

## ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 29 November 2016 at 2.00pm.

**Present:** Councillors IAIN GAUL, PAUL VALENTINE, BILL BOWLES, LYNNE DEVINE, BILL DUFF, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM, BRIAN BOYD, ALEX KING, DAVID MAY, IAN MCLAREN, DONALD MORRISON, BOB MYLES and ROB MURRAY.

Councillor IAIN GAUL, Convener, in the Chair

### 1. **APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Martyn Geddes, Glennis Middleton and Sheena Welsh with Councillors Brian Boyd, Donald Morrison and Rob Murray substituting respectively.

### 2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Morrison declared an interest in item 9 (Friock hub) as he had attended meetings and assisted the Group as a local ward councillor. He indicated that he would participate in any discussion and voting on this item.

Councillors Duff and Valentine both declared an interest in item 9 (Angus Alive) as they were Directors of Angus Alive. They indicated that they would participate in any discussion and voting on this item.

### 3. **MINUTES**

#### (a) **Previous Minute**

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 11 October 2016 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

#### (b) **Executive Sub-Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of 11 October 2016, a copy of which is appended hereto, was submitted and noted (**APPENDIX I**).

#### (c) **Angus Community Planning Partnership Board**

The minute of meeting of the Angus Community Planning Partnership Board of 22 June 2016 was submitted and noted.

### 4. **INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 27 SEPTEMBER – 28 OCTOBER 2016**

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 11 October 2016, there was submitted and noted Report No 424/16 by the Chief Executive providing information to members with regard to services in the Chief Executive's Unit for the period 27 September to 28 October 2016.

### 5. **CAPITAL MONITORING – GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2016/17**

With reference to Article 7 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 11 October 2016, there was submitted Report No 425/16 by the Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance apprising members of the capital expenditure incurred for the period from 1 April 2016 to 30 September 2016 and measuring the projected capital expenditure for the year against budgeted provision for the year.

The Report indicated that actual spend as a percentage of the budget was 35.6% on a gross basis and 44.3% on a net basis. This compared with the capital monitoring report detailing the position as at 30 September 2015 of 47.3% (gross) and 48.3% (net).

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to note the expenditure position on the General Fund Capital Programme as at 30 September 2016, as per Tables 1 and 2 in the Report and the Capital Monitoring Statement, as appended to the Report.

#### **6. REVENUE MONITORING 2016/17 AND RENEWAL AND REPAIR FUND POSITION 2016/17**

With reference to Article 8 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 11 October 2016, there was submitted Report No 426/16 by the Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance apprising members of the actual revenue expenditure incurred and income received for the period 1 April 2016 to 20 September 2016 together with the anticipated year end position in respect of each Council Directorate. In addition, the Report detailed the actual financial position of the Renewal and Repair Fund in respect of the Property, Information Technology, Roads and Transport, Print and Design and Recreation funds as at 30 September 2016 and the estimated closing balance at the year-end.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report and in particular the comments on the financial implications section regarding the projected year end position; and
- (ii) to note the Renewal and Repair Fund position.

#### **7. REVIEW OF COUNCIL TAX LONG TERM EMPTY PROPERTY AND 2<sup>ND</sup> HOMES POLICY**

With reference to Article 9 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 29 April 2014, there was submitted Report No 427/16 by the Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance reviewing the Council's current Council Tax Policy on Long Term Empty Properties and recommending ending the award of 10% discount to second homes.

The Report proposed that the Council would use the legislative discretion recently made available and from 1 April 2017 no longer grant a 10% discount to second homes, with the additional income raised from this policy, circa £53,000 per annum, being used for affordable housing purposes.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the review of the policy on long term empty properties which had been undertaken and confirm that there would be no change in policy at this time; and
- (ii) to approve the removal of the existing 10% Council Tax discount on second homes from 1 April 2017 and to use the additional income raised for affordable housing purposes.

#### **8. STRATEGIC COLLABORATION AND ENHANCED PARTNERSHIP WORKING (ANGUS, DUNDEE AND PERTH & KINROSS COUNCILS)**

There was submitted Report No 428/16 by the Strategic Director – Children and Learning advising members of the proposed developments for strategic collaboration, enhanced partnership working and streamlined delivery of services between Angus, Dundee and Perth & Kinross Councils in the area of Education and Children's Services.

The Report set out the potential for extended collaborative approaches, involving Education and Children's Services working in close partnership with Children's Health, NHS Tayside, the Third Sector and private enterprise. This would be aimed at addressing the national agenda in terms of tackling poverty, closing equity gaps, raising attainment and improving the health and wellbeing of all children, young people, families and communities.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the current collaboration across the three Council areas;
- (ii) to note the key political and legislative drivers for change;
- (iii) to note the proposals for strategic partnership working; and
- (iv) to request the Strategic Director – Children and Learning to present a report to the meeting of the Children and Learning Committee in June 2017, which would include an Action Plan for streamlined delivery of services across the three Council areas from 2017 to 2020.

## **9. ANGUS COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME**

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 11 October 2016, there was submitted Report No 429/16 by the Chief Executive informing members of applications to Angus Council in 2016/17 of £1,000 or less submitted and approved since 11 October 2016 and seeking approval of grant applications of over £1,000 recommended for approval since 11 October 2016.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the grant awards for 2016/17 of £1,000 or less approved since 11 October 2016;
- (ii) to note the grant awards for 2016/17 to the Architecture, Innovation & Design Fund approved since 11 October 2016;
- (iii) to approve the grant applications of over £1,000 recommended for approval as follows:-
  - Brechin Buccaneers £1,875.00
  - DD8 Music £3,350.00
  - Mofest £3,420.00
- (iv) to note that the remaining budget of £4,702.44 from the Architecture, Innovation & Design Fund would be moved back into the core budget of the Community Grant Scheme.

## **10. FINANCE FOR BUSINESS AND EAST OF SCOTLAND INVESTMENT FUND**

With reference to Article 3 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 7 June 2016, there was submitted Report No 430/16 by the Chief Executive seeking approval of a proposed alternative use of a £50,000 carry forward along with a contribution of up to £32,000 to implement VOOM, (a new business support scheme in Angus), using crowdfunding and the transfer of £18,000 to the East of Scotland Investment Fund (ESIF) in order to clear the current deficit of the Angus Council account.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the alternative use of a £50,000 carry forward previously for Business Loan Scotland Fund;
- (ii) to approve the expenditure of up to £32,000 to implement innovative funding support for Angus based businesses in association with VOOM and Crowdfunder; and
- (iii) to approve the transfer of £18,000 to ESIF.

## **11. VARIATION OF SPEED LIMITS AT C51 ARBROATH – HILLEND ROAD, ARBROATH**

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of the Development Standards Committee of 1 November 2016, there was submitted Report No 431/16 by the Head of Technical and Property Services relating to proposed alterations to the current speed limits on the C51 Arbroath – Hillend Road at Arbroath.

The Committee agreed to the promotion and making of a Speed Limits Order to effect changes to the speed limits on a section of the C51 Arbroath – Hillend Road at Arbroath.