

2022 SWFAC 11

THE FIFE COUNCIL - SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

23rd November, 2022.

9.30 a.m. – 1.05 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors David Barratt (Convener), Patrick Browne, Dave Dempsey, Graeme Downie, Brian Goodall, Andy Jackson, Sarah Neal, Sam Steele and Conner Young.

ATTENDING: Alastair Mutch, Community Manager (South and West Fife Area), Sharon Douglas, Community Investment Manager, Mark McLeod, Lead Officer (Community Use), Scott Meikle, Community Education Worker, Leanne Bower, Community Education Worker and Lisa Hemphill, Local Development Officer, Communities and Neighbourhoods Service; Keith Johnston, Technician Engineer, Neil McLeary, Technician Engineer, Michael Anderson, Consultant Engineer (Bridges and Structures) and Rick Haynes, Lead Consultant (Flooding, Shoreline and Harbours), Roads and Transportation Services; Audrey Valente, Chief Finance Officer, Health and Social Care; Deborah Stevens, Lead Officer (Housing Condition and Supply), Housing Services; Lindsay Thomson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Helena Couperwhite, Manager (Committee Services), Michelle McDermott, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services and Eleanor Hodgson, Accountant, Finance and Corporate Services.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Andrew Verrecchia.

ALSO ATTENDING: Ms. Christine Bruce, Rosyth Submarine Dismantling Project, Ministry of Defence, Mr. Gordon McAughey, Babcock International and Mr. David Stone, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) (for para. 25 only); and Mr. Graeme Paget, Transport Scotland and Mr. Tommy Deans, BEAR Scotland (for para. 26 only).

In terms of Standing Order No. 8.1(2), the Convener agreed to accept an Urgent Motion in relation to a speed limit reduction at Main Street, Carnock which would be considered after item 17 on the agenda.

23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

24. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the South and West Fife Area Committee meeting of 28th September, 2022.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

25./

25. SUBMARINE DISMANTLING PROJECT, ROSYTH - UPDATE

Ms. Christine Bruce, Assistant Head (Nuclear Liabilities), Ministry of Defence and Gordon McAughey, Head of Internal Assurance, Babcock International gave detailed presentations on the Submarine Dismantling Project (SDP) taking place at Rosyth. The presentations provided information on:-

- the reasons submarines were being dismantled in Rosyth advising that government policy was to progress nuclear decommissioning as soon as was reasonably practicable;
- the aim of the SDP which was to deliver a safe, environmentally responsible, secure and cost effective solution for dismantling UK's de-fuelled, nuclear-powered submarines;
- the current UK Strategy of submarine disposals and what the future programme entailed; and
- progress which had taken place with the project since 2016 and future timelines for disposal works.

Various questions from members were then put to and answered by Ms. Bruce and Mr. McAughey.

Decision

The Committee thanked Ms. Bruce and Mr. McAughey for their detailed and informative presentations.

Councillor Sarah Neal joined the meeting during consideration of the above item.

26. TRANSPORT SCOTLAND UPDATE

Mr. Tommy Deans, BEAR Scotland advised that Amey were now responsible for the roads on the M90 north of junction 3/Halbeath (A92) and that BEAR Scotland were responsible for roads from the south of junction 3 and also the A985 and the Bridges. It was noted that planned maintenance work had taken place on the Forth Road Bridge (FRB) over the summer which was now completed and that the contraflow on the FRB had now been removed. The FRB was now available as a weather diversion should this be required from the Queensferry Crossing.

With regard to the Queensferry Crossing, Mr. Deans advised that automated cable cleaning had taken place earlier in the year which was due to be completed soon and which was hoped would reduce the potential for ice secretion. It was noted that if ice secretion did form on the Crossing this winter, the current plan would be to put initial diversions in place to Kincardine Bridge and, depending on timescales, diversions to the FRB would be opened as soon as practicable thereafter. It was noted that trials had been undertaken this year on different ways of utilising the FRB to have at least one lane open in each direction if queues formed on the Queensferry Crossing. The future plan was to install automated barriers on each side of the FRB that would hopefully allow the bridge to be used as a diversion within a shorter timescale than currently. The intention was to have these installed and operational by winter 2023.

It was also noted that major works would be taking place on the Kincardine Bridge next year to build a new south viaduct which would be undertaken within 18-24 months. A temporary viaduct would be built during construction of the new viaduct to allow two-way traffic.

Various/

2022 SWFAC 13

Various questions from members were then put to and answered by Mr. Deans and Mr. Paget, Transport Scotland.

