

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 20 June 2017 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors BOB MYLES, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, BRIAN BOYD, DAVID CHEAPE, BRADEN DAVY, LYNNE DEVINE, BILL DUFF, SHEILA HANDS, ALEX KING, ANGUS MACMILLAN DOUGLAS OBE, RICHARD MOORE, RON STURROCK, DEREK WANN and BETH WHITESIDE.

Councillor BOB MYLES, Convener, in the Chair

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Salmond

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Duff declared an interest in item 18 as he was a Governor of Dorward House. He indicated that he would participate in any discussion and voting on this item.

Councillor Hands declared an interest in item 13 as she had been involved in commenting on disabled parking legislation and in the campaigns by the Guide Dogs for the Blind and the Royal National Institute for the Blind. She indicated that she would participate in any discussion and voting on this item.

3. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee agreed to note the membership as shown on the covering letter to the agenda.

4. POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE REMIT

The Committee agreed to note the remit of the Policy and Resources Committee.

5. APPOINTMENTS**(a) Executive Sub Committee**

The Committee agreed to appoint Councillors Myles, Fairweather and King.

(b) Personnel Appeals Sub Committee

The Committee agreed to appoint Councillors Myles, Fairweather and Hands

(c) Sounding Board

The Committee agreed to appoint Councillors Myles, Macmillan Douglas and King.

(d) Central Consultative Committee

The Committee agreed to appoint Councillors Myles, Macmillan Douglas, Salmond, Wann, Devine and King

(e) Capital Projects Monitoring Group

The Committee agreed to appoint Councillor Myles, Macmillan Douglas and King.

(f) Policy Budget and Strategy Group

The Committee agreed to appoint Councillors Myles, Fairweather, Macmillan Douglas, Cheape, Fotheringham, Salmond, King and Duff.

Having heard from Councillor Duff in relation to the political balance of the Group, the Convener intimated that he would give further consideration to including Cllr Devine in the membership of the Group.

(g) Procurement Sounding Board

The Committee agreed to appoint Councillors Myles, Macmillan Douglas, Cheape, Duff, King and Whiteside.

6. MINUTES

(a) Previous Meetings

- (i) The minute of meeting of this Committee of 14 March 2017 was submitted and approved as a correct record.
- (ii) The minute of the special meeting of this Committee of 20 April 2017 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

(b) Appeals Sub Committee

The minute of meeting of the Appeals Sub Committee of 14 April 2017 was submitted and noted.

7. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 11 FEBRUARY TO 12 MAY 2017

There was submitted and noted Report No 197/17 by the Chief Executive providing information to members with regard to services within the Chief Executive's Unit for the period 11 February to 12 May 2017.

8. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2016 TO 31 MARCH 2017

There was submitted Report No 198/17 by the Head of Corporate Finance providing information to members with regard to services within the Corporate Finance Service for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017.

Having heard from a number of members, the Committee agreed:

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to note that the Head of Corporate Finance would provide members with further information including the collection rates across Scotland

9. INFORMATION REPORT – ANGUS COMMUNITY JUSTICE OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN

There was submitted Report No 226/17 by the Service Manager (Community Planning) on Angus Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan 2017-2020.

The Committee agreed that as elements of the Report appeared to be incomplete, consideration of the Report be deferred to allow the relevant officers to review the Report and re-submit it to a future meeting of this Committee.

10. COUNTER FRAUD AND CORRUPTION STRATEGY

With reference to Article 12 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 30 August 2016, there was submitted Report No 199/17 by the Acting Service Manager – Governance and Consultancy seeking approval for changes to the Counter Fraud and Corruption Strategy.

The Report indicated that further amendments had been made to the Strategy since its last review which aimed to clarify the procedure and the authorisation required prior to submitting a case to the Procurator Fiscal. The revised Counter Fraud and Corruption Strategy was attached as Appendix 1 to the Report.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the implementation of the revised Counter Fraud and Corruption Strategy; and
- (ii) to note that the revised strategy would be submitted to the Scrutiny and Audit Committee on 22 June 2017 for their consideration.

11. 2017/18 FINAL REVENUE BUDGET DOCUMENTS

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of the special meeting of Angus Council of 16 February 2017, there was submitted Report No 200/17 by the Head of Corporate Finance seeking homologation of the actions taken to publish the 2017/18 Final Revenue Budget Volume (incorporating the Provisional Capital Budget 2017/18) and the Budget Guide Booklet on the Council's website.

