

**THE FIFE COUNCIL - NORTH EAST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING**

**21 April 2021**

**9.30 a.m – 2.15 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Donald Lothian (Convener), Tim Brett, Bill Connor, Andy Heer, Linda Holt, Jane Ann Liston, David MacDiarmid, Karen Marjoram, Bill Porteous, Jonny Tepp, Brian Thomson and Ann Verner.

**ATTENDING:** Donald Grant, Community Manager (North East Fife), Sheena Watson, Team Manager (Community Development), Communities and Neighbourhoods; David Grove, Lead Officer, Town Centre Development Unit, Economy, Planning and Employability Services; Lesley Craig, Lead Consultant, Traffic Management, Stuart Goodfellow, Technician Engineer, Traffic Management (North Fife), Roads and Transportation Services; Scott Clelland, Service Manager, Environment and Building Services; Lynn Porter, Education Manager, Carol Ann Penrose, Rector, Olav Darge, Depute Headteacher, Scott Duncan, Depute Rector, Education; Elizabeth Mair, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

**ALSO ATTENDING** Jane Kennedy, Manager and Louise Fraser, Chair, St Andrews BID (for para. 328 only).

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Councillors John Docherty, Tony Miklinski and Dominic Nolan.

**326. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Brian Thomson and Jane Ann Liston both declared an interest in Para. 328 - St Andrews BID Renewal - as a Director and former Director of BID St Andrews respectively.

**327. MINUTE**

The Committee considered the minute of meeting of the North East Fife Area Committee of 3 March 2021.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

*Prior to consideration of the following item, Councillors Liston and Thomson, having declared an interest, left the meeting at this stage.*

**328. ST ANDREWS BID RENEWAL**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Enterprise and Environment, advising of the current process involved in undertaking the renewal ballot for BID St Andrews and outlining the timescale and business plan. David Grove, Lead Officer, Town Centre Development Unit, Jane Kennedy, Manager of BID St Andrews and Louise Fraser, Chair of BID St Andrews, gave a verbal update on the proposals which were due to be submitted to the Council on 22 April 2021 for a decision by 20 May 2021.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to:-

- (1) note the process and timescales involved in undertaking the ballot as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (2) note that, given the current Covid Pandemic, the Business Improvement District's legislative timetable and impending Scottish Parliamentary elections, there was not sufficient opportunity for the North East Fife Area Committee to provide a formal view on the BID Proposal Document;
- (3) remit to the Head of Business and Employability and the Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to agree whether the BID proposals were sufficiently robust, did not contradict any local policies and strategies of the Council and therefore to waive Fife Council's right of veto; and
- (4) remit to the Head of Business and Employability and Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to agree the terms of the "Operating Agreement" between BID St Andrews and Fife Council, should a positive result be returned at the ballot on the 28th July 2021.

*Councillors Liston and Thomson rejoined the meeting following consideration of the above item.*

**329. BANK STREET & LIBERTY, ELIE – TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER  
OBJECTION REPORT**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment advising of objections to a proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for the introduction of waiting restrictions on Bank Street and Liberty, Elie.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to set aside the unresolved objections to allow the implementation of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce waiting restrictions on Bank Street and Liberty, Elie, as shown on Drawing Numbers TRO/20/23 & TRO/20/24 attached to the report.

**330. OLD ST ANDREWS ROAD, GUARDBRIDGE: 20MPH SPEED LIMIT**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment in respect of proposals for the introduction of a 20mph speed limit on Old St Andrews Road, Guardbridge.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed, in the interests of road safety, to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce a 20mph speed limit on Old St Andrews Road, Guardbridge, as shown in Drawing TRO/21/07 attached to the report.

**331. A91, WEST OF PETHERAM ROUNDABOUT, ST ANDREWS – SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment in respect of a proposal to extend the existing 30mph speed limit on the A91 west of Petheram roundabout, St Andrews.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed, in the interests of road safety, to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to extend the 30mph speed limit on the A91 west of Petheram roundabout, St Andrews, as shown in drawing TRO/21/12/1 attached to the report.

**332. A91, STRATHTYRUM, GUARDBRIDGE – SPEED LIMIT ALTERATIONS**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment in respect of proposals for the introduction of a 40mph speed limit on the A91 at Strathtyrum, Guardbridge and the inclusion of new residential roads in the adjacent housing development at Seggie Farm within an existing 20mph zone.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed, in the interests of road safety, to the promotion of Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) to:-

- (1) introduce a 40mph speed limit on the A91 at Strathtyrum, Guardbridge; and
- (2) include new residential streets in the adjacent housing development at Seggie Farm within the existing 20mph TRO, both as shown in drawing TRO21/13/1 attached to the report.

**333. ST ANDREWS COMMON GOOD - CONTRIBUTION TO STRUCTURAL REPAIRS OF ST ANDREWS TOWN HALL**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods seeking agreement for a contribution from St. Andrews Common Good Fund towards the structural repairs of St. Andrews Town Hall, a Common Good asset.