Decision

The Committee thanked Mr. Deans and Mr. Paget for their detailed updates.

27. PROPOSED TRAFFIC AMENDMENTS - HIGH STREET AREA, KINCARDINE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services detailing proposals to alter the road layout at High Street, Kincardine and associated works. This included traffic orders to change the direction of the one-way, introduction of a contra-flow cycle lane, a raised table and various parking restriction amendments.

Decision

The Committee, in the interests of roads safety:-

- (1) agreed to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to revoke the existing TROs and introduce a one-way (with exemptions) and contra-flow cycle lane as detailed in Drawing No. TRO22_61/1;
- (2) agreed to the promotion of a Road Hump Order (RHO) to introduce a raised table as detailed in Drawing No. TRO22_61/2;
- (3) agreed to the promotion of a TRO to amend the on-street parking restrictions as detailed in Drawing Nos. TRO22/61/5 and TRO22_61/6; and
- (4) authorised officers to confirm the TROs and RHO and for the raised table, parking restrictions and associated works to be constructed within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

28. PROPOSED TRAFFIC AMENDMENTS - QUEENSFERRY ROAD/PARK ROAD/ ABERLOUR STREET, ROSYTH

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services detailing proposals to alter the road layout at the Queensferry Road / Park Road / Aberlour Street junction. This included Traffic Orders to stop up Aberlour Street, alter the car park extents, introduce raised tables and crossings and amend the parking restrictions including the taxi rank.

Decision

The Committee, in the interests of road safety:-

- (1) noted that funding for the project was still to be secured;
- (2) agreed to the promotion of a Stopping Up Order to stop up Aberlour Street at its junction with Queensferry Road as detailed in Drawing No. TRO22_60/1;
- (3) agreed to the promotion of a Road Hump Order (RHO) and Pedestrian Crossing Notice to introduce raised tables, a raised parallel (zebra) crossing and raised puffin crossing as detailed in Drawing No. TRO22_60/2;
- (4)/

2022 SWFAC 14

- (4) agreed to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to amend the off-street car park extents, introduce a taxi rank and amend the on-street parking restrictions as detailed in Drawing Nos. TRO22_60/1 and TRO22_60/3; and
- (5) authorised officers to confirm the Stopping Up Order, TRO, RHO and Pedestrian Crossing Notice and for the raised tables, crossings, parking restrictions and associated works to be constructed within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

29. **ABERDOUR FOOTBRIDGE - UPDATE**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services updating members on the progress of a new footbridge over the Dour Burn, Aberdour.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the initial emergency nature and complexity of the project;
- (2) noted the extent of work carried out to date in compliance with all statutory processes;
- (3) noted the further options considered in light of tender return and budgetary constraints; and
- (4) agreed that the Council be asked to pursue the allocation of funding in advance of the capital review in February to allow this project to be taken forward as soon as practicable.

The meeting adjourned at 11.05 a.m. and reconvened at 11.15 a.m.

30. **UPDATE ON FLOODING ISSUES IN ROSYTH**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services updating members on the status of flood mitigation work being considered for the Rosyth area.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted that Scottish Water were progressing with an internal project to consider flow transfer in the Dunfermline and Iron Mills Bay sewer catchments;
- (2) noted that SEPA had proposed a Water Environment Fund (WEF) re-naturalisation project for the Brankholme Burn near Park Road and asked SEPA to give consideration to the impact on the lower Brankholme, its confluence with the Keithing and opportunities for flood alleviation there;
- (3) noted that Fife Council would commission a Surface Water Management Plan for Rosyth to inform potential surface water flood mitigation actions; and
- (4)/

2022 SWFAC 15

- (4) requested that Fife Council explore all possible ways to accelerate delivery of flood mitigations measures concurrently with Scottish Water and SEPA to bring about solutions as rapidly as possible;
- (5) requested that a report on all flooding impacting South and West Fife be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee as early as practicable detailing flood events, associated actions and emergency response plans;
- (6) thanked all those involved in the recent flood response; and
- (7) agreed to invite representatives from SEPA to a future meeting of the Committee to update members on the Water Environment Fund (WEF) project.

31. ANNUAL REPORT ON OUTCOMES OF CARE INSPECTORATE INSPECTION AND GRADING PROCESS

The Committee considered a report by the Director of Health and Social Care advising members of the range of inspections that had been undertaken by the Care Inspectorate and highlighting the inspection grades awarded for care services within the South and West Fife Area. During the pandemic, the Care Inspectorate suspended their routine care home inspection activity. Whilst inspection activity was not in place, the Care Inspector for each service was in regular contact, in most cases weekly, with all services to monitor care providers but also to offer regulatory support and guidance. Due to the suspension of inspections, it was noted that several care services had not been inspected recently and since the last report to this Committee.

