

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of HYBRID MEETING of the **COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 15 August 2023 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors MARK McDONALD, KENNY BRAES, DAVID CHEAPE, LINDA CLARK, SERENA COWDY, LYNNE DEVINE, BILL DUFF, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM, IAN McLAREN, GEORGE MEECHAN, LLOYD MELVILLE, LOUISE NICOL, RONNIE PROCTOR and TOMMY STEWART.

Councillor McDONALD, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

There were no apologies intimated.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND STATEMENTS OF TRANSPARENCY

The Committee agreed to note that there were no declarations of interest or statements of transparency made.

The Convener intimated that a deputation request had been received from Lyne Souter on behalf of her daughter Lily Souter in relation to Item 7 on the agenda – Warddykes Primary School – Proposed Traffic Calming. He advised that Lily had been instrumental in campaigning for earlier measures and wished to speak on the item, allowing her to finish off her safety campaign.

The Committee agreed to hear the deputation immediately prior to consideration of the Item.

At this stage in the meeting, and in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 37(2) the Committee agreed that the order of business be varied and it was considered in the following order.

In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 36, the Committee agreed that Councillor Speed be allowed to address the meeting on the following item - Warddykes Primary School – Proposed Traffic Calming.

Deputation

Prior to hearing the deputation, Councillor Speed introduced Lily Souter, a former P7 pupil at Warddykes Primary School, Arbroath and advised the Committee that Lily had been instrumental in starting a road safety campaign to install traffic calming measures outside Warddykes Primary School to help improve road safety.

Lily then addressed the meeting regarding Report No 199/23 Warddykes Primary School – Brechin Road, Arbroath - Proposed Traffic Calming and urged the Committee to implement the new measures as she felt that they would be more effective in slowing down the traffic around the school than the previous measures already in place.

She concluded by urging the Committee to agree the recommendations in the Report.

The Convener thanked Lily for her deputation.

3. WARDDYKES PRIMARY SCHOOL, BRECHIN ROAD, ARBROATH – PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING: RESPONSE TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION

With reference to Article 7 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 18 April 2023, there was submitted Report No 199/23 by the Director of Infrastructure and Environment which presented the results of the public consultation process regarding the proposed introduction of traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School, Brechin Road, Arbroath.

The Committee noted that the consultation documents, associated with these proposals, and attached as Appendix 2 to the Report, were issued on 1 June 2023 to approximately 280 residential addresses within the surrounding area of the proposed traffic calming measures, as

shown in Appendix 3 to the Report. Consultation documents were also sent to all affected groups listed in the list of consultees detailed in Appendix 4 to the Report and were made available at Arbroath Access Office for any member of the public who wished to comment on the proposals.

The Report advised that 21 completed responses were received from households within the consultation catchment area by the closing date of 16 June 2023. Of those responses 19 (90%) agreed and 2 (10%) disagreed with the proposed installation of traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School, Brechin Road, Arbroath. The comments which were provided through the returned questionnaires were detailed in Appendix 5 to the Report.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to give due regard and consideration to the results of the public consultation exercise and comments received during the consultation process regarding the proposed installation of traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School, Brechin Road, Arbroath; and
- (ii) to proceed with the installation of the traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School, Brechin Road, Arbroath as detailed in Appendix 1 to the Report.

4. MINUTES

(a) Previous Meeting

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 23 May 2023 was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

(b) Arbroath Harbour Joint Consultative Committee

The minute of meeting of the Arbroath Harbour Joint Consultative Committee of 21 April 2023, a copy of which is appended hereto, was submitted and noted.
(APPENDIX I)

5. DRAFT DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE 2023

There was submitted Report No 196/23 by the Director of Vibrant Communities and Sustainable Growth seeking approval of a revised draft of the Developer Contributions and Affordable Housing Supplementary Guidance for consultation. The report provided further detail on Policy DS5 Developer Contributions and Policy TC3 Affordable Housing within the Angus Local Development Plan 2016. Following the consultation period, the finalised Supplementary Guidance would be submitted to Council for approval to be adopted. On adoption, it would form part of the Angus Local Development Plan 2016.

