

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 1 May 2018 at 2.00pm.

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

Councillor BOB MYLES, Convener, in the Chair

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

There were no apologies intimated.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Davy declared an interest in items 10 and 11 (Forfar Common Good element) as he had publicly expressed support for the proposals. He indicated that he would participate in any discussion and voting on both these items.

Councillors King and Fairweather each declared an interest in item 11 (Arbroath Common Good element) as Council appointed Directors of Arbroath Golf Links Ltd. Both indicated that they would participate in any discussion and voting on this item.

Councillors Duff, Davy and Cheape each declared an interest in item 11 as Council appointed Directors of AngusAlive. All indicated that they would not participate in any discussion and voting and would leave the meeting during consideration of this item.

3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 13 March 2018 was submitted and approved as a correct record, subject to the third paragraph in relation to the Digital Strategy being amended to now read:

“Having heard from Councillor Hands who raised a number of concerns and from Councillor Moore who requested that the document be revised to ensure it complied with Plain English Standards, Councillor Myles, seconded by Councillor Macmillan Douglas, moved that the Committee:-”

4. INFORMATION REPORT: SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON ELECTORAL REFORM

There was submitted and noted Report No 145/18 by the Returning Officer appending a copy of the response to the Consultation on Electoral Reform under The Scotland Act 2016. The consultation was what the Scottish Government considered a first step in reforming the electoral process in Scotland and would use the results of this process to develop policy proposals that may be taken forward into future legislation.

5. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 10 FEBRUARY TO 30 MARCH 2018

There was submitted and noted Report No 146/18 by the Head of Strategic Policy, Transformation and Public Sector Reform with regard to services in the Strategic Policy and Transformation Service relating to:-

Schedule 1 – Overview of Business Support and Investment Activities;

Schedule 2 – Angus Council Community Grant Scheme and Crowd Fund Angus:
April 2017 to March 2018; and

Schedule 3 – Summary of Applications received 2017/2018.

6. INFORMATION REPORT ON BREXIT

There was submitted and noted Report No 147/18 by the Head of Strategic Policy, Transformation and Public Sector Reform containing a summary of current Brexit information available and an assessment on the impact on Angus Council.

7. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 6 FEBRUARY TO 3 APRIL 2018

With reference to Article 8 of the minute of meeting of the Children and Learning Committee of 19 April 2018, there was submitted and noted Report No 125/18 by the Head of Finance and Legal in relation to Council Tax Exemption for Care Leavers.

8. CRIMINAL JUSTICE SHARED SERVICES

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 29 August 2017, there was submitted Report No 149/18 by the Strategic Director – People seeking approval to continue funding Dundee City Council and Perth and Kinross Council for services hosted on behalf of Angus Criminal Justice Services.

The Report proposed payment of £37,500 to Perth & Kinross Council as the Angus Criminal Justice Service contribution to the Tayside Arrest Referral Service and a payment of £88,000 to Dundee City Council as the Angus Criminal Justice Service contribution to fund the Tay Project.

The Committee agreed to approve the payments to Dundee City Council and Perth and Kinross Council, as detailed in section 5 of the Report.

9. CARERS POLICY AND GUIDANCE

There was submitted Report No 150/18 by the Head of HR, Digital Enablement and Business Support advising of the introduction of a new policy and guidance for employees who had caring responsibilities.

The Report indicated that the policy and guidance provided specific support to employees who were carers and set out the Council's commitment to this. The policy and guidance had been developed as a result of an action from the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 Implementation Plan from the Angus Care Planning and Development Group.

The Committee agreed to approve the new policy and guidance in relation to carers.

10. SURPLUS PROPERTY - LOCHSIDE LEISURE CENTRE

There was submitted Report No 151/18 by the Head of Infrastructure seeking to declare the former Lochside Leisure Centre, Craig O'Loch Road, Forfar, surplus to Council requirements and demolished.

The Committee agreed to approve that the former Lochside Leisure Centre, Craig O'Loch Road, Forfar, shown outlined on the plan attached as Appendix 1 to the Report, be declared surplus to the Council's requirements and demolished with the land reinstated.

Councillors Duff, Davy and Cheape having declared an interest at item 2 above, left the meeting during consideration of the following item.

11. COMMON GOOD FUNDS – PROJECT APPROVALS

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 13 March 2018, there was submitted Report No 152/18 by the Head of Infrastructure seeking approval for 2018/19 Common Good funded projects.

The Committee agreed:-

In respect of Arbroath Common Good Fund:-

- to approve £30,000 funding for steeple repairs at the Old Kirk.

- to approve £20,000 funding as a contribution towards renewal of sprinklers at Arbroath Golf Course.
- to approve a loan of £20,000 as a contribution towards renewal of sprinklers at Arbroath Golf Course.
- to approve funding of a maximum of £60,000 (maximum) towards the total costs of renewal of facilities at West Links Crazy Golf.
- to note that the application from AngusAlive for a £10,000 loan towards the redevelopment of two cottages at Signal Tower Museum – Spotlight on Arbroath’s Fishing Heritage had been withdrawn.
- to approve funding of £10,000 to AngusAlive towards the redevelopment of two cottages at Signal Tower Museum – Spotlight on Arbroath’s Fishing Heritage.

In respect of Brechin Common Good Fund:-

- to approve funding of £42,000 for window refurbishment at Brechin City Hall.
- to approve funding of £38,000 towards upgrade works for internal lighting, rigging, flooring, boilers and LED lights at Brechin City Hall.
- to approve funding of £5,000 towards external repairs and repaint work at the Town House & Museum.
- to approve funding of £35,000 towards installation of vehicle access barriers at the Public Park.

In respect of Forfar Common Good Fund:-

- to approve funding of £40,000 for provision of toilet facilities at Forfar Loch.
- to approve funding of £45,000 towards window refurbishment and installation of secondary glazing at Municipal Buildings, Forfar.

12. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Committee agreed that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item, so as to avoid the disclosure of information which was exempt in terms of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, paragraph 3.

13. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2017- 31 MARCH 2018

There was submitted Report No 153/18 by the Chief Social Work Officer providing information to members about the use and delivery of Community Payback Orders in Angus which had been submitted to Community Justice Scotland but as yet the annual report had not been published and consequently the information contained in the report remained embargoed.

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the Report.