**Motion**

Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Porteous, moved that the Committee agree to a contribution up to a maximum of £180,000.

**Amendment**

Councillor Thomson, seconded by Councillor MacDiarmid, moved that the Committee agree to a contribution of £210,000 as recommended in the report.

**Roll Call/**

**Roll Call**

**For the Motion** - 4 votes

Councillors Heer, Liston, Porteous and Tepp.

**For the Amendment** - 8 votes

Councillors Brett, Connor, Holt, Lothian, MacDiarmid, Marjoram, Thomson and Verner.

Having received a majority of votes, the amendment was accordingly carried.

**Decision**

The Committee approved a contribution of £210,000 from St Andrews Common Good Fund towards the structural repairs to St. Andrews Town Hall.

**334. ELIE & EARLSFERRY COMMON GOOD - CONTRIBUTION TO REPLACEMENT HEATING SYSTEM AND REPAIRS TO EARLSFERRY TOWN HALL**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods seeking agreement for a contribution from Elie and Earlsferry Common Good Fund towards a replacement heating system and other repairs to Earlsferry Town Hall, a Common Good asset.

**Decision**

The Committee approved a contribution of £12,500 from Elie and Earlsferry Common Good Fund towards a replacement heating system and other repairs to Earlsferry Town Hall.

**335. NORTH EAST FIFE ANTI-POVERTY FUND**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods providing information on the spending of the North East Fife Anti-Poverty Funds 2020/21 and seeking approval for the spend of the £135,000 North East Fife Anti-Poverty funding 2021/22.

**Decision**

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the actual spend of the 2020/21 budget and outcomes achieved as detailed in the North East Fife Anti-Poverty Fund Action Plan attached as Appendix 1 to the report;
- (2) approved the spending of the 2021/22 funding of £135,000 across the areas of work outlined in the report which aligned to those identified as a priority by the North East Fife People Leadership Group, being Homelessness, Mental Health and Social Isolation and Welfare Support and Food Insecurity;
- (3)/

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- (3) noted the increased targeting of Anti-Poverty funding on providing free bus tickets to help address the issue of the high cost of bus travel in the area; and
- (4) recognised the effective and commendable work of the North East Fife Anti-Poverty Partnership.

### 336. GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment advising of proposed changes to the management of grassland in the area and the outcome of a community consultation and engagement exercise.

#### **Decision**

Following analysis of the results of a public consultation and engagement exercise on proposed changes to the management of grassland in the North East Fife Area Committee area, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) Ward 16 Howe of Fife and Tay Coast - alternative grassland proposals were accepted;
- (2) Ward 17 Tay Bridgehead - alternative grassland proposals were partially accepted. Areas proposed at Gauldry and Victoria Park, Newport would revert back to amenity grassland maintenance regime;
- (3) Ward 18 St Andrews - alternative grassland proposals were accepted;
- (4) Ward 19 East Neuk and Landward - alternative grassland proposals were partially accepted. Areas proposed at Pittenweem, Crail's Roome Bay and Castle Walk would revert back to amenity grassland maintenance regime;
- (5) Ward 20 Cupar - alternative grassland proposals were accepted; and
- (6) note the intention of the Grounds Maintenance Service to consult with the Housing, Transportation and Education Services with regard to the management of grasslands under their portfolios.

### 337. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICE, DOMESTIC WASTE AND STREET CLEANSING SERVICE ANNUAL REVIEW 2020

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment advising of the performance of grounds maintenance, domestic waste collection and street cleansing services in 2020, along with details of management changes in these services and proposals for community-led decision making to shape operational delivery in the future.

#### **Decision**

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the extraordinary challenges faced in the delivery of grounds maintenance, domestic waste collection and street cleansing services in 2020;
- (2)/

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- (2) noted the structural and organisational measures being taken to improve and sustain service delivery;
- (3) noted the new decentralised way of working which would deliver local priorities and help communities shape their environment; and
- (4) recognised the significant efforts of the Services during a very difficult period.

### 338. SCHOOL ATTAINMENT & ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Education & Children's Services, providing a summary report on 2019-2020 School Attainment for young people who left school in 2019-20 across the secondary schools serving the area. Details of how to access School Standards and Quality Reports and Recovery/Improvement Plans were also provided for primary and secondary schools across the area in the appendices to the report.

#### **Decision**

The Committee noted:-

- (1) that members were encouraged to engage directly with local schools to find out more about School Attainment and Achievement;
- (2) the details contained within the report in relation to the nature of this year's report due to the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic;
- (3) the information provided in the enclosed secondary schools' reports; and
- (4) that members were asked to engage with secondary Headteachers to discuss arrangements for this year's Alternative Certification Model for SQA Qualifications and how this was progressing in their school.

