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

28th September, 2022.

9.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

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

ATTENDING: Alastair Mutch, Community Manager (South and West Fife) and Mandy MacEwan, Area Community Team Manager, Communities and Neighbourhoods Service; Michael Collins, Safer Communities Lead Officer, Housing Services; Keith Johnston, Technician Engineer (Traffic Management) and Vicki Connor, Co-ordinator (Programme and Financial Management), Roads and Transportation Services; David Thomson, Customer Experience Lead Officer, Customer and Online Services; and Michelle McDermott, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services, Finance and Corporate Services.

ALSO ATTENDING: Dr. Paul Dale and Ms. Nina Patton, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (for para. 11 only); Inspector Tony Rogers, Police Scotland and Russell Hammell, Station Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

The Convener intimated the intention to vary the sequence of items from that on the agenda.

9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

10. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the South and West Fife Area Committee meeting of 10th August, 2022.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) agreed to approve the minute; and
- (2) noted that representatives of the Submarine Dismantling Project at Rosyth and Babcock had agreed to attend the next meeting of the Committee to provide an update on the project.

11. RADIATION MONITORING AT DALGETY BAY

Ms. Nina Patton from the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) gave an update on the radiation monitoring at Dalgety Bay confirming that the Ministry of Defence (MoD) monthly foreshore monitoring was continuing throughout the remediation works to ensure that the risk to the public remained low. Ms. Patton also advised that:-

- signage/

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- signage remained in place outwith the remediation works areas but that the “high activity” area had been fenced off to the public;
- the Foods Standards Scotland FEPA ban was still in place; and
- SEPA had undertaken drone surveys during the remediation works and these were being monitored.

It was noted that all of these measures afforded a suitable level of protection to the public from the contamination while the remediation works were ongoing.

Ms. Patton also advised that SEPA and Fife Council intended to hold a public information event towards the end of the year to outline the next steps once remediation works had been completed.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the terms of Mr. Ritchie's update report; and
- (2) thanked Ms. Nina Patton and Dr. Paul Dale for their updates.

12. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2021/22

The Committee considered a report by the Station Commander, Dunfermline Community Fire Station, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service providing an update on incident information within the South and West Fife Area for the period 1st April, 2021 to 31st March, 2022.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

Councillor Andrew Verrecchia joined the meeting during discussion of the above item.

13. SAFER COMMUNITIES TEAM UPDATE REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Housing Services providing an update on the operational activity of the Safer Communities Team within the South and West Fife Committee Area during the twelve month period 1st April, 2021 to 31st March, 2022.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

Councillor Andrew Verrecchia left the meeting during consideration of the above item.

14. OPERATIONAL BRIEFING ON POLICING ACTIVITIES WITHIN SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA

The Committee considered a report by the Chief Inspector, Police Scotland providing an update on the Policing activity within the South and West Fife Area.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

Councillor Andrew Verrecchia re-joined the meeting during consideration of the above item.

The meeting adjourned at 11.10 a.m. and reconvened at 11.15 a.m.

15. COST OF LIVING UPDATE

The Community Manager provided a detailed update on the cost of living support that was hoped to be provided within the South and West Fife area advising that support and developments would evolve over the coming months and which would build on the report that was submitted to the Cabinet Committee on 22nd September, 2022 to help with the cost of living. It was noted that South and West Fife Area had received an allocation of just under £1.2m to the Community Recovery Fund and that the Community Manager and his team were meeting on a weekly basis to look at support and developments in relation to the cost of living including what type of support/needs might be required by communities.

The Community Manager advised that the team were developing ideas around five areas which would form the South and West Fife Area response and this would involve multi-agency partnership working. The five areas were detailed below:-

- Community Assistance Hubs
- Warm Places
- Food Assistance
- Fuel Assistance
- Financial Assistance

It was noted that the Community Assistance Hubs (CAHs) would be developed further and that four facilities had initially been identified within South and West Fife that would act as CAHs and these were Inverkeithing Civic Centre, Parkgate Community Centre, High Valleyfield Community Centre and Oakley Community Centre.

