaret’s House from the register of properties surplus to the Council’s operational requirements; and
- (vi) to note the financial implications emerging from the updated business case for the agile working and estates review programme.

8. TAY CITIES DEAL

With reference to Article 7 of the minute of meeting of Angus Council of 16 June 2016, there was submitted Report No 47/17 by the Strategic Director – Communities advising members of the progress made in the formation of a Tay Cities Deal and seeking approval of the proposed Regional Economic Development Strategy Tay Cities Deal bid document and its submission to the UK and Scottish Governments.

Attached as Appendix A to the Report was the bid document which set out a strategy and proposals which the Tay Cities Deal lead officer believed would deliver the core objectives. At this stage the sum of £870,000 have been identified as being a probable contribution from Angus Council but this would be subject to further review over the next few months. The Tay Cities Deal was seeking £826 million (45%) of support from the Scottish and UK Governments over 10 years from 2018, which if successful in full would lever a total of £1.84 billion in investment in the Tayside regional economy.

The Council resolved:-

- (i) to note the progress made on the Cities Deal since the previous update in June 2016;
- (ii) to approve the submission of the proposed Regional Economic Strategy;
- (iii) to approve the submission of the proposed bid for Tay Cities Deal to the Scottish and UK Governments; and
- (iv) to remit officers to enter a period of formal negotiations with the Scottish and UK Governments with the aim of securing substantial investment for the Tay Cities Region.

In accordance with provisions of Standing Order 11(2)(ii) the Provost ruled that the following matter be considered as an urgent item of business in order that a decision could be taken timeously.

ROYAL MARINES 45 COMMANDO – FREEDOM OF ANGUS

The Provost indicated that in 2009 the Freedom of Angus had been granted to 45 Commando Royal Marines. As this year they were celebrating their 45th year in Arbroath the commanding officer had requested that a full parade march be held on 29 March 2017 to commemorate this important anniversary.

The Council resolved to approve the provision of hospitality to members of 45 RM Condor and invited guests following the Freedom Parade on Wednesday 29 March 2017, with the estimated costs of the event not exceeding £5,000 being met from within the Corporate Initiatives Budget held in the Chief Executive's Unit.