

## **ANGUS COUNCIL**

MINUTE of MEETING of the **KIRRIEMUIR CONSERVATION AREA REGENERATION SCHEME (CARS) STEERING GROUP** held in the Board Room, Community Hub, Bank Street, Kirriemuir on Tuesday 23 January 2018 at 9.00 am.

**Present:** Councillors JULIE BELL, ANGUS MACMILLAN DOUGLAS OBE and RONNIE PROCTOR MBE.

**Non Councillor Members of the Group:** ELAINE FINDLAY (from Item 5 onwards), PAUL FRETWELL and DEREK MARSHALL.

**Officers in Attendance:** JILL PATERSON (Environment and Development Plan Manager), KAREN WEST (Project Officer), PAUL LOWRIE (Acting Transport Manager) and LAURA STEWART (Committee Assistant).

### **1. CHAIR OF THE MEETING**

In accordance with the constitution of the Steering Group, the Chair rotating between elected members, Councillor Julie Bell chaired the meeting.

### **2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Jennifer Anderson, Communities Officer.

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made.

### **4. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minute of meeting of the Steering Group of 5 December 2017 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

### **5. CARS PROJECT OFFICER'S REPORT**

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of previous meeting, there was submitted a Report by the CARS Project Officer summarising progress in relation to the following:-

#### **(i) Small Grants Scheme Update**

The Steering Group noted that the purchase of 17 Bank Street had now concluded and grant monies had been paid to the applicant, with the 10% retention payment due on 31 March 2018. Retention payments were also still due for Visocchi's and 5B and 6B High Street.

#### **(ii) Financial Update**

The common fund for the Kirriemuir Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) for the period 2013-18 amounted to £1,149,000. This comprised the approved grant from Historic Environment Scotland of £645,000 together with the Council's contribution of £504,000. A 15% contribution from the private sector (owners), amounted to an overall eligible cost or total investment in Kirriemuir of some £1,290,000. In total, some £348,060 had been invested in repairs to the two completed Priority Projects and £498,855 of grant money paid out under the Small Grants Scheme, representing a substantial investment of £846,915 in the town's historic building stock.

Overall, there was a potential surplus of £37,725 which would be utilised to provide funding towards the additional training project to repair the car park walls at Reform Street and to provide funding for the CARS Legacy event, leaving a potential surplus of £2,821.

The Steering Group noted that, in terms of the budget for Public Realm works, there had been an overspend of £6,114 which had resulted because of a mis-calculation in the level of anticipated excess funding which had been offered by CARS towards the collaborative project with Kirriemuir Dementia Friendly, details of which were contained within the Report.

The Project Officer indicated that despite the overspend with the Public Realm works, the overall cost of the collaborative work and the benefits which had undoubtedly been achieved, not only within the town itself but nationally in terms of the publicity received for the project, the CARS funding contribution to the Dementia Friendly Kirriemuir Group could only continue by utilising some of the underspend funding from the other budget headings.

Thereafter, the Project Officer provided the Group with a detailed breakdown of the expenditure within the various budget headings, including the ancillary projects undertaken to date, as detailed within the Report.

Following a detailed discussion, the Steering Group agreed:-

- (i) to note the current financial position;
- (ii) to approve the overspend within the Public Realm budget; and
- (iii) that the underspend within the Administration budget should be utilised to account for the overspend within the Public Realm budget.

**(iii) Wayfinding App**

The Steering Group noted merchandise banners to publicise the Wayfinding App were now available at the museum, together with flyers and badges. A small banner was also on display in both the reception area of the school and the library.

**(iv) Mosaic Mural**

The Steering Group noted that the mosaic mural had now been completed. As previously reported, the original location for the mural at the top of Manse Close, highlighted as "Wall A" in Appendix 2 to the Report, had not been deemed appropriate in terms of the wall's structural integrity. A structural inspection was carried out by Angus Council's Structural Engineer to confirm the stability of "Wall A" which confirmed that the wall could not be repointed without significant temporary propping, stone repairs or stone replacements.

The Steering Group noted that the structural inspection had also revealed that the North West wall, shown as "Wall C" in Appendix 2 to the Report, was found to be in need of repointing. No significant propping, stone repairs or stone replacement would be required. The Project Officer advised that Frew Conservation had provided a quotation for these proposed works, indicating a cost of £29,984 (inclusive of VAT) and sought the views of the Steering Group in relation to work being undertaken on "Wall C".

Following discussion, the Steering Group agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Structural Engineer's Report;
- (ii) to instruct Frew Construction to undertake the works required to the North West wall, "Wall C", as detailed within Appendix 2 to the Report;
- (iii) that the mosaic mural should be mounted on "Wall C" following the works to the wall; and
- (v) to instruct the Project Officer to ascertain if Angus Council had been claiming VAT back on invoices on behalf of the Steering Group.

**(v) Legacy Plan**

The Project Officer advised that given the limited timescale before the end of the project period, it was likely that the proposed daytime exhibition/celebratory event would not take place until nearer the end of March and sought the views of the Steering Group in relation to the event:-

Having heard from all Members, the Steering Group agreed:-

- (i) the Legacy Event would be held on Saturday 28 April 2018;
- (ii) all those involved in the CARS Project should be invited to attend the event; and
- (iii) the event should comprise the unveiling of the mosaic mural followed by a celebratory exhibition in the Community Hub in Bank Street.

**6. BUS SHELTER**

With reference to Article 7 of the minute of previous meeting, the Acting Transport Manager advised the Group that Angus Council had allocated a budget of £6,000 for providing a bus shelter within The Square, and copies of the various designs for the shelter were circulated to Members for their comments.

Following a detailed discussion and having heard from all Members, the Steering Group agreed:-

- (i) to note the various designs available for the bus shelter;
- (ii) that it was the view of the Steering Group that the "Cairngorms" Shelter was the most appropriate design for the shelter;
- (iii) that it was the view of the Steering Group that the shelter should be black in colour;
- (iv) that it was the view of the Steering Group that a timber seat should be erected within the shelter to compliment the earlier enhancements in The Square; and
- (v) that it was the view of the Steering Group that "real-time" information should be installed in the bus shelter.

**7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**(i) Civic Trust Awards**

Mr Fretwell recommended that the Steering Group submit an application to the Civic Trust Awards.

The Steering Group welcomed this suggestion and agreed that the Project Officer should begin proceedings to submit an application on behalf of the Kirriemuir CARS Regeneration Scheme.

**8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Steering Group agreed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 27 February 2018 at 9.00 am with the final meeting of the Steering Group taking place on Tuesday 20 March 2018 at 9.00 am.