Decision

The Committee noted the outcomes of the inspection process and grades awarded to care services in the South and West Fife Area.

32. SOUTH EAST INVERKEITHING REGENERATION - PROGRESS REPORT

The Committee considered a joint report by the Head of Housing Services and the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service advising members of progress with the regeneration of South East (SE) Inverkeithing and informed members that this would be the final report for the South East Inverkeithing Regeneration (SEIR) Project. Any future updates would be undertaken at a Ward level.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the work undertaken so far with the regeneration of South East Inverkeithing; and
- (2) agreed to cease an Area Committee report and to receive future updates at Ward level.

33. COMMON GOOD POLICY STATEMENT

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service presenting a draft Common Good Policy Statement which would form the basis of a public consultation exercise.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

34. COMMON GOOD AND SETTLEMENT TRUST FUNDS ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) advising members of the current status of the Common Good and Trust funds in the area and relevant fund activities over the financial year 2021/22.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the information contained in the relevant Appendices to the various Common Good Funds and Trust Funds;
- (2) noted the contents of the report; and
- (3) continued to support the disbursement of Trust funds to suitable projects which also included the amalgamation of individual trusts and, where appropriate, the dissolution of individual trusts including transferring the funds to suitable third party organisations who were providing similar support to local priorities.

35. SUMMER PROVISION ACTIVITIES

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service updating members on the holiday programme/provision provided to young people, children and families over the school summer holiday 2022 developed and delivered by the Community Development Team and partners.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

36. SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2023

The Committee considered the South and West Fife Area Forward Work Programme 2022-23.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the South and West Fife Area Forward Work Programme;
- (2) noted that an additional meeting of the Committee had been arranged for 25th January, 2023 to consider the Community Recovery Fund and the Local Community Plan;
- (3)/

2022 SWFAC 17

- (3) agreed that a report detailing all flooding that had impacted the South and West Fife Area be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee (as detailed at para. 30 above); and
- (4) agreed that representatives from SEPA be invited to a future meeting of the Committee to update members on the Water Environment Fund (WEF) project (as detailed at para. 30 above).

37. UPDATE ON AREA COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP

The Convener advised that an Area Committee Working Group had been set up, as agreed by this Committee at its meeting on the 10th August, 2022, to explore better ways of working as a Committee. It was noted that the Working Group had now met and, from that meeting, outcomes had been produced and circulated to members.

Decision

The Committee, following procedural advice from the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, agreed that a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Area Committee putting forward recommendations to the Council on the Area Committee Working Group's findings on better ways of working as a Committee.

38. NOTICE OF MOTION – FLOODING ISSUES AT DALGETY BAY

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

Councillor Dave Dempsey, seconded by Councillor Conner Young, moved that:-

"Committee:-

- Notes that planning and design work to alleviate flooding at Longhill Park/Lade Braes in Dalgety Bay has been in progress for several years
- Is concerned that no progress has been made in over a year on account of a disagreement between Fife Council and Scottish Water regarding aspects of Fife Council's proposed solution
- Requests that officials from both organisations attend the next meeting of this Committee to explain to members how this impasse will be resolved".

Decision

The motion was unanimously agreed.

Councillor Sarah Neal left the meeting during consideration of the above item.

The Convener agreed to take the following additional item as urgent business which was relevant, competent and urgent due to road safety issues which had occurred at Main Street, Carnock over the past six weeks and moved its consideration, in terms of Standing Order No. 8.1(2), to allow officers to explore introducing speed reductions in the area. This was unanimously agreed.

39./

2022 SWFAC 18

39. URGENT MOTION – SAFETY CONCERNS AT MAIN STREET, CARNOCK

Councillor Sam Steele, seconded by Councillor Graeme Downie, moved that:-

"Notes the work currently being undertaken on the plan and design of Carnock Bridge Traffic Signals upgrade, including a new pedestrian crossing and bus stop relocations.

Notes that Fife Council are assessing all 30mph roads across the Kingdom in light of the potential national strategy for 20mph on all appropriate roads in built-up areas by 2025.

Is concerned that two near misses have now occurred when a child was nearly knocked down by a vehicle on Main Street Carnock in the last six weeks, most recently 17th November 2022.

Requests that the relevant officers explore options to introduce a speed limit reduction from 30mph to 20mph on Main Street Carnock as part of the planned improvement works".

Decision

The motion was unanimously agreed.
