

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of SPECIAL MEETING of **ANGUS COUNCIL** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 27 February 2020 at 11.00 am.

Present: Provost RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, Depute Provost COLIN BROWN BEM, Councillors JULIE BELL, BRIAN BOYD, KENNY BRAES, DAVID CHEAPE, BRADEN DAVY, 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, RICHARD MOORE, 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

There were no apologies intimated.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Bell, Myles and Speed declared an interest in item 3(v) and 3(vii) as members of the Angus Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board. Each indicated that they would take part in any discussion and voting on these items.

Councillors Proctor and Bell declared an interest in item 3(i) as Board members of Voluntary Action Angus. Each indicated that they would take part in any discussion and voting on this item.

Councillors Proctor, Duff, Devine and Brown each declared an interest in item 3(viii) as Council appointed directors of ANGUSALive. Each indicated that they would participate in any discussion and voting on this item.

Councillor MacMillan Douglas declared an interest in item 3(i) as a Council appointee on the Tayside Contracts Joint Committee. He indicated that he would take part in any discussion and voting on the item.

Councillors Fairweather, MacMillan Douglas and Duff declared an interest in item 3(i) as a Council appointee on the Tay Cities Joint Committee. Each indicated that they would take part in any discussion and voting on the item.

At this stage in the meeting the Director of Finance provided an update in terms of the Scottish budget following announcements the previous evening. A number of changes had been made to the draft budget including the addition of a further £95m of revenue funding for local authorities which would have implications for this Council. Following confirmation of the position a further Report, with refinements, would be brought back to a future meeting of Angus Council or the Policy & Resources Committee for consideration.

3. REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET 2020/21 AND BEYOND AND SETTING OF THE 2020/21 COUNCIL TAX AND RELATED ISSUES

At this point in the meeting, the Democratic and Members Services Manager reported on the discussions that had taken place at the meeting of the Central Consultative Committee held earlier in the day.

This was noted.

The Director of Education and Lifelong Learning then advised members that at a Special meeting of the Children and Learning Committee held earlier that day the Committee had considered Report No 92/20 being proposed budget efficiencies within the school staffing budget. The recommendations of the Report had been agreed.

The Council resolved to note the position.

Thereafter, there was submitted the following:-

- (i) Report No 74/20 by the Chief Executive being the Council Plan, Finance & Change Plan and Workforce Plan setting out the Council's strategic direction, vision, refreshed priorities and planned actions;
- (ii) Report No 75/20 by the Director of Communities being a review of charges within the Communities Service and setting out proposals for the charges to be levied by service areas for the financial year 2020/21;
- (iii) Report No 76/20 by the Director of Infrastructure being a review of charges within the Infrastructure Service and setting out proposals for the charges to be levied by service areas in the financial year 2020/21;
- (iv) Report No 77/20 by the Director of Legal and Democratic Services being a review of charges within Legal and Democratic Services and setting out proposals for the charges to be levied by the service for the financial year 2020/21;
- (v) Report No 78/20 by the Interim Chief Officer, Angus Integration Joint Board setting out proposals to revise the Support and Care and Residential fees for services provided by Angus Health and Social Care Partnership through Angus Council with effect from April 2020;
- (vi) Report No 79/20 by the Director of Communities setting out new charges for parks outdoor lets and seeking approval in regard to the scale of charges applied to outdoor lets for concerts, circuses, fairgrounds and community events;
- (vii) Report No 80/20 by the Director of Finance summarising the proposed revenue budget being devolved to the Angus Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board for 2020/21 which had responsibility for the delivery of Adult Care Services;
- (viii) Joint Report No 81/20 by the Director of Finance and the Director of Strategic Policy, Transformation and Public Sector Reform being a review of charges for services delivered by Angusalive and summarising the proposed 2020/21 budget settlement between Angus Council and ANGUSalive;
- (ix) Report No 82/20 by the Director of Finance apprising members of the provisional revenue budget submissions of each Council service and the budget savings considered necessary to allow the Council to deliver a sustainable revenue budget within the resources expected to be available and setting out the provisional capital budget submissions for those services with capital expenditure;
- (x) Report No 83/20 by the Director of Finance being the provisional revenue budget for 2020/21 (including budget issues for 2020/21);
- (xi) Report No 84/20 by the Director of Finance being the 2019/2024 Capital Plan and provisional capital budget for 2020/21;
- (xii) Report No 85/20 by the Director of Finance being the Capital Strategy for the financial year 2020/21;
- (xiii) Report No 86/20 by the Director of Infrastructure being an update on the Active Travel Active Town project in Arbroath which had secured funding from Sustrans Scotland and Transport Scotland's flagship active travel programme, Places for Everyone and seeking approval of match funding for the project coming from the Council's capital budget;
- (xiv) Joint Report No 87/20 by the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance presenting the assessments relating to equalities legislation which had been undertaken while considering the various changes required to support the Council setting a balanced budget for the financial year 2020/21;