The Area Community Team Manager then provided an update on the Café Inc model that was followed during the summer and advised on the proposals that she had put forward to provide this service over the October school holidays and Christmas period following feedback from members. The Area Community Team Manager advised that the proposals had been submitted to the Catering Service but that the response received was very disappointing.

Decision

On a motion proposed by Councillor David Barratt, seconded by Councillor Graeme Downie, the Committee agreed to endorse the level of service proposed by the People and Place Leadership Group and expressed their anger and disappointment that the locally identified need for Café Inc was not proposed to be delivered and asked, as a matter of urgency, for this decision to be reviewed. The Committee further requested that if the identified service was not delivered in full, that this matter be brought to the Cabinet Committee for further discussion.

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16. PROPOSED 30MPH EXTENSION AND 20MPH ZONE - HILLEND ROAD, INVERKEITHING

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Enterprise and Environment) requesting retrospective consideration of a proposal to extend the 30mph speed limit on Hillend Road, Inverkeithing and a 20mph zone on roads constructed within the housing development at Spencerfields.

Decision

The Committee, in the interests of road safety:-

- (1) agreed retrospectively to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to extend the 30mph speed limit and introduce a 20mph zone as detailed in Drawing No. TRO21_32 (appended to the report); and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

17. PROPOSED 20MPH ZONE AND RAISED TABLE - A921 MAIN STREET, ABERDOUR

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Enterprise and Environment) detailing proposals to extend the 20mph zone speed limit on A921 Main Street which included roads constructed within the housing development and a proposed raised table.

Decision

The Committee, in the interests of road safety:-

- (1) agreed to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to extend the 20mph zone as detailed in Drawing No. TRO22_08 (appended to the report);
- (2) agreed to the promotion of a Road Hump Order (RHO) to introduce a raised table as detailed in Drawing No. TRO22_08 (appended to the report); and
- (3) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order and for the raised table to be constructed within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

18. AREA CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST - THE CAIRNS, CHARLESTOWN

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking agreement to allocate funds from the Area Capital Budget 2021-2023 for additional parking to an adoptable standard at The Cairns, Charlestown.

Decision

The Committee agreed to a contribution of £36,000 from the Area Capital Budget for additional parking to an adoptable standard at The Cairns, Charlestown.

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19. AREA ROADS PROGRAMME 2021-2022 - FINAL REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Enterprise and Environment) advising on the delivery of the 2021-22 Area Roads Programme (ARP).

Decision

On a motion proposed by Councillor Dave Dempsey, seconded by Councillor Sarah Neal, the Committee:-

- agreed to note that:-
 - the footbridge over the Dour Burn at the Harbour in Aberdour had been destroyed in August 2020
 - the Fife Coastal Path has been closed at the point since then
 - this had caused considerable upset and inconvenience to the people and businesses of Aberdour and to the numerous users of the Coastal Path
 - despite the efforts of Fife Council officers, it was still not clear when a replacement bridge would be in place
 - it may be that the Council's project and procurement processes and procedures had been a factor in this delay
- recommended that the Environment, Transportation and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee examine those processes and procedures to see whether improvements could be made to reduce timescales on future projects of this form.

20. COMPLAINTS UPDATE

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Communities) providing an overview of complaints received relating to the South and West Fife Area for the year from 1st April, 2021 to 31st March, 2022.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

21. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

The Committee considered a report by the Senior Manager, Property 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.

22. SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2022-23

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

Decision/

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Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the Forward Work Programme which would be further updated as appropriate;
 - (2) agreed that a report be submitted to the November Committee on Flooding Issues in Rosyth; and
 - (3) agreed that reports on Trauma Informed Services and the Future of Inverkeithing High School Site be submitted to an early meeting of the Committee.
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