The Report detailed a number of adjustments to directorate's budgets that had been undertaken following approval of the revenue budget at the special meeting of Angus Council. In addition, approval was requested for a number of virements to be made to the 2017/18 directorate budget, as detailed in paragraph 7 of the Report.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to homologate the amendments to Directorate 2017/18 budgets and corporate provisions as detailed in section 5 of the Report.
- (ii) to note that a comprehensive update of the 2017/2021 Financial Plan (incorporating a final 2017/18 Capital Budget) would be undertaken once actual expenditure for financial year 2016/17 had been established;
- (iii) to note that a separate final Capital Budget Volume 2017/18 would be submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval following the summer recess; and
- (iv) to approve the budget virements proposed in section 7 of the Report.

12. COMMON GOOD FUNDS – PROJECT APPROVALS

There was submitted Report No 201/17 by the Head of Technical and Property Services seeking approval for 2017/18 Common Good funded projects.

The Committee agreed to approve the requested funding for various 2017/18 projects as follows:-

Arbroath Common Good Fund

- Abbey Bowling Club £2,000 one off to replace sash and case windows
- Old Kirk £37,750 one off repointing and slate repairs, conduct two high level surveys to steeple, external repaint and associated joinery repairs and dry rot treatment

Brechin Common Good Fund

- Municipal Buildings £75,000 one off to replace slate roof and associated lead work and zinc
- 13 St Ninians Place £1,800 one off external repaint and associated joinery repairs
- 7 Swan Street £34,700 one off for internal upgrade of toilets, heating, decoration and kitchen

- City Hall £11,500 one off for sash window replacements (previously approved £14,500, £11,500 is for additional/revised costs)
- 5-13 Swan Street and City Hall £33,000 one off for masonry and joinery repairs and external repaint (previously approved £12,000 for part of works £33,000 for additional/revised costs)

Forfar Common Good

- Municipal Buildings £11,000 for external repaint and associated joinery repairs

Montrose Common Good

- William Lamb Studio £3,000 for external repaint and associated joinery repairs
- Rock Armour – Coastal Protection Contribution £50,000 one off contribution towards coastal protection rock armour works
- Curlie Pond £12,393 ongoing per annum for three years for annual reed removal
- Melville Bowling Green £3,000 one off for infill of bowling green
- Montrose in Bloom £2,415 one off contribution towards Montrose in Bloom event
- Links Park Community Trust £5,000 annual contribution towards operational costs of LPCT
- MoFest £5,000 one off contribution towards the MoFest event

13. IMPROVING PARKING IN SCOTLAND – A CONSULTATION

There was submitted Report No 202/17 by the Head of Technical and Property Services providing information on Improving Parking in Scotland – A Consultation and a recommended response to that consultation for approval.

The consultation document from Transport Scotland set out what it saw as being the main topics of concern such as pavement parking, parking at dropped kerbs, enforcement issues including disabled persons parking places. The consultation document also looked to the future in terms of influencing the use of low emission vehicles by incentivising parking for such vehicles. The changes that were proposed to be introduced may require changes to current legislation and may also disadvantage some road users whilst trying to make parking simpler and safer for those vulnerable groups.

Having heard from Councillor Hands who highlighted a number of issues that would assist people with a visual impairment, and Councillors Wann and Davy in relation to Resident's Parking Permits, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Improving Parking in Scotland – A Consultation;
- (ii) to approve the comments attached as Appendix 2 to the Report as the Council's response to the consultation and that these comments be submitted to Scottish Ministers, along with the issues highlighted by Councillor Hands; and
- (iii) that the Head of Technical and Property Services bring forward a future report on progress with regard to Decriminalised Parking Enforcement which would include an update on Resident's Parking Permits.

14. REPORT ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE SHARED SERVICES

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 31 January 2017, there was submitted Report No 203/17 by the Strategic Director – People seeking approval for payment to be made to Dundee City Council and Perth & Kinross Council for their continued provision through 2017-18 of specific services hosted by those local authorities on behalf of Angus Criminal Justice Service.

The Report indicated that Tayside Community Justice Authority (TCJA) had been disestablished in March 2017 and the Scottish Government had now allocated the ringfenced grant allocation monies for Criminal Justice Social Work Services to local authorities directly. As grant allocation monies now came directly to local authorities an arrangement was required to be put in place to fund the continuation of shared or hosted services. These proposals were detailed in paragraph 5 of the Report along with the financial implications.