*Councillor Porteous left the meeting during consideration of the above item and Councillor Thomson left the meeting following consideration of the above item.*

*The meeting adjourned at 1.00 p.m. and reconvened at 1.30 p.m.*

### 339. NOTICE OF MOTION

In terms of Standing Order No. 8.1(1), the following Notice of Motion had been submitted:-

#### **Motion**

Councillor Tim Brett, seconded by Councillor Jonny Tepp, moved as follows:-

"The North East Fife Area Committee asks officers to provide a report for the next meeting of the Committee on the failure to implement the decision of the Committee on the 9th May 2018 to reduce the speed limit on the A914 at Drumoig."

#### **Amendment/**

**Amendment**

Councillor Donald Lothian, seconded by Councillor Andy Heer, moved as follows:-

"That the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment be asked to provide information on the policy for implementation of Traffic Regulation Orders and the mechanism for monitoring that policy."

**Roll Call**

**For the motion** - no votes

**For the amendment** - 7 votes

Councillors Brett, Connor, Heer, Holt, Liston, Lothian and Tepp.

**Abstained** - Councillors MacDiarmid, Marjoram and Verner.

Having secured a majority of votes, the amendment was accordingly carried.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed in terms of the amendment.

**340. NOTICE OF MOTION**

In terms of Standing Order No. 8.1(1), the following Notice of Motion had been submitted:-

Cllr Jonny Tepp, seconded by Cllr Tim Brett, moved as follows:-

"The North East Fife Area Committee notes and endorses North Fife Cycling's support for the Cycling UK campaign calling on Police Scotland to introduce a camera footage submission and reporting system for Scotland. The Committee instructs the Convener to write to Police Scotland setting out its endorsement of North Fife Cycling's support of the campaign."

**Decision**

The Committee agreed the motion unanimously.

**341. NOTICE OF MOTION**

In terms of Standing Order No. 8.1(1), the following Notice of Motion had been submitted:-

**Motion**

Councillor Jonny Tepp, seconded by Councillor Tim Brett, moved as follows:-

"The North East Fife Area Committee notes that littercams have been deployed by councils across the UK as a means of tackling the unacceptable levels of urban and roadside litter. The Committee instructs officers to explore the option of deploying littercams in North East Fife and to report back with recommendations for a pilot project including proposals to fund within 6 months."

**Amendment/**

**Amendment**

Councillor Ann Verner, seconded by Councillor Donald Lothian, moved as follows:-

"The committee notes the ongoing discussion between the Convener of the Environment and Protective Services Sub-Committee and the relevant Executive Directors and Heads of Service to develop a Fife-wide Environmental Vandalism Strategy, which will cover Illegal Dumping, Littering, Dog Fouling and Graffiti, central to which will be improved policing including the use of littercams and CCTV in general. The committee also notes that it isn't simply a case of acquiring CCTV cameras and other video recording devices and recognises that there is the essential consideration of their administration and policy strategy which can be implemented by the resources which are currently available. The Committee further notes that ongoing discussions will address the issue of the current absence of a budget provision to enable implementation of an effective Strategy using video recording equipment and that the Strategy will fall to be approved by the Strategic Sub Committee. In light of this, the Committee agrees that it would be premature for the Area Committee to be independently looking at using video technology".

*With the agreement of the Convener, Councillors Tepp and Brett advised that they were willing to accept the amendment subject to the addition of wording relating to the strategy being finalised as soon as is reasonably possible. Councillor Anne Verner, as mover of the amendment, agreed to the inclusion of this wording.*

There being no other motions, the Committee unanimously agreed the amendment with the additional wording proposed.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed in terms of the amendment, with the additional wording, as follows:-

"The Committee notes the ongoing discussion between the Convener of the Environment and Protective Services Sub-Committee and the relevant Executive Directors and Heads of Service to develop a Fife-wide Environmental Vandalism Strategy, which will cover Illegal Dumping, Littering, Dog Fouling and Graffiti, central to which will be improved policing including the use of littercams and CCTV in general. The committee also notes that it isn't simply a case of acquiring CCTV cameras and other video recording devices and recognises that there is the essential consideration of their administration and policy strategy which can be implemented by the resources which are currently available. The Committee further notes that ongoing discussions will address the issue of the current absence of a budget provision to enable implementation of an effective Strategy using video recording equipment and that the Strategy will fall to be approved by the Strategic Sub Committee. In light of this, the Committee agrees that it would be premature for the Area Committee to be independently looking at using video technology. The Committee requests that the strategy be finalised as soon as is reasonably possible".



**342. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment advising of action taken using the List of Officer Powers in relation to property transactions.

**Decision**

The Committee noted the report.

**343. NORTH EAST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee considered the Forward Work Programme for the North East Fife Area Committee.

**Decision**

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the current Forward Work Programme which would be updated as appropriate; and
- (2) that a report on Green Routes in North East Fife would be submitted to the next meeting on 9th June 2021.

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