- (xv) Report No 88/20 by the Director of Finance setting out the further steps that required to be taken with regard to the setting of the Council Tax charge for Angus Council in respect of the financial year 2020/21;
- (xvi) Report No 89/20 by the Director of Finance summarising the outcome from an assessment of the long-term affordability of the Council's 2019/2024 Capital Plan carried out as part of the Council's longer term financial management strategy; and
- (xvii) Report No 90/20 by the Director of Finance advising members of the prudential indicators which the Council was required to consider and approve as part of the Budgets setting process.

COUNCILLOR MACMILLAN DOUGLAS, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR FAIRWEATHER, MOVED THAT THIS COUNCIL:-

- (I) NOTES THE VIEWS OF THE TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES ON THE CENTRAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ARISING FROM THEIR MEETING EARLIER TODAY;
- (II) NOTES THE VIEWS OF THE SPECIAL CHILDREN & LEARNING COMMITTEE ARISING FROM THEIR MEETING EARLIER TODAY;
- (III) NOTES THE LATEST 2019/20 REVENUE AND CAPITAL MONITORING POSITION AS REPORTED TO THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON 28 JANUARY 2020 AS SET OUT IN REPORTS 22/20 AND 23/20;
- (IV) APPROVES THE COUNCIL PLAN, FINANCE AND CHANGE PLAN AND WORKFORCE PLAN AS SET OUT IN REPORT 74/20 AS SUBMITTED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE;
- (V) APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS SET OUT IN REPORT 75/20 AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITIES RELATING TO THE 2020/21 REVIEW OF CHARGES FOR THE COMMUNITIES SERVICE, NOTING THE ADMINISTRATION'S INTENTION TO FREEZE GREEN WASTE BIN CHARGES FOR HOUSEHOLDERS AT £30.00 FOR THE REMAINING TERM OF THIS COUNCIL;
- (VI) APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS SET OUT IN REPORT 76/20 AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE RELATING TO THE 2020/21 REVIEW OF CHARGES FOR THE INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICE;
- (VII) APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS SET OUT IN REPORT 77/20 AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL & DEMOCRATIC SERVICES RELATING TO THE 2020/21 REVIEW OF CHARGES FOR LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES;
- (VIII) APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS SET OUT IN REPORT 78/20 AS SUBMITTED BY THE INTERIM CHIEF OFFICER, ANGUS HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP RELATING TO THE REVIEW OF ANGUS COUNCIL CHARGES FOR SUPPORT AND CARE SERVICES AND RESIDENTIAL FEES 2020/21;
- (IX) APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS SET OUT IN REPORT 79/20 AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITIES RELATING TO NEW CHARGES FOR PARKS OUTDOOR LETS;
- (X) APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS SET OUT IN REPORT 80/20 AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE RELATING TO THE DEVOLVED BUDGET TO ANGUS HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP/INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD FOR 2020/21;
- (XI) APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATION AS SET OUT IN REPORT 81/20 AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND THE DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC POLICY, TRANSFORMATION AND PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM RELATING TO THE ANGUSALIVE BUDGET SETTLEMENT 2020/21;