The Committee agreed:

- (i) to approve the payments to Dundee City Council and Perth & Kinross Council, as detailed in section 5 of the Report; and
- (ii) that the Strategic Director-People bring forward a report on the performance of these services to ensure value for money was being achieved.

15. EQUALITIES MAINSTREAMING REPORT 2017 AND EQUALITY OUTCOMES (2017-2019)

There was submitted Report No 204/17 by the Strategic Director – People presenting an Equalities Mainstreaming Report 2017 and an Equality Outcomes (2017-2019) as required by legislation.

The Report indicated that the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012 placed a requirement on public bodies to publish a new mainstream report in 2017. The report had to include employee equality monitoring information broken down by age, disability, ethnicity, gender, religion and belief and sexual orientation (where available) and the organisations current gender pay gap. Many of the equality outcomes contained in the report had been aligned to the Single Outcome Agreement with reporting structures in place for the SOA which would be used to inform the mainstream report and progress updates on the equality outcomes, where applicable.

Having heard Councillor Hands suggest that all members of the Council should receive equalities training and of the need for the Council to produce all its information in an accessible format, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to adopt the Equalities Mainstreaming Report 2017; and
- (ii) to note the equality outcomes (2017-2019) and progress update of those from 2015-2017, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the Report.

16. WEST ARBROATH REGENERATION

There was submitted Report No 205/17 by the Head of Housing, Regulatory and Protective Services bringing forward proposals for a housing led regeneration programme in the Timmergreens area of Arbroath.

The Report indicated that the masterplan for a housing led regeneration programme would involve the removal of 140 low demand properties to be replaced with approximately 128 new build houses. However the project was not intended as a stand-alone scheme but as a catalyst for wider regeneration to be delivered by developing a multi disciplinary partnership with key stakeholders from the public, private and voluntary sectors. It was also envisaged that the overall investment package would include external funding over and above the HRA contributions by enabling a variety of partner interventions and capitalising on funding opportunities from external agencies. Subject to approval, a programme of consultation would be undertaken with the tenants and residents affected by the proposals as well as other stakeholders. Following this, the master plan designs would be refined and reported to Committee seeking former approval to initiate the redevelopment project.

Having heard from a number of members highlight the importance of having sprinkler systems installed, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) that a programme of consultation would be undertaken to seek feedback on outline regeneration proposals for the Timmergreens area in Arbroath;
- (ii) to note that following consultation, a master plan proposal would be brought forward for approval;
- (iii) that officers explore the use of the Scottish Procurement Alliance New Homes Framework to procure a design and build contract; and
- (iv) that the Strategic Director – Place liaise with Officers from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service with a view to arranging a demonstration of the benefits of having a sprinkler system installed.

17. CONTRACTS FOR PROVIDERS OF ADULT AND GENERAL SERVICES 2017/2018

There was submitted Report No 206/17 by the Chief Officer – Angus Health and Social Care Partnership seeking approval of proposed contracts with the voluntary sector for Adult Services (IJB) and general services for 2017/2018 and for in future years the approval of these contracts being delegated to the Chief Officer of Angus Health and Social Care Partnership.

The Report indicated that these contracts facilitated the provision of a number of essential services through partnership working and that the services provided were all subject to monitoring arrangements as set out in corporate standards. All the contracts required regular reporting on the level and quality of services provided which was actively monitored by staff within the Angus Health and Social Care Partnership and Angus Council.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the contracts for Adult Services (IJB) general services and day care for older people for 2017/2018 as listed in Table 1 in the Report; and
- (ii) that in future years, approval of these contracts be delegated to the Chief Officer of Angus Health and Social Care Partnership on the basis that uplifts were contained within the overall financial framework of Angus Health and Social Care Partnership.

18. REVIEW OF RATES AND ADDITIONAL SERVICE CHARGES FOR CARE HOMES

There was submitted Report No 207/17 by the Chief Officer – Angus Health and Social Care Partnership advising members of the revised standard rates and additional service charges proposed for care homes for 2017/2018 and requesting approval of these.

The Report also proposed that approval of the rates in future years be delegated to the Chief Officer of Angus Health and Social Care Partnership with a review of the underlying costs of in-house care provision being undertaken in 2017/2018.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the revised standard rates and additional service charges for care homes;
- (ii) to approve the rates for future years, where the NCHS was being uplifted by an agreed national increase and that delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer of Angus Health and Social Care Partnership to approve the uplift; and
- (iii) to note that the review of the underlying costs of in-house care home provision would be undertaken in 2017/2018.