

THE FIFE COUNCIL - GLENROTHES AREA COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

19th May, 2021

9.30 a.m. – 11.05 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Fiona Grant (Convener), John Beare, Altany Craik, Julie Ford, Mick Green, Derek Noble, Ross Vettraino, Craig Walker and Jan Wincott.

ATTENDING: Norman Laird, Community Manager (Glenrothes); JP Easton, Team Manager (Community Development), Communities and Neighbourhoods; Dhusjan Sivaratnam, Technician Engineer - Traffic Management (North Fife), Assets, Transportation & Environment; Rona Weir, Education Manager; Pamela Davie, Acting Headteacher, Education & Children's Services; and Diane Barnett, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

ALSO ATTENDING: Professor Karen McArdle (Emerita) FRSA, University of Aberdeen (for Para. 222.).

220. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were submitted in terms of Standing Order No. 7.1.

221. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of meeting of the Glenrothes Area Committee of 24th March, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

222. TACKLING POVERTY IN GLENROTHES AREA

Professor Karen McArdle (Emerita) FRSA, University of Aberdeen, presented the findings of research carried out during the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic detailing its impact on individuals and communities in the Glenrothes area, referring to the report titled 'Work Together for a Common End'. There then followed a question and answer session.

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods seeking the Committee's support on the proposals to tackle poverty in the Glenrothes area, based on the recommendations of the 'Work Together for a Common End' report.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) welcomed the report - 'Work Together for a Common End' - and its findings and recommendations and thanked Professor Karen McArdle for her presentation;
- (2) /

- (3) acknowledged and congratulated the Communities Team for their input to the survey; and
- (4) agreed to approve the proposed work areas in the Glenrothes area - as detailed in the Appendix to the report: 'Tackling Poverty Together 2021-22'.

223. PROPOSED REMOVAL OF 20MPH ZONE AND INTRODUCTION OF 30MPH SPEED LIMIT, B9130 MARKINCH

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment seeking approval of the proposal to:-

- (1) remove the 20 mph zone on the B9130, Markinch from its limit with the 40 mph west of Bowen Place to a point east of its junction with the access road to Balbirnie Estate; and
- (2) replace the current 20 mph with a 30 mph speed limit.

Decision

The Committee, in the interests of accessibility and road safety:-

- (1) agreed to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to remove and introduce the new restrictions detailed in drawing no. TRO/20/19 with all ancillary procedures;
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the TRO within a reasonable period unless there were objections; and
- (3) agreed to an additional recommendation that any infrastructure associated with the replacement of the 20 mph speed limit be agreed with Ward 14 Councillors. If Ward Councillors were unable to reach agreement, then the approval of any associated infrastructure proposed by Roads and Transportation Services be remitted to the Glenrothes Area Committee for decision.

224. PROPOSED 40MPH SPEED LIMIT, U039 FROM ST DROSTAN'S CEMETERY TO MARKINCH

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment seeking the Committee's agreement to the proposal to introduce a 40 mph speed limit on the U039, Markinch, from a point near St Drostan's Cemetery to the 20 mph limit at Markinch.

Decision

The Committee, in the interests of road safety:-

- (1) agreed to the promotion of a TRO to introduce the restrictions detailed in drawing no. TRO/21/29 with all ancillary procedures; and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the TRO within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

225. SCHOOL ATTAINMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Education and 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 Glenrothes 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 as outlined in the Appendices to the report.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) welcomed the presentation by Rona Weir, Education Manager and Pamela Davie, Acting Headteacher, Glenrothes High School relating to the different approach to reporting on school attainment and achievement from previous years due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (2) agreed to engage directly with local schools to find out more about school attainment and achievement;
- (3) noted the details contained in the report in relation to the nature of this year's report due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (4) noted the information provided in the secondary schools' reports appended to the report;
- (5) agreed to engage with secondary school headteachers to discuss arrangements for this year's Alternative Certification Model for SQA Qualification and how this was progressing in their school;
- (6) acknowledged the upcoming retirement of Alan Pithie, Rector of Auchmuty High School, wishing him a long, happy and healthy retirement and acknowledging his service to the school and to education in Fife; and
- (7) congratulated Pamela Davie, recently appointed replacement Rector of Auchmuty High School.

226. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

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

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

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227. GLENROTHES AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22

The Committee considered the Glenrothes Area Committee draft Forward Work Programme 2020/21.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the draft Glenrothes Area Committee Forward Work Programme 2020/21; and
 - (2) agreed to feed back to the Community Manager (Glenrothes) or the Convener any suggestions for further reports to be included, within the context of the remit of this Committee.
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