- (XII) APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS SET OUT IN REPORT 82/20 AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE RELATING TO THE PROVISIONAL REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS 2020/21 BACKGROUND REPORT AND THE FUNDING OF THE CAPITAL BUDGET AS SET OUT IN REPORT 84/20;
- (XIII) APPROVES THE COMMON GOOD FUND BUDGETS FOR 2020/21 AS SET OUT IN REPORT 83/20 AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE RELATING TO THE PROVISIONAL REVENUE BUDGET VOLUME;
- (XIV) NOTES THE TOTAL NET REVENUE EXPENDITURE FOR 2020/21 OF £283.353 MILLION AS SET OUT IN REPORT 83/20, THE PROVISIONAL REVENUE BUDGET VOLUME;
- (XV) NOTES THE TOTAL NET CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2020/21 OF £27.313 MILLION AS SET OUT IN REPORT 84/20, THE PROVISIONAL CAPITAL BUDGET VOLUME;
- (XVI) NOTES THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS SET OUT IN REPORT 85/20 AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE RELATING TO THE CAPITAL STRATEGY 2020/21;
- (XVII) APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS SET OUT IN REPORT 86/20 AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE RELATING TO THE ARBROATH ACTIVE TRAVEL ACTIVE TOWN – UPDATE AND BUDGET PROPOSALS;
- (XVIII) NOTES THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT 87/20 AS SUBMITTED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE RELATING TO THE EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS AND FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY ASSESSMENT THAT HAVE BEEN PREPARED AS PART OF THE 2020/21 REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS;
- (XIX) APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT 88/20 AS SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE RELATING TO REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGETS 2020/21 SETTING OF THE COUNCIL TAX;
- (XX) NOTES THE PROPOSED 1.75% LEVEL FOR COUNCIL TAX NON-COLLECTION IN 2020/21. THIS WOULD RESULT IN A BAND D EQUIVALENT TAX BASE OF 46,746 AS SET OUT IN **STATEMENT 1**;
- (XXI). APPROVES THE DRAWDOWN OF £0.500 MILLION FROM COUNCIL RESERVES FOR INVESTMENT PROPOSALS AS SET OUT IN **STATEMENT 2**;
- (XXII) APPROVES THE DRAWDOWN OF £1.933 MILLION FROM COUNCIL RESERVES FOR ONE OFF BUDGET ISSUES, SERVICE DEVELOPMENTS AND INVESTMENT BIDS AS SET OUT IN **STATEMENT 2**;
- (XXIII) APPROVES THE DRAWDOWN OF A FURTHER £2.238 MILLION FROM COUNCIL RESERVES WHICH IS REQUIRED TO DELIVER A BALANCED BUDGET IN 2020/21 AS SET OUT IN **STATEMENT 2**;
- (XXIV) APPROVES THE COUNCIL TAX CALCULATION STATEMENT, WHICH ENCOMPASSES ALL OF THE APPROPRIATE ELEMENTS OF THIS MOTION AS SET OUT IN **STATEMENT 2**;
- (XXV) AGREES THAT THE ANGUS COUNCIL BAND D COUNCIL TAX CHARGE FOR 2020/21 BE AS FOLLOWS:-

COUNCIL TAX (BAND D) - £1,206.54 (AS SET OUT IN STATEMENT 2)
- (XXVI) NOTES THE IMPACT OF THE 3% INCREASE IN COUNCIL TAX WHICH IS REQUIRED TO DELIVER A BALANCED BUDGET IN 2020/21, AS SET OUT IN **STATEMENT 3**;
- (XXVII) NOTES THE IMPACT ON THE LEVEL OF EARMARKED RESERVES OF THE PROPOSALS DETAILED IN THIS MOTION, AS DETAILED IN **STATEMENT 4**;

(XXVIII) AGREES THAT THE ADDITIONAL COMMITMENTS OF £2.500 MILLION FOR THE PROPOSED RESERVE STRATEGY FOR FINANCIAL YEARS 2021/22 & 2022/23 BE COMMITTED AGAINST THE PROJECTED UNCOMMITTED GENERAL FUND BALANCE AT 1 APRIL 2021 OF £3.380 MILLION, REDUCING THIS BALANCE TO £0.880 MILLION AS SHOWN IN **STATEMENT 4**;

(XXIX) AGREES THAT THE BALANCE OF THE UNCOMMITTED GENERAL FUND BALANCE OF £0.880 MILLION BE USED TO INCREASE THE COUNCIL'S CORPORATE CONTINGENCY BALANCE FROM THE EXISTING LEVEL OF £4 MILLION IN RECOGNITION OF THE INCREASING LEVEL OF RISK THE COUNCIL IS CARRYING ACROSS ITS SERVICES AND THE BUDGETS WHICH SUPPORT THESE SERVICES;

(XXX) APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT 89/20 REGARDING THE LONG TERM AFFORDABILITY OF THE GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN; AND

(XXXI) APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT 90/20 REGARDING THE SETTING OF PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS FOR THE 2020/21 BUDGET PROCESS.

