

# ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 4 June 2019 at 2.00pm.

**Present:** Councillors CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM, ANGUS MACMILLAN DOUGLAS OBE, BRIAN BOYD, BRADEN DAVY, LYNNE DEVINE, BILL DUFF, , SHEILA HANDS, ALEX KING, COLIN BROWN, IAN MCLAREN, BOB MYLES, MARK SALMOND, RON STURROCK, DEREK WANN and BETH WHITESIDE.

Councillor MACMILLIAN DOUGLAS, Vice-Convener, in the Chair

The Convener intimated that a request for a deputation had been received from a Mrs Emma Redford in connection with item 9 below.

The Committee agreed to receive the deputation.

## 1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors David Fairweather and Ben Lawrie, with Councillors Craig Fotheringham and Colin Brown substituting, respectively.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Duff and MacMillan Douglas each declared an interest in item 6 (Schedule 2) as Council appointed members of the Tay Cities Region Joint Committee. They indicated that they had a specific dispensation and would therefore participate in any discussion and voting on this item.

## 3. DEPUTATION

The Committee received a deputation from Mrs Emma Redford who urged members not to support the proposals within the draft Gaelic Language Plan 2019/2024 and raised her concerns regarding the financial implications of a number of the proposals within the Plan.

Following the deputation, Mrs Redford withdrew to the public benches.

## 4. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 30 April 2019, was submitted and approved as a correct record.

## 5. MOTION IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 25 (1)

### (i) Membership of the Policy and Budget Strategy Group (PBSG)

COUNCILLOR MACMILLAN DOUGLAS, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR WANN, MOVED THAT THIS COMMITTEE AGREES TO AMEND THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PBSG WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT. THE MEMBERSHIP TO BE AS FOLLOWS:-

COUNCILLORS FAIRWEATHER, MCMILLAN DOUGLAS, FOTHERINGHAM, SALMOND, STURROCK AND WANN.

Councillor Devine, seconded by Councillor Duff, moved as an amendment, that the membership of the PBSG remain as present.

Having heard from a number of members, the members voted:-

For the motion:-

Councillors MacMillan Douglas, Davy, Fotheringham, Brown, McLaren, Myles, Salmond, Sturrock and Wann (9).

For the amendment:-

Councillors Devine, Duff, Hands, King and Whiteside (5).

No vote:-

Councillor Boyd.

The motion was declared carried and the Committee resolved accordingly.

## **6. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 30 MARCH – 3 MAY 2019**

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 30 April 2019, there was submitted and noted Report No 177/19 by the Director of Strategic Policy, Transformation & Public Sector Reform providing information to members with regard to services in the Strategic Policy & Transformation service and specifically in relation to an Overview of Economic Development Business Support and Investment Activities (Schedule 1) and Tay Cities Deal (Schedule 2).

## **7. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2018 – 31 MARCH 2019**

There was submitted and noted Report No 178/19 by the Director of Finance providing information to members with regard to services in the Finance service and in particular information on Council Tax and Business Rates Collection Performance, Irrecoverable Bad Debt and general performance.

The Committee noted that the Director of Finance would liaise with Welfare Rights staff with regard to the possibility of utilising Strang's Mortification to assist individuals who were experiencing financial difficulties.

## **8. COMMON GOOD FUNDS – PROJECT APPROVALS**

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 30 April 2019, there was submitted Report No 179/19 by the Director of Infrastructure seeking approval for 2019/20 Common Good funded projects.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve a grant of £18,000 from Arbroath Common Good Fund to replace seven Dormer windows and surrounds at the Webster Memorial Theatre;
- (ii) to approve a grant of £18,000 from Arbroath Common Good Fund for external paint and repairs to all previously painted surfaces at the Webster Memorial Theatre;
- (iii) to defer consideration of the proposals in relation to Arbroath United Cricket Club to the meeting of full Council to allow the trustees of Arbroath Common Good to meet with the relevant officers to discuss the possibility of awarding a grant of £5,000 and a loan of £5,000;
- (iv) to approve a grant of £450 from Forfar Common Good to Forfar Horticultural Society for hall fees for the Forfar Flower Show; and
- (v) to approve a grant of £18,000 from Montrose Common Good for vehicle and pedestrian barrier, gates and bollards at Marine Avenue.

