

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 14 April 2015 at 2.00 pm.

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

Councillor EVANS, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Bill Bowles, with Councillor Ewan Smith substituting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Committee agreed to note that there were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 3 March 2015 was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

4. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 20 JANUARY 2015 TO 14 APRIL 2015

There was submitted and noted Report No 150/15 by the Chief Executive, providing information to members with regard to services delivered by the Chief Executive's Unit for the period 20 January 2015 to 14 April 2015.

5. ANGUS COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME ANNUAL REPORT

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 3 March 2015, there was submitted Report No 151/15 by the Chief Executive, advising members of applications to Angus Council in 2014/2015 of £1,000 or less, submitted, and/or approved since 3 March 2015. It also provided summary information on applications submitted to the Angus Council Community Grant Scheme (ACCGS) and feedback from applicants during 2014/2015, as detailed in Appendix I to the Report.

The Report advised that the recommended amount of £548.00, combined with other grant approvals in 2014/2015 of £79,419.49 brought the total commitment for 2014/2015 to £79,962.49. Additionally, £28,562.83 of Commonwealth Games grants also approved in 2014/2015 brought the total overall grants awarded during the financial year to £108,525.32.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the grants awarded for 2014/15 of £1,000 or less made since 3 March 2015; and
- (ii) to note the summary information provided for applications submitted to ACCGS in 2014/2015 and the feedback from applicants.

6. VISITSCOTLAND – PROPOSED PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT FOR 2015-2016

There was submitted Report No 152/15 by the Chief Executive, seeking approval of a funded package for VisitScotland (VS) services to Angus Council for 2015 – 2016.

The Report advised that VisitScotland were currently reviewing VIC provision across the whole of Scotland in order to reflect the changing communication patterns and deliver a more effective service to tourists during their visits. There had been a shift in the past few years in the way that visitors access information and an increasing number were finding out about the area they were visiting using digital methods, and thus footfall to VIC's were falling.

The Report provided a detailed evaluation of the 2014-2015 Minute of Agreement with VisitScotland and proposed a new Minute of Agreement to cover one year only.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to authorise the Service Manager – Economic Development to conclude a Minute of Agreement (MOA) in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services between Angus Council and VisitScotland for a period of one year (from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 inclusive) for the management of the Visitor Information Centre in Arbroath (by VisitScotland) at a cost to Angus Council of £27,500; and
- (ii) that a contribution of £15,000 be made for seasonal national marketing activity for Angus.

7. INTERREG NORTH WEST EUROPE PROGRAMME – PROPOSED FUNDING APPLICATION

There was submitted Report No 153/15 by the Chief Executive, informing members of the proposed Angus Council involvement in the INTERREG North West Europe Programme 2014 – 2020 and the development of funding application to participate in a project being led by partners in Altena in Germany for a social innovation project and seeking approval to submit the funding bid.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the continued work for the submission of the Stage 1 INTERREG bid; and
- (ii) to note that if successful at the initial stage, a further report would be brought to Committee seeking approval to proceed with Stage 2 and the proposed match funding.