Councillor Duff, seconded by Councillor Whiteside, moved as an amendment, that this Council:-

- (i) notes the views of the Trade Union representatives on the Central Consultative Committee arising from their meeting earlier today;
- (ii) notes the views of the Special Children & Learning Committee arising from their meeting earlier today;
- (iii) notes the latest 2019/20 revenue and capital monitoring position as reported to the Policy & Resources Committee on 28 January 2020 as set out in Reports 22/20 and 23/20;
- (iv) approves the Council Plan, Finance and Change Plan and Workforce Plan as set out in Report 74/20 as submitted by the Chief Executive, **as amended by Report 91/20 the Alternative Budget Proposal by the Scottish National Party**;
- (v) approves the recommendations as set out in Report 75/20 as submitted by the Director of Communities relating to the 2020/21 Review of Charges for the Communities Service, **as amended by Report 91/20 the Alternative Budget Proposal by the Scottish National Party**;
- (vi) approves the recommendations as set out in Report 76/20 as submitted by the Director of Infrastructure relating to the 2020/21 Review of Charges for the Infrastructure Service;
- (vii) approves the recommendations as set out in Report 77/20 as submitted by the Director of Legal & Democratic Services relating to the 2020/21 Review of Charges for Legal and Democratic Services;
- (viii) approves the recommendations as set out in Report 78/20 as submitted by the Interim Chief Officer, Angus Health & Social Care Partnership relating to the review of Angus Council Charges for Support and Care Services and Residential Fees 2020/21;
- (ix) approves the recommendations as set out in report 79/20 as submitted by the Director of Communities relating to New Charges for Parks Outdoor Lets;
- (x) approves the recommendations as set out in Report 80/20 as submitted by the Director of Finance relating to the Devolved Budget to Angus Health and Social Care Partnership / Integration Joint Board for 2020/21;
- (xi) approves the recommendation as set out in Report 81/20 as submitted by the Director of Finance and the Director of Strategic Policy, Transformation and Public Sector Reform relating to the ANGUSALive Budget Settlement 2020/21, **as amended by Report 91/20 the Alternative Budget Proposal by the Scottish National Party**;

- (xii) approves the recommendations as set out in Report 82/20 as submitted by the Director of Finance relating to the Provisional Revenue and Capital Budgets 2020/21 Background Report and the funding of the Capital Budget as set out in Report 84/20, **as amended by Report 91/20 the Alternative Budget Proposal by the Scottish National Party**;
- (xiii) approves the Common Good Fund budgets for 2020/21 as set out in Report 83/20 as submitted by the Director of Finance relating to the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume;
- (xiv) notes the total net revenue expenditure for 2020/21 of £283.515 million **as set out in Report 91/20, the Alternative Budget Proposal by the Scottish National Party**;
- (xv) notes the total net capital expenditure for 2020/21 of £27.523 million **as set out in Report 91/20, the Alternative Budget Proposal by the Scottish National Party**;
- (xvi) notes the recommendations as set out in report 85/20 as submitted by the Director of Finance relating to the Capital Strategy 2020/21;
- (xvii) approves the recommendations as set out in Report 86/20 as submitted by the Director of Infrastructure relating to the Arbroath Active Travel Active Town – Update and Budget Proposals;
- (xviii) notes the recommendations of Report 87/20 as submitted by the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance relating to the Equality Impact Assessments and Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment that have been prepared as part of the 2020/21 Revenue and Capital Budgets;
- (xix) approves the recommendations of Report 88/20 as submitted by the Director of Finance relating to Revenue & Capital Budgets 2020/21 Setting of the Council Tax;
- (xx) notes the proposed 1.75% level for Council Tax non-collection in 2020/21. This would result in a Band D equivalent tax base of 46,746 as set out in **Statement 1**;
- (xxi) approves the drawdown of £1.993 million from Council Reserves for One Off Budget Issues, Service Developments and Investment Bids as set out in **Statement 2**;
- (xxii) approves the drawdown of a further £2.340 million from Council Reserves which is required to deliver a balanced budget in 2020/21 as set out in **Statement 2**;
- (xxiii) approves the Council Tax Calculation Statement, which encompasses all of the appropriate elements of this motion as set out in **Statement 2**;
- (xxiv) agrees an Angus Council Band D Council Tax Charge for 2020/21 as follows: -

