

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE** held remotely on Tuesday 14 March 2023 at 10.45 am.

Present: Councillors BILL DUFF, GAVIN NICOL, KENNY BRAES, HEATHER DORAN and CHRIS BEATTIE.

Councillor DUFF, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Brenda Durno, with Councillor Chris Beattie substituting. An apology for absence was also intimated on behalf of Councillor David Fairweather.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/STATEMENT OF TRANSPARENCY

Councillor Doran made a statement of transparency in relation to Item 3 (Report No 93/23) in that prior to and following her election as a Councillor she had received numerous correspondence in relation to the application for review but that she had not given any opinion on the matter.

Councillor Nicol made a statement of transparency in relation to Item 3 (Report No 93/23) in that he knew of the family.

Councillor Braes made a statement of transparency in relation to Item 3 (Report No 93/23) in that the applicant and his family was known to him, but not socially.

3. LAND NORTH EAST OF DUNTRUNE HOUSE, DUNTRUNE – RESPONSE TO WRITTEN PROCEDURE NOTICE

With reference to Article 3 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 31 January 2023, there was submitted Report No 93/23 by the Director of Legal and Democratic Services presenting the responses by the planning authority and the applicant, Duntrune Ltd, in respect of a Written Procedure Notice issued following the Committee's consideration of the Notice of Review.

The Planning Adviser provided an overview of the application, following which the Committee gave consideration to the contents of the Report and noted the Written Procedure Notice Responses. The Committee further considered the papers submitted by the appointed person and by the applicant (Report No 369/22) and confirmed that they had sufficient information to determine the appeal and that no further procedure was required.

Having heard from all members, the Committee indicated they were minded to uphold the appeal and grant planning permission as it was considered that crematoriums required an appropriate and sensitive setting and that it was unlikely that this type of development would be near a town centre or edge of centre location. Whilst noting the Policies of National Planning Framework 4, members indicated that Angus was a rural area and that it would be difficult for any location within Angus to be served well by public transport. Further, many of the roads junctions were not all of modern standard however it was considered that with suitable signage and mitigation they would be of a satisfactory standard having agreed that funeral traffic would mostly be outwith any rush hour traffic and would therefore not increase the volume of traffic in the area significantly. Members also indicated that there were no significant amenity, design or landscape issues that could not be mitigated by planning conditions, and the additional planting would enhance biodiversity within the site.

The Committee were also of the view that there was a number of other material considerations in that there were no policies within the Local Development Plan that specifically considered applications for this type of essential development, the very high cost of cremation within the Angus and surrounding areas, the approval of similar developments within rural locations, economic benefits and that there were no technical objections from statutory consultees.

Members were satisfied that appropriate mitigation measures could be put in place through the use of a planning conditions to support the proposed development.

The Review was accordingly upheld and the application approved, subject to the appropriate conditions being submitted to a future meeting of this Committee for members' consideration.