

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 20 January 2015 at 2.00 pm.

Present: Councillors MAIRI EVANS, HELEN OSWALD, BILL DUFF, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, IAIN GAUL, JEANETTE GAUL, MARTYN GEDDES, ALEX KING, COLIN BROWN, IAN MCLAREN, ROB MURRAY, BOB MYLES, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE and BOB SPINK.

Councillor EVANS, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Sheila Hands and David May, substituted respectively by Councillors Helen Oswald and Colin Brown; an apology for absence was also intimated on behalf of Councillor Bill Bowles.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Bill Duff declared a non-financial interest in Report No 30/15 (Article 7) in that he was a member of the Montrose Tennis Club. He indicated that he would not participate in any discussion and voting and would leave the meeting during consideration of this grant.

3. REQUEST FOR A DEPUTATION

The Committee agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 12, not to hear the deputation from Mark Guild, Managing Director, Guild Homes (Tayside) Ltd, in relation to Report No 33/15 (Article 10) as he would be given the appropriate opportunity to make comments during the forthcoming consultation exercise.

4. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 18 November 2014 was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

5. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 18 NOVEMBER 2014 TO 20 JANUARY 2015

There was submitted and noted Report No 28/15 by the Chief Executive, providing information to members with regard to services delivered by the Chief Executive's Unit for the period 18 November 2014 to 20 January 2015.

6. BUSINESS SUPPORT AND INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES - UPDATE

There was submitted Report No 29/15 by the Chief Executive, providing members with an overview of business support and investment activities supported by economic development officers since the last Information Report presented to the Committee on 18 November 2014.

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the Report.

Councillor Duff, having declared an interest in the following item, left the meeting during consideration of the Grant Application for the Montrose Tennis Club.

7. ANGUS COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 18 November 2014, there was submitted Report No 30/15 by the Chief Executive advising members of applications to Angus Council of £1,000 or less, submitted, and/or approved since 18 November 2014, and recommending approval of grant awards of over £1,000 which had been recommended for approval since 18 November 2014.

At this stage the Committee agreed to note the grants awarded for 2014/2015 of £1,000 or less made since 18 November 2014.

THEREAFTER, COUNCILLOR OSWALD SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR IAIN GAUL MOVED THAT THE APPLICATION BY MONTROSE TENNIS CLUB FOR A GRANT APPLICATION FOR £5,000 BE REFUSED.

Councillor Fairweather seconded by Councillor Geddes, moved as an amendment, that a grant of £1,000 be awarded to Montrose Tennis Club.

On a vote being taken the members voted:-

For the motion:-

Councillors Evans, Oswald, Iain Gaul, Jeanette Gaul, King, McLaren, Brown, Murray, Proctor and Spink (10).

For the amendment:-

Councillors Fairweather and Geddes (2).

The motion became the finding of the meeting and the Committee resolved accordingly.

Councillor Myles joined the meeting at this stage.

8. NATIONAL LOAN FUND FOR BUSINESSES

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of the Infrastructure Services Committee of 9 October 2012, there was submitted Report No 31/15 by the Chief Executive, informing the Committee of the proposed winding up of the East of Scotland Investment Fund (ESIF); the creation of a National Loan Fund (NLF) which would offer finance to businesses; seeking approval to contribute funds to the new loan fund and seeking approval for the proposed administration of the Fund.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve, in principle, that Angus Council participate in the NLF a new company and become a member of the NLF;
- (ii) to authorise the Service Manager – Economic Development, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance, to agree with other Scottish local authorities the creation and operation of a NLF to support businesses;
- * (iii) that the Service Manager – Economic Development in consultation with the Convener of Development and Enterprise, or the Depute Convener in her absence, be delegated to approve all loans offered to Angus businesses through the NLF;
- (iv) that the maximum loan from the NLF to Angus companies be set at £50,000;
- (v) that the proposal to wind up the ESIF and approve the transfer of remaining ESIF funds to the NLF;
- (vi) to approve the allocation of an additional £50,000 into the NLF for Angus; and
- (vii) to note that the Service Manager – Economic Development would inform the Committee of the progress in establishing and operating the NLF via future information reports.

9. BUSINESS GATEWAY

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of the Infrastructure Services Committee of 21 August 2012, there was submitted Report No 32/15 which provided an overview of the current Business Gateway activity in Angus and Tayside and seeking authority to work with Dundee City and Perth & Kinross Councils to tender a new contract to deliver the service for Tayside commencing 1 October 2015.

It was proposed that the existing structure for delivering Business Gateway services across Tayside continued. It was further proposed that the existing contract with Enterprise North East Trust (ENET) be allowed to expire at the end of December 2015 and a tender be issued inviting bids to delivery Business Gateway services across Tayside for a minimum of a further three years, commencing 1 October 2015.

It was noted that in discussions with partners it had been agreed that there would be targets set for individual local authority areas and any contractor appointed would be expected to have a presence in each local authority area.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the Business Gateway performance in Angus;
- (ii) to authorise the Service Manager – Economic Development, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to work with Dundee City and Perth & Kinross Councils to procure a new Business Gateway contract for Tayside;
- (iii) that Dundee City Council continue as lead partner for Tayside and procures the new Business Gateway Contract; and
- (iv) to note that Dundee City Council procurement rules would apply and as this was a collaborative contract Tayside Procurement Consortium would be consulted and involved.

10. PROPOSED ANGUS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN – SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

With reference to Article 9 of the minute of meeting of Angus Council of 11 December 2014, there was submitted Report No 33/15 by the Head of Planning and Place seeking approval of supporting documents for the proposed Angus Local Development Plan which was approved with amendments by Angus Council on 11 December 2014. The Report also sought agreement that the documents be published alongside the proposed Angus Local Development Plan in February 2015, when it was subject to a nine week period for representations.

In relation to the proposals for Kirriemuir, Councillor Jeanette Gaul tabled a correction to Appendix 1 to Report No 33/15 (at page 28) in relation to the houses south of Beechwood Place, Kirriemuir advising that her original amendment was 50 Houses in this local plan and a further 50 to come forward at a time when demand permits. In other words 50 houses now and 50 houses next plan.

In relation to the proposals for Forfar, Councillor Colin Brown tabled a correction to Appendix I to Report No 33/15 (at page 18) in that bullet point 4 should read “appropriate developer contributions towards education, future primary school provision to be identified within the burgh as required” (this was not necessarily restricted to new build). He also clarified that F3 would be for the provision of 300 dwellings in Phase 1.

The Committee having noted these corrections, agreed:-

- (i) to note the amendments made to the draft proposed Angus Local Development Plan at the Angus Council meeting on the 11 December 2014, which had enabled Angus Council to approve the document;
- (ii) the draft action programme, consultation statement, equalities impact statement and draft strategic flood risk assessment and that these be published alongside the proposed Angus Local Development Plan; and
- (iii) the Draft Habitat Regulations Appraisal Record and noted the changes made by the Head of Planning and Place under delegated authority to the proposed Angus Local Development Plan as a result.