

## ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 26 May 2015 at 2.20pm.

**Present:** Councillors DONALD MORRISON, JEANETTE GAUL, BRIAN BOYD, BILL DUFF, CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM, IAIN GAUL, JIM HOUSTON, COLIN BROWN, IAN MCLAREN, GLENNIS MIDDLETON, HELEN OSWALD, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, MARK SALMOND and EWAN SMITH.

Councillor MORRISON, Convener, in the Chair.

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

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors David Fairweather and David May, with Councillor Colin Brown substituting for Councillor May.

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

Councillor Jeanette Gaul declared a non-financial interest in Item 14 (Report No 217/15), as she was a member of the Kirriemuir and Dean Area Partnership which had applied for funding for the project which was the subject of the Report. She indicated that she would participate in any discussion and voting on the matter.

Councillor Ronnie Proctor declared a non-financial interest in Item 9 (Report No 212/15) in that he had spoken to a ward constituent regarding the matter which was the subject of the Report; Item 12 (Report No 215/15) in that he had attended a meeting regarding the matter which was the subject of the Report; and Item 14 (Report No 217/15) in that he had attended a meeting regarding the matter which was the subject of the Report. Councillor Proctor indicated that he would participate in any discussion and voting on all of these items.

### 3. **MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 14 April 2015 was submitted, approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

### 4. **INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 15 APRIL 2015 TO 26 MAY 2015**

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 14 April 2015, there was submitted and noted Report No 207/15 by the Strategic Director – Communities, together with its nine schedules, providing information to members with regard to services delivered in the Communities Directorate for the relevant period.

### 5. **SURVIVE AND THRIVE INITIATIVE – PROJECT UPDATE**

With reference to Article 30 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 19 August 2014, there was submitted Report No 208/15 by the Head of Planning and Place updating members on the Council's Survive and Thrive Initiative, and seeking approval for funding formally ring-fenced within the Housing Revenue Account, but not utilised through the Initiative, to be used to support the Council's Housing Capital Programme.

The Initiative supported the delivery of 69 affordable home in Angus, with many already occupied by families. Of the initial £3.2 million ring-fenced for the Initiative, £1.242 million remained uncommitted, and it was proposed that it be used to support the Council's Housing Capital Programme. No further funding would be awarded through the Survive and Thrive Initiative. Instead, the Council would continue to support the local business sector and maximise the supply of housing by exploring the possibilities for partnership working and through the Council's own new build programme.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress on the Council's Survive and Thrive Initiative; and
- (ii) to approve that funding of £1.242 million, formally ring-fenced to the Initiative, be used to support the Council's Housing Capital Programme, as set out in the Report.

## **6. CYCLING, WALKING AND SAFER STREETS FUND – PROGRAMME OF WORKS**

With reference to Article 14 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 15 April 2014, there was submitted Report No 209/15 by the Head of Planning and Place, updating members on the delivery of the programme of projects funded in 2014/2015, through the Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets (CWSS) Fund, and seeking approval of the programme of projects to be funded during 2015/2016.

The Report indicated that the programme of proposed projects to be undertaken in 2015/2016, as summarised in Appendix 2 to the Report, would be contained within the ring-fenced capital grant allocation for 2015/2016 of £174,000. Any additional on-going maintenance costs associated with these projects would require to be contained within future years' revenue budgets of the responsible directorates. The Report also noted that the funding of CWSS projects contributed towards the Council meeting its aims and objectives contained in the various strategies and that full use would be made of the available allocation of funding.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the amended programme of works which had been undertaken during 2014/2015; and
- (ii) to approve the programme of projects to be undertaken during financial year 2015/2016.

## **7. COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER**

With reference to Article 18 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 3 March 2015, there was submitted Report No 210/15 by the Head of Planning and Place, advising as to the current position in relation to applications received for Community Asset Transfer, and in particular, advising of the proposed transfers of firstly, Pitskelly Park and changing rooms to Carnoustie Panmure Football Club; and secondly, the proposed transfer of Montrose Swimming Pool and car park to the Montrose Playhouse Project.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the lease of land at Pitskelly Park and changing rooms on the basis of a 99 year lease for £1 per annum;
- (ii) to approve the lease of land at the former Montrose Swimming Pool on the basis of a 99 year lease for £1 per annum; and
- (iii) to note the outcome and progress for asset transfer applications received to date.

## **8. DISPOSAL OF GROUND AT MILTON STREET, MONFIETH**

There was submitted Report No 211/15 by the Head of Planning and Place relating to the disposal of an area of ground at 30 Milton Street, Monifieth.

The Committee agreed to the sale of an area of ground adjacent to 30 Milton Street, Monifieth, to the owner of that property on appropriate terms and conditions, subject to:-

- (i) section 12 consent being received from the Scottish Ministers; and
- (ii) the purchaser meeting all costs in connection with the disposal.

## **9. DISPOSAL OF GROUND AT STRATHMORE TERRACE, GLAMIS**

There was submitted Report No 212/15 by the Head of Planning and Place, relating to the disposal of an area of ground at Strathmore Terrace, Glamis.

The Committee agreed to the sale of an area of ground adjacent to 20 Strathmore Terrace, Glamis, to the owner of that property, on appropriate terms and conditions, and subject to:-

- (i) section 12 consent being received from the Scottish Ministers; and
- (ii) the purchaser meeting all costs in connection with the disposal.

