

FIFE COUNCIL OF 23rd SEPTEMBER, 2021

MINUTE VOLUME

NOTE

Items in the minutes will be marked to indicate that such items are subject to the approval of the Council or another Committee, as the case may be, as follows:-

- C = Subject to approval of the Council
- S = Subject to approval of the appropriate Strategic Committee
- A = Subject to approval of the appropriate Area Committee

If telephoning, please ask for Emma Whyte, Committee Officer,
Finance & Corporate Services (Telephone:- 03451 555555 Ext. 442303).

FIFE COUNCIL

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THE FIFE COUNCIL - CENTRAL AND WEST PLANNING COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

9th June, 2021

2.00 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Alice McGarry (Convener), David Alexander, Alistair Bain, John Beare, Bobby Clelland, Dave Coleman, Derek Glen, Zoe Hisbent, Gordon Langlands, Helen Law, Mino Manekshaw and Ross Paterson.

ATTENDING: Alastair Hamilton, Service Manager - Development Management, Sarah Purves, Trainee Planning Assistant (Gateway) and Andy Forrester, Technician Engineer, Transportation Development Management (South Fife), Economy, Planning & Employability Services; Mary McLean, Legal Team Manager (Planning, Property & Contracts) and Emma Whyte, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors Mick Green, Derek Noble and Andrew Verrecchia.

135. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Bobby Clelland declared an interest in item 138 below - '21/00417/FULL - Land to North East of 14 North Road, Saline' - as he was a friend of the applicant.

Councillor Gordon Langlands declared an interest in item 139 below - '21/00456/FULL - Former Site of Binn House, Fleming Way, Burntisland' - as he knew the landowner and the objectors.

136. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the Central and West Planning Committee of 12th May, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

137. 19/00909/PPP LAND AT THISTLE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, COWDENBEATH

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for planning permission in principle for demolition of existing buildings and erection of dwellinghouses with associated development including access, roads, drainage and landscaping.

Members/

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Members were asked to agree to amend Condition 9 to add "and specified in the Investment Plan" to the last sentence.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the thirty-one conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report including the amendment to Condition 9.

Having earlier declared an interest, Councillor Clelland left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item.

138. 21/00417/FULL LAND TO NORTH EAST OF 14 NORTH ROAD, SALINE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for the erection of dwellinghouse (amendment to 17/03549/ARC for substitution of house type on plot 5).

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the two conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

Councillor Clelland rejoined the meeting following consideration of the above item.

Having earlier declared an interest, Councillor Langlands left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item.

139. 21/00456/FULL FORMER SITE OF BINN HOUSE, FLEMING WAY, BURNTISLAND

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for the erection of dwellinghouse with associated access and parking.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the six conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

Councillor Langlands rejoined the meeting following consideration of the above item.

140. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION, BUILDING WARRANTS AND AMENDED BUILDING WARRANTS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

Decision

The Committee noted the lists of applications dealt with under delegated powers for the period 19th April to 16th May, 2021.



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THE FIFE COUNCIL - CENTRAL AND WEST PLANNING COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

7th July, 2021

2.00 p.m. – 3.35 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Alice McGarry (Convener), David Alexander, Alistair Bain, John Beare, Bobby Clelland, Dave Coleman, Mick Green, Zoe Hisbent, Gordon Langlands, Helen Law, Mino Manekshaw, Derek Noble, Ross Paterson and Andrew Verrecchia.

ATTENDING: Mary Stewart, Service Manager - Major Business & Customer Service, William Shand, Strategic Development Manager, Mark Barrett, Lead Officer Transportation Development Management (South Fife), George MacDonald, Technician Engineer, Transportation Development Management (North Fife), Martin Mackay, Planning Assistant - Development Management (South Section) and Jamie Penman, Planning Assistant – Development Management (South Section), Economy, Planning & Employability Services; Mary McLean, Legal Team Manager (Planning, Property & Contracts) and Emma Whyte, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Derek Glen.

141. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Zoe Hisbent declared an interest in paragraph 147 below - '20/03219/FULL – Drive In, Oriel Road, Kirkcaldy' – as her employer had commented on the application.

Councillor Dave Coleman declared an interest in paragraph 148 below – '21/00800/FULL – National Activity Centre, Fordell Firs, Clockluine Road' – as he had met with both the applicants and objectors.

142. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the Central and West Planning Committee of 9th June, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

143. 20/02413/FULL LAND TO SOUTH OF A955 AND WEST OF RANDOLPH STREET, EAST WEMYSS

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for the erection of 86 dwelling houses, new vehicular accesses, SUDS feature/

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feature, open space, landscaping, roundabout and other associated infrastructure.

This application had been deferred from the Central and West Planning Committee meeting of 12th May, 2021 to enable officers to clarify the position in relation to reports of handling and requirement for developer contributions, specifically in relation to affordable housing and play park provision.

Officers confirmed that no developer contributions, specifically in relation to affordable housing and play park provision, would be sought.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to:-

- (1) the twenty-three conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report; and
- (2) an amendment to Condition 19 to restrict the hours of construction work to 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday and no construction work on a Saturday afternoon or Sunday.

144. 20/00379/FULL - 6 NORTH ROAD, SALINE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for a single storey extension to rear of dwellinghouse, installation of rooflights, formation of raised platform with associated balustrade, erection of domestic garage and alterations to boundary fence and footway crossing (part retrospective).

Decision

The Committee agreed to refuse the application for the reasons set out in the report.

145. 20/00380/LBC - 6 NORTH ROAD, SALINE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for listed building consent for a single storey extension to the rear of dwellinghouse, installation of rooflights and removal of render (part retrospective).

Decision

The Committee agreed to refuse the application for the reason detailed in the report.

146. 20/03204/FULL - NEWBIGGING FARM, BURNTISLAND

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for the erection of a dwellinghouse, formation of access and formation of hardstanding.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee agreed to advise the DPEA that it was their view that the application be refused for the reasons detailed in the report.

Having earlier declared an interest, Councillor Hisbent left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item.

147. 20/03219/FULL - DRIVE IN, ORIEL ROAD, KIRKCALDY

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for a change of use of part of retail (Class 1) with associated cafe (Class 3) to form retail unit (Class 1) and hot food takeaway (Sui Generis) including installation of flues to side and rear and formation of doors to front, side and rear.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the five conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

Councillor Hisbent rejoined the meeting following consideration of the above item.

Having earlier declared an interest, Councillor Coleman left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item.

148. 21/00800/FULL - NATIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE, FORDELL FIRS, CLOCKLUINE ROAD

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for erection of storage shed and siting of a yurt for use by an outdoor nursery.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the condition and for the reason detailed in the report.

Councillor Coleman rejoined the meeting following consideration of the above item.

149. 21/01229/ARC FREESCALE SITE, DUNLIN AVENUE, DUNFERMLINE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for formation of access and construction of core road D-E (southern access road) (pursuant to Condition 1(M) of PPP 20/03250/PPP).

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the seven conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

150./

150. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION, BUILDING WARRANTS AND AMENDED BUILDING WARRANTS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

Decision

The Committee noted the lists of applications dealt with under delegated powers for the period 17th May to 13th June, 2021.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - CENTRAL AND WEST PLANNING COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

4th August, 2021

2.00 p.m. – 3.05 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Alice McGarry (Convener), David Alexander, Alistair Bain, Bobby Clelland, Derek Glen, Mick Green, Zoe Hisbent, Gordon Langlands, Helen Law, Mino Manekshaw and Derek Noble.

ATTENDING: Kevin Treadwell, Service Manager - Major Business and Customer Service, Martin McGroarty, Lead Professional - Minerals, Jamie Penman, Planning Assistant – Development Management (South Section), Mark Barrett, Lead Officer Transportation Development Management (South Fife) and Richard Simmons, Lead Officer Transportation Development Management (North Fife), Economy, Planning & Employability Services; Mary McLean, Legal Team Manager (Planning, Property & Contracts) and Emma Whyte, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors Dave Coleman, Ross Paterson and Andrew Verrecchia.

Prior to the consideration of the applications on the agenda, officers updated members with regards to the successful challenge brought against Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) 2020.

As SPP 2020 had been quashed, SPP 2014 became the relevant document against which proposals were required to be assessed against.

Both items on the agenda were initially assessed against SPP 2020, however, officers clarified that both applications were reviewed against SPP 2014 when the Planning Service were made aware of the successful legal challenge.

The recommendations were unaffected by the change in the relevant SPP and any reference to SPP 2020 in the reports were to be disregarded accordingly.

151. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor David Alexander declared an interest in paragraph 153 below - '20/03271/FULL - Site at Fife Energy Park, Links Road' - as he had publicly welcomed the project as Co-Leader of Fife Council.

152. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the Central and West Planning Committee of 7th July, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

Having earlier declared an interest, Councillor Alexander left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item.

153./

153. 20/03271/FULL - SITE AT FIFE ENERGY PARK, LINKS DRIVE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for the H100 Fife hydrogen demonstration project including facilities for the production and storage of hydrogen, demonstration facility, site office, electrical plant room, security fencing, external lighting and internal roads.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the eight conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

Councillor Alexander rejoined the meeting following consideration of the above item.

154. 21/00528/ARC - FREESCALE SITE, DUNLIN DRIVE, DUNFERMLINE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for approval of matters required by conditions for Phase 2 of residential development of 193 residential units (approval of Condition 2(d) of planning permission 14/00809/PPP).

Officers confirmed to members that a 15m buffer between the development and Calais Muir Wood would be provided and was included in the plans.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to:-

- (1) the twenty-one conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report; and
- (2) an amendment to Condition 1 to remove all references to "prior to the completion of the last residential unit".

155. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION, BUILDING WARRANTS AND AMENDED BUILDING WARRANTS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

Decision

The Committee noted the list of applications dealt with under delegated powers for the period 17th May to 13th June, 2021.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - CENTRAL AND WEST PLANNING COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

1st September, 2021

2.00 p.m.- 4.50 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Alice McGarry (Convener), David Alexander, Alistair Bain, John Beare, Bobby Clelland, Derek Glen, Mick Green, Zoe Hisbent, Gordon Langlands, Helen Law, Mino Manekshaw, Derek Noble, Ross Paterson and Andrew Verrecchia.

ATTENDING: Mary Stewart, Service Manager - Major Business & Customer Service, Declan Semple, Lead Officer, Brian Forsyth, Planner - Development Management (North Section), Bryan Reid, Planner - Development Management (North Section) and Daniel Farmer, Trainee Planning Assistant, Economy, Planning & Employability Services; Mary McLean, Legal Team Manager (Planning, Property & Contracts) and Emma Whyte, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Dave Coleman.

156. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Law declared an interest in paragraph 161 below - '21/01338/FULL - Pittsburgh Retail Park, Main Street - Halbeath' - as she was known to the applicant.

157. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the Central and West Planning Committee of 4th August, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

158. 20/01254/FULL - 4M PLANT DEN ROAD, KIRKCALDY

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for a residential development of 105 units with associated SUDS, landscaping, parking and vehicular access at land to the south of Calender Avenue/Hayfield Road, Kirkcaldy.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the thirty conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

159./

159. 21/01720/CON - RANDOLPH COLLIERY SITE AT WEMYSS ESTATE, FIFE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to a consultation from the Scottish Government under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 for a proposed 50MW solar farm and 25MW battery storage facility at the former Randolph Colliery site at Wemyss Estate, Fife.

Decision

The Committee agreed that the consultation response, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be submitted to Scottish Ministers as the formal position of Fife Council.

160. 21/01809/ARC - FREESCALE SITE DUNLIN DRIVE, DUNFERMLINE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for Approval of Matters Specified by Conditions 1 (k, l, m) and 23 of 20/03250/PPP for formation of access, link road, footpaths, cyclepaths and school car park, associated SUDS, drainage infrastructure and site engineering for the Dunfermline Learning Campus.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the eleven conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

Having earlier declared an interest, Councillor Law left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item.

161. 21/01338/FULL - PITTSBURGH RETAIL PARK MAIN STREET HALBEATH

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for the erection of three retail units (Class 1), two cafe/restaurant units (Class 3) with associated drive-thru element (Sui Generis) and one cafe/restaurant unit (Class 3) with associated parking and external works (Section 42 application to vary Condition 3 of 20/00545/FULL) to allow operating hours including deliveries from 5.30am for Class 3 unit shown as Costa on approved drawings.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the thirteen conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

Councillor Paterson joined the meeting during consideration of the above item.

Councillor Law rejoined the meeting following consideration of the above item.

162. 21/01426/FULL - LIDL, ESPLANADE, KIRKCALDY

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for the erection of a retail unit (Class 1) and formation of access, car parking/

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parking, hardstanding and associated landscaping works (Section 42 