## **9. DRAFT GAELIC LANGUAGE PLAN 2019 – 2024**

There was submitted Report No 183/19 by the Director of HR, Digital Enablement, IT & Business Support (along with addendum prepared by the Director of Finance) presenting a second iteration of a draft Gaelic Language Plan for Angus, as required by legislation.

The Report indicated that the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 had been passed by the Scottish Parliament with a view to securing the status of the Gaelic language as an official language of Scotland, commanding equal respect with the English language. The Act required the public sector in Scotland to play its part in creating a sustainable future for Gaelic by raising its status and profile in the community, workplace, home and in places of learning.

A draft Gaelic Language Plan (2019 – 2024) for adoption was attached as Appendix 1 to the Report.

The Report indicated that the Council had taken a proportionate approach whilst ensuring that the draft plan had been prepared within the framework of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005, in accordance with statutory criteria and having regard to the National Plan for Gaelic and the Guidance on the Development of Gaelic Language plans.

Having heard from a number of members who raised concerns with regard to the potential costs, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the draft Gaelic Language Plan 2019 – 2024; and
- (ii) to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to make any changes as appropriate following conclusion of a minimum of six week statutory public consultation period, and submit the draft plan to Bòrd na Gàidhlig for their approval.

#### **10. MONTROSE COMMON GOOD FUND UPDATE**

There was submitted Report No 185/19 by the Director of Infrastructure asking the Council to note the decision that had been made as a matter of urgency to purchase an item of local interest/importance to the Montrose Common Good, namely Johnston Press' complete bound back numbers of the Montrose Review from 1811 to 1999, which had appeared at auction on 1 June 2019.

The Report indicated that all four Montrose members who were trustees of the Montrose Common Good had agreed that a bid should be made at Taylor's Auction House in Montrose. The item had been successfully purchased for a total of £1,364 (including Auction House fees), this sum could be accommodated within the estimated Montrose Common Good Fund balance of £326,933 as at 31 March 2020.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the decision to purchase Johnston Press' complete bound back numbers of the Montrose Review from 1811 to 1999 at Auction on 1 June 2019, as detailed in the Report; and
- (ii) to note the outcome of the auction process.

#### **11. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

The Committee resolved, in terms of Standing Order 28(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, 8 and 9.

#### **12. PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY REPORT – CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF SPECIALIST NURSING CARE AT CAIRNIE LODGE, ARBROATH FOR PEOPLE WITH A LEARNING DISABILITY AND HEALTHCARE NEEDS**

There was submitted Report No 180/19 by the Chief Officer, Angus Health and Social Care Partnership seeking approval to re-new the contract for three years with the option to extend for up to two years for the provision of specialist nursing care for people with a learning disability and healthcare needs.

The Committee agreed to approve the recommendations, as detailed in the Report.

**13. PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY REPORT – INDEPENDENT INTERMEDIATE CARE AND INDEPENDENT INTERMEDIATE CARE AND NON-COMPLEX PALLIATIVE CARE**

There was submitted Report No 181/19 by the Chief Officer, Angus Health and Social Care Partnership outlining the procurement strategy for two contracts relating to Independent Intermediate Care and Independent Intermediate Care and Non-complex Palliative Care services in line with the Angus Health and Social Care Partnership (AHSCP)'s Strategic Commissioning Plan and seeking authority for its implementation.

The Committee agreed to approve the recommendations, as detailed in the Report.

**14. PROPERTY TRANSACTION – LUNAN PARK, FRIOCKHEIM**

There was submitted Report No 182/19 by the Director of Infrastructure seeking approval of the property transaction in relation to Lunan Park, Friockheim.

The Committee agreed to approve the property transaction, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the Report.

**15. LOCAL BUS SERVICE CONTRACTS AWARD**

There was submitted Report No 184/19 by the Director of Infrastructure detailing the results of the recent retendering exercise in respect of local bus service provision and seeking authority for the Director of Legal and Democratic Services to award the proposed contracts.

The Committee agreed to approve the recommendations, as detailed in the Report.