Council Tax (Band D) £1,206.54 (as set out in Statement 2)
- (xxv) notes the impact of the 3.00% increase in Council Tax which is required to deliver a balanced budget in 2020/21, as set out in **Statement 3**;
- (xxvi) notes the impact on the level of Earmarked Reserves of the proposals detailed in this motion, as detailed in **Statement 4**;
- (xxvii) agrees that the additional commitments of £2.500 million for the proposed reserve strategy for financial years 2021/22 & 2022/23 be committed against the projected Uncommitted General Fund balance at 1 April 2021 of £3.718 million, reducing this balance to £1.218 million as shown in **Statement 4**;
- (xxviii) agrees that the balance of the Uncommitted General Fund Balance of £1.218 million be used to increase the Council's corporate contingency balance from the existing level of £4 million in recognition of the increasing level of risk the Council is carrying across its services and the budgets which support these services;
- (xxix) approves the recommendations of Report 89/20 regarding the Long Term Affordability of the General Fund Capital Plan;

- (xxx) approves the recommendations of Report 90/20 regarding the Setting of Prudential Indicators for the 2020/21 budget process **as set out in Report 91/20, the Alternative Budget Proposal by the Scottish National Party.**

The Council resolved to adjourn for 15 minutes to allow the opportunity for members to consider the contents of both the motion and the amendment.

The meeting resumed at 12.41pm.

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

For the motion:-

Provost Ronnie Proctor, Depute Provost Colin Brown, Councillors Davy, Fairweather, Fotheringham, Lawrie, Lumgair, MacMillian Douglas, McLaren, Moore, Myles, Nicol, Salmond, Speed, Stewart, Sturrock and Wann (17).

For the amendment:-

Councillors Bell, Boyd, Braes, Cheape, Devine, Duff, Durno, Hands, King, McDonald and Whiteside (11).

The motion was declared carried.

Thereafter, Councillors Hands and Cheape, having previously given notice of two further amendments, circulated the contents of both amendments.

The Council resolved to adjourn for 20 minutes to allow the opportunity for members to consider the contents of the further amendments.

The meeting resumed at 1.58pm.

At this point in the meeting, the Council resolved, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 21(8), that the meeting continue to the conclusion of the business.

Thereafter, Councillor Hands, having given notice of a further amendment, seconded by Councillor Whiteside, moved that this Council, in relation to Revenue and Capital Budgets 2020/21 - Setting of the Council Tax (Report 88/20) Appendix 2:-

- (i) confirms that part of the proposed £723,000 of Local Capital Fund commitments for 2020-21 contains the pledged £300,000 towards the Monifieth Community Resource Centre;
- (ii) approves, in addition to the monies pledged above, that an additional sum of £60,000 is also pledged in order to design and install a Changing Places toilet in the new build which has a provisional start date of July this year; and
- (iii) notes that there is no minimum contingency required on the Local Capital Fund and pledging the additional money above would result in an uncommitted balance at 1 April 2021 of £209,000.

Having heard from a number of members, the Council resolved to approve the contents of the amendment as detailed above.

Thereafter, Councillor Cheape, having also given notice of a further amendment, seconded by Boyd, moved that this Council, in addition to the Total Net Expenditure identified in the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume (Report 83/20): -

- (i) approves the inclusion of a further £0.026 million of expenditure to facilitate the acceptance of residual waste at Carnoustie Recycling Centre and amend operational arrangements, as detailed in **Appendix A** to the budget amendment;
- (ii) approves the funding of this provision through use of £0.026 million of the £0.5 million Provision for Additional Burdens detailed in Report 82/20;

- (iii) approves the inclusion of a further £0.478 million of expenditure to facilitate the removal of parking charges at Angus Council off street car parks as detailed in **Appendix A** to the budget amendment; and
- (iv) approves the funding of this provision through use of £0.478 million of the £0.5 million Provision for Additional Burdens detailed in Report 82/20.

Having heard from a number of members, and having heard the Director of Finance clarify a point on the financial implications of the amendment, the members voted:-

For the motion:-

Provost Ronnie Proctor, Depute Provost Colin Brown, Councillors Davy, Fairweather, Fotheringham, Lawrie, Lumgair, MacMillian Douglas, McLaren, Moore, Myles, Nicol, Salmond, Speed, Stewart, Sturrock and Wann (17).

For the (further) amendment:-

Councillors Bell, Boyd, Braes, Cheape, Devine, Duff, Durno, Hands, King, McDonald and Whiteside (11).

The motion was declared carried and the Council resolved accordingly.