

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of the Special MEETING of **ANGUS COUNCIL** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 20 February 2018 at 2.25pm.

Present: Provost RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, Depute Provost COLIN BROWN, Councillors JULIE BELL, BRIAN BOYD, KENNY BRAES, LYNNE DEVINE, BILL DUFF, BRENDA DURNO, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, CRAIG FOTHERINGAM, SHEILA HANDS, ALEX KING, BEN LAWRIE, DAVID LUMGAIR, ANGUS MACMILLAN DOUGLAS OBE, MARK McDONALD, IAN McLAREN, BOB MYLES, GAVIN NICOL, MARK SALMOND, LOIS SPEED, TOMMY STEWART, RON STURROCK, DEREK WANN and BETH WHITESIDE.

PROVOST RONNIE PROCTOR, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors David Cheape and Braden Davy.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Myles, Nicol and Braes all declared an interest in item 3 as they had attended meetings and spoken with members of the community and parents of pupils who attended Stracathro Primary School. All indicated that they had not expressed an opinion and would take part in any discussion and voting on this.

At this point in the meeting, the Strategic Director – People intimated that at the meeting of the Children and Learning Committee held earlier in the day, the Committee had agreed all of the recommendations within Report 68/18. He also indicated that the consultation documents, when available on the Council's website, would be fully accessible.

3. ANGUS SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE: CONSULTATION PROPOSALS FOR RURAL SCHOOLS IN BRECHIN CLUSTER

With reference to item 6 of the minute of meeting of the Children and Learning Committee of 20 February 2018, there was submitted Report No 68/18 by the Strategic Director – People presenting proposal documents for changes to the provision of rural schools in the Brechin cluster.

The Report indicated that consultation on the closure of Lethnot, Tarfside and Stracathro primary schools would commence on Monday 24 February and would continue until Friday 20 April 2018. Thereafter, a consultation report would be prepared, Education Scotland would undertake their review of the consultation exercise and a Report with recommendations would be presented to the Children and Learning Committee on 18 September 2018. Each of the closure proposals would be a separate process.

It was also proposed that work would begin to plan the extension of Edzell Primary School, which did not require a formal consultation process. However, it was proposed that the Council consulted with the children, parents/carers, staff and the wider community associated with Edzell school about the design and planning process. This work would begin as soon as possible to allow for the projected increased school roll and the expansion of early learning and child care. As well as addressing the increased space requirements it was also the Council's intention to redevelop aspects of this school that did not support the principles and ambitions for the Council's learning estate.

Having heard from a number of members, the Council resolved:-

- (i) to note that the proposals had been considered at the meeting of the Children and Learning Committee held earlier in the day;

- (ii) to approve the consultation process for closure of Lethnot Primary School and adjustment to catchment area for Edzell Primary School, as detailed in Appendix I to the Report;
- (iii) to approve the consultation proposal for closure of Tarfside Primary School and adjustment to catchment area for Edzell Primary School, as detailed in Appendix II to the Report;
- (iv) to approve the consultation proposal for closure of Stracathro Primary School and the adjustment to catchment area for Edzell Primary School, as detailed in Appendix III to the Report; and
- (v) to approve the consultation with the children, parents/carers, staff and the wider community associated with Edzell school for the expansion and redevelopment of the current school building.