

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 27 February 2018 at 2.00 pm.

Present: Councillors CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM, LOIS SPEED, JULIE BELL, DAVID CHEAPE, BRADEN DAVY, LYNNE DEVINE, BILL DUFF, ALEX KING, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, SHEILA HANDS, DAVID LUMGAIR, IAN MCLAREN, RICHARD MOORE, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE and RON STURROCK.

Councillor FOTHERINGHAM, Convener, in the Chair.

1. **APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Brenda Durno and Tommy Stewart, with Councillors Alex King and Ron Sturrock substituting, respectively.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Hands declared a non-financial interest in Item 4 (Report No 56/18, Schedule 1), in that she was a current serving director of Angus Care and Repair. She indicated that she would participate in any discussion and voting on this item.

Councillor Cheape declared a non-financial interest in Item 6 (Report No 71/18), in that he had received emails and other approaches on this matter from ward constituents but had not expressed any view on the matter. He indicated that he would take part in any discussion and voting on this item.

3. **MINUTES**

(a) **Previous Meeting**

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 16 January 2018 was submitted, approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

(b) **Special Meeting**

The minute of special meeting of this Committee of 6 February 2018, was submitted, approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

4. **INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 14 NOVEMBER 2017 TO 27 FEBRUARY 2018**

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 14 November 2017, there was submitted and noted Report No 56/18 by the Strategic Director – Place, together with its one Schedule, namely:-

Schedule 1 – Private Sector Housing Grants 2017/18 – Quarter 3 to 31 December 2017.

This provided information to Members with regard to a service delivered in the Place Directorate for the relevant period.

5. **WESTWAY, ARBROATH: JUNCTION IMPROVEMENTS**

There was submitted Report No 70/18 by the Head of Technical and Property Services, advising that a traffic assessment had been carried out in 2016 by Fairhurst to identify potential improvements to the road network in the vicinity of the Westway Retail Park in Arbroath. This had followed concerns being raised by local residents and elected members regarding pedestrian and cyclist accessibility and traffic congestion in the area. The Assessment was intended to perform an audit of the existing transport infrastructure, focusing on three junctions on the Westway, namely the mini roundabout junction on the A92 Dundee Road; the Retail Park priority junction; and the Peasiehill Road priority junction. The need for improvements was identified at the mini roundabout junction and the retail park priority junction. No improvements were deemed necessary at the Peasiehill Road priority junction.

Following considerable discussion, and having heard Councillors King, Cheape, Hands and Fairweather, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to accept the recommendations received during the traffic assessment regarding the identification of potential improvements to the road network in the vicinity of Westway Retail Park, Arbroath;
- (ii) to progress the proposals as set out in Paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2 of the Report at an estimated cost for the improvement works of £239,000, to be funded from the 2018/19 Traffic Calming/Road Safety and Traffic Signals/Pedestrian Facilities budget; the works to span two financial years 2018/19 and 2019/2020 to mitigate the impact upon these limited budgets; and
- (iii) to note the ongoing maintenance costs following completion of the works of approximately £5,000 per annum to be met from the Revenue Budget for Traffic Signals Maintenance within the overall Roads Revenue Budget.

6. ANGUS COUNCIL (THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP, CARNOUSTIE) (EXEMPTION) ORDER 2018

There was submitted Report No 71/18 by the Head of Housing, Regulatory and Protective Services, advising as to the introduction of an Order to exempt temporarily three areas of land in the vicinity of Carnoustie Links, from access rights which should otherwise be exercisable under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, to accommodate The Open Championship in July 2018.

Councillor Cheape highlighted concerns expressed to him by local residents due to the duration of the closures proposed. Officers gave assurances that area A as described in Paragraph 3.1 of Appendix A to the Report would be the only area likely to require the entire closure period of 19 March to 31 August 2018; the other areas would be closed as and when necessary between the designated dates and not as far as possible for the entire period.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the making of the proposed Order, subject to the Scottish Ministers' confirmation of the terms of the Order; and
- ii) to authorise the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to make the Order, including any amendments necessary in the event that the Scottish Ministers required modifications to the proposed Order.

7. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Committee resolved, in terms of Standing Order 28(2), that the public and press be excluded during the consideration of the following item, so as to avoid the possible disclosure of information which was exempt in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, Part 1, Schedule 7A, Paragraphs 8, 9 and 10.

8. WEST ARBROATH REGENERATION – AFFORDABLE HOUSING – PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY APPROVAL REQUEST

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of special meeting of this Committee of 6 February 2018, there was submitted Report No 72/18 by the Head of Technical and Property Services, seeking authority for a proposed procurement where the maximum value of the contract was above the Chief Officer's delegated authority limit.

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