

THE FIFE COUNCIL - KIRKCALDY AREA COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

24 August, 2021

2.05 pm – 2.45 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Neil Crooks (Convener), Lesley Backhouse, Alistair Cameron, Ian Cameron, Rod Cavanagh, Judy Hamilton, Zoe Hisbent, Gordon Langlands, Kathleen Leslie and David Ross.

ATTENDING: Derek Crowe, Senior Manager (Roads & Transportation Services), Vicki Connor, Co-ordinator (Programme & Financial Management), Assets, Transportation and Environment; Julie Dickson, Community Manager (Kirkcaldy Area), Communities and Neighbourhoods; Lesley Robb, Lead Officer (Committee Services), Legal & Democratic Services.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Carol Lindsay.

274. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were submitted in terms of Standing Order 7.1.

275. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the meeting of Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 8 June 2021.

Decision

The Committee approved the minute.

276. AREA ROADS PROGRAMME 2020/21 - FINAL REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment advising on the delivery of the 2020-21 Area Roads Programme.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report and associated appendices.

277. SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN - KIRKCALDY AREA LOCAL BUDGETS 2021/22

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods informing Members of the availability of local funding and to agree allocation of spending for the following Kirkcaldy Area Budgets:

(1) Local Community Planning Budget 2021/22;

(2)/

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- (2) Anti-Poverty Fund 2021/22; and
- (3) LCP and Anti-Poverty Carry Forward 2020/21.

Decision

The Committee agreed to the following proposed notional allocations, as detailed in sections 2, 3 and 4 of the report:

(1) 2021/22 Local Community Planning Budget

- £39,000 - Community Grants and Discretionary Rates Relief
- £167,000 - Significant Area Projects
- £60,000 - budget allocated to the ward areas.

(2) 2021/22 Anti-Poverty Budget

- £100,000 - Anti-Poverty work (including £20k for Link Up Gallatown)
- £30,000 - to be allocated at a future meeting.

(3) 2020/21 Local Community Planning and Anti-Poverty Carry Forward

- £20,000 - Adam Smith Global Foundation (3 year reducing allocation)
- £3,500 - Kirkcaldy Garden at the Landes GartenSchau
- £17,500 - Nourish (Funding until 23 August 2022)
- £10,000 - The Hive
- £17,500 - to be allocated at a future meeting.

278. NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor Crooks, seconded by Councillor Alistair Cameron, moved as follows:-

“Car Parking & Placemaking Review

Kirkcaldy Area Committee have benefitted from many months of engagement with various Council officers on the subject of Town Centre Placemaking and car parking options. We have also seen feedback from public consultations both council led and media led. In response, the Area Committee supports the following actions to address these matters:-

- (1) Simplification of the complex charging for car parking in the Town Centre to encourage longer stays. We believe a single all day charge of £2 at identified car parks should be introduced to encourage longer dwell times;
- (2) Continued support for the reduced fixed price season ticket with a review against income and demand figures within 12 months of introduction of the single £2 all day charge for the identified car parks;
- (3) Demolition of the two multi-storey car parks named “Esplanade” and “Thistle Street” would create a substantial development site alongside the current former swimming pool site. We note that there is currently a significant/

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significant over capacity of town centre parking space and look forward to the feasibility report on the options for the future of the two car parks;

- (4) Removal of charging at both Coal Wynd car parks supporting the call for affordable free parking;
- (5) Timing of on street charges and controlled parking restrictions to be universal across the Town Centre;
- (6) Reinforcement of improved pedestrian safety on High Street through the introduction of a permanent control facility at the west end of High Street at Burtons; and
- (7) Preventing vehicles exiting at the east end of High Street at Kirk Wynd, all traffic entering the High Street at Burtons to exit via Tolbooth Street only. This would discourage the current practice of drivers using the High Street as a thoroughfare and will encourage local businesses to use the open space created for commercial purposes like outdoor catering. The current access times and disabled access to High Street should remain as per the current Covid pilot.

The Committee requests that Officers prepare reports in respect of the implications, both operational and financial, of these measures for further consideration by the Area Committee. These reports should set out the governance route for implementation of all of these measures, including a note of any Traffic regulation Orders that may be required as a consequence.

Finally, we want to thank the Council officers, members of the public, town centre businesses and local media for their input on these issues over the years and believe this motion represents delivery of a wide range of opinions for the betterment of our Town Centre and look forward to further initiatives being delivered as part of the emerging Kirkcaldy Town Centre Strategy.”

Councillor Leslie requested her dissent be recorded for the motion.

Decision

The Committee:

- (1) agreed in terms of the motion; and
- (2) noted a further report would be submitted to the meeting of Kirkcaldy Area Committee on 30 November 2021 detailing Officer responses to the points and actions raised in the motion.

279. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

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

Decision

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The Committee noted the contents of the report.

280. KIRKCALDY AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the Kirkcaldy Area Committee forward work programme.