## **10. ANGUS COUNCIL (VARIATION OF WAITING RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2015**

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 27 May 2014, there was submitted Report No 156/15 by the Head of Technical and Property Services, recalling that previous meetings of this Committee and the Infrastructure Services Committee had agreed the promotion of waiting restrictions at various locations in Angus, and documenting the outcome of the statutory consultation with objections to the proposals at three sites, recommending the abandonment of one site; amending one site; and the making of an Order for the purpose of varying the provisions of current Traffic Orders in respect of waiting restrictions at the other locations.

The list of proposals were summarised in Appendix 1 to the Report.

The Committee agreed to note the objections received during the publication period, and approve the making of the Order, including the proposed amendments following the statutory consultation.

## **11. GATEWAY SPONSORSHIP**

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of the Infrastructure Services Committee of 9 October 2012, there was submitted Report No 213/15 by the Head of Technical and Property Services, reviewing the trial Gateway Sponsorship contract which had begun in April 2013 for a two year period, and proposing four potential options, not mutually exclusive, but which would establish whether community proposals were realistic; would ensure that communities felt engaged as well as potentially delivering the outcomes, whilst allowing existing sponsors to come to conclusions regarding their respective involvement, over time.

The Report considered that overall, the trial had been a marginal success, but the take-up of sponsorship had been limited as compared to other council areas running similar projects. The contract with the marketing company had concluded, and a review of the situation and outcomes of the pilot was required to inform future proposals.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to homologate the decision by the Forfar local members, in consultation with the Strategic Director – Communities, to approve the upgrading of the roundabout at Glamis Road, Forfar;
- (ii) to cease use of a marketing company to seek commercial sponsorship of gateways; and
- (iii) to develop gateway improvements as part of other community engagement to develop the communities' expectations with the communities themselves, delivered by the communities in line with the proposals for Pride in Place and to use exemplar projects such as Forfar in Flower and Easthaven 800.

## **12. KIRRIEMUIR HILL TOILETS AND CAMERA OBSCURA – VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT**

There was submitted Report No 215/15 by the Strategic Director - Communities regarding new management and operation arrangements for the Camera Obscura, and community use of the Barrie Pavilion, to coincide with the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Pavilion in June, and also regarding the future operation of the Kirriemuir Hill toilets on a volunteer basis for a trial period of one year, supported by Angus Council from 1 June.

Having heard Councillor Jeanette Gaul, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to homologate the decision of the Convener and Vice-Convener of the Committee, in consultation with the Kirriemuir local elected members and the Strategic Director – Communities, to agree to the volunteer management of the Barrie Pavilion and operation of the Camera Obscura, with support and assistance from Angus Council, from 1 May 2015 and to note that the keys had been handed over to the Group;
- (ii) to the volunteer management of the toilets with support and assistance from Angus Council;
- (iii) to the provision of financial resources on a pro-rata basis as outlined in paragraph 5 of the Report; and
- (iv) to commend the Kirriemuir Regeneration Group for its efforts in volunteering, and the entrepreneurial spirit enhancing the options for the local community and users of Kirriemuir Hill.

## **13. EASTHAVEN TOILETS – VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT**

There was submitted Report No 216/15 by the Strategic Director – Communities regarding the future management arrangements for the toilets in Easthaven from 1 May 2015.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to homologate the decision of the Convener and Vice Convener of the Communities Committee, in consultation with the Strategic Director – Communities, to agree to the volunteer management of the toilets in Easthaven with support and assistance from Angus Council from 1 May 2015;
- (ii) to the provision of financial resources on a pro-rata basis, as outlined in the Report; and
- (iii) to commend the Easthaven community for its combined efforts in volunteering and enhancement of the local community.

## **14. DEMENTIA FRIENDLY KIRRIEMUIR**

There was submitted Report No 217/15 by the Strategic Director – Communities advising as to the Dementia Friendly Kirriemuir Initiative, for which the Kirriemuir and Dean Area Partnership had been awarded three year funding totalling £269,000 by the Life Changes Trust to develop Dementia Friendly Kirriemuir over the next three years. This initiative aimed to raise awareness, change attitudes and promote inclusion throughout the community as a whole to enable people living with dementia to exercise more choice and control over their lives.

Having heard Councillors Jeanette Gaul, Proctor, Middleton and Oswald, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the one year rolling lease of the ground north of Lyall Court, Rosefield Gardens, Kirriemuir, to develop a dementia friendly garden with a rent of £1.00 per year; and

- (ii) to approve the Licence to Occupy the former Kirriemuir Access Office by the Kirriemuir and Dean Area Partnership for a three year period from July 2015; and
- (iii) that the Kirriemuir and Dean Area Partnership would not be required to pay a rent or occupancy fee for the use of the office accommodation.

**15. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

The Committee resolved in terms of Standing Order 27(2) that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items, so as to avoid the possible disclosure of information which was exempt in terms of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, paragraphs 6 (Article 16), and 8 and 9 (Article 17).

**16. DARKWOOD DRAGON QUEST**

There was submitted Report No 214/15 by the Strategic Director – Communities, regarding the involvement of the Council in a series of Dark Wood events planned to be staged at Monikie Country Park over the next three years, in partnership with a third party, Vision Mechanics, and with the support of Events Scotland.

The Committee agreed to approve the delivery of the Dark Wood event for a period of three years as detailed in the Report.

**17. PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS – ARBROATH**

There was submitted Report No 218/15 by the Head of Planning and Place, regarding the purchases of three privately owned properties in Arbroath, in order to proceed with a redevelopment project.

The Committee agreed the recommendations as set out in the Report.