The Report indicated that following the preparation of the 2023-2028 School Roll Forecasts, the Developer Contributions & Affordable Housing Supplementary Guidance 2018 required to be updated to reflect changes in roll projections and any resultant infrastructure requirements. The forecasts had been developed to take account of all planned and committed residential development in line with the Housing Land Audit.

Following a number of questions and comments, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the Draft Developer Contributions and Affordable Housing Supplementary Guidance 2023 for a six-week period of consultation;
- (ii) to authorise the Service Leader of Planning and Sustainable Growth to make any appropriate changes to the format, appearance, illustrations, and technical details of the draft document prior to their publication;
- (iii) to agree the consultation arrangements for the draft Supplementary Guidance; and

- (iv) to note that after the consultation period had ended that the finalised Supplementary Guidance would be brought back to Council for approval and adoption.

6. MANDATORY TRAINING ON PLANNING FOR ELECTED MEMBERS CONSULTATION

There was submitted Report No 197/23 by the Director of Vibrant Communities and Sustainable Growth seeking the appointment of 5 elected members to a short life Member Officer Group (MOG) to work alongside officers from the Planning and Legal and Democratic Services to prepare a response to the Scottish Government Consultation on Mandatory Training on Planning for Elected Members.

The Report indicated that in advance of this section of the Act coming in to force the Scottish Government had published a consultation and sought views on the proposed format, content and delivery of the training and feedback on thirteen specific questions. The consultation had been published on Tuesday 13th July and closed on 26th October 2023. A copy of the consultation paper was attached as Appendix 1 to the Report.

The Committee agreed to appoint Councillors Clark, Devine, Duff, Fotheringham and McLaren to the short life Member Officer Group to input to an Angus Council response to the Scottish Government consultation on mandatory training on planning for elected members.

7. ANGUS COUNCIL NATURE RESTORATION FUND ALLOCATION 2023/2024

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 22 November 2022, there was submitted Report No 198/23 by the Director of Vibrant Communities and Sustainable Growth updating members on the capital grant allocation of £306,000 to Angus Council from the Scottish Government for the Nature Restoration Fund for the 2023/24 financial year. The Report also sought delegated authority to the Director of Vibrant Communities and Sustainable Growth to allocate to projects, recommended by officers, in line with the terms of the funding.

The Report indicated that the timelines for the delivery of capital projects and associated spend for the Fund were very tight and in order to ensure that the council could fulfil the requirements of the grant, the focus had to be on projects that could be delivered within the timeframe and the necessary staff resources available for delivery. As this was a multi-year programme a wide-ranging corporate working group had been previously set-up and had developed a long list of proposals which aligned to the Nature Restoration Fund and Biodiversity Action Plan priorities.

Councillor Fairweather spoke and suggested that recommendation (i) be amended to include 'in consultation with the Convener, Leader of opposition and nominated Non-Aligned member' as this would ensure that all elected members were kept informed of all projects/proposals as they moved forward.

Having heard from the Convener, and the Director of Vibrant Communities and Sustainable Growth, the Committee agreed: -

- (i) to delegate authority to the Director of Vibrant Communities and Sustainable Growth in consultation with the Convener, Leader of the Opposition and nominated Non-Aligned member to agree the list of projects/proposals for the Nature Restoration Fund allocation of £306,000 for delivery within the 2023/24 financial year;
- (ii) to delegate the signing and issue of any sub-agreements to project partners to the Director of Vibrant Communities and Sustainable Growth following consultation with the Director of Legal and Democratic Services; and
- (iii) to note that an update on the delivery of projects through this funding would be provided to Elected Members through the biodiversity reporting.

8. U390 AT BACKWATER DAM – AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING SPEED LIMITS

There was submitted Report No 200/23 by the Director of Infrastructure and Environment, informing members of concerns raised over fully laden timber lorries travelling over the road bridge on the U390 at Backwater Dam and a request to reduce the speed limits in the vicinity

of the road bridge. A plan attached as Appendix 1 to the Report showed the proposed amendments to the existing speed limits on the U390 at Backwater Dam.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the concerns raised by Scottish Water's Structural Engineers;
- (ii) to the implementation of the proposed amendments to the existing speed limits on the U390 at Backwater Dam; and
- (iii) to instruct the Director of Infrastructure and Environment to seek authorisation from the Secretary of State to amend the existing speed limits on the U390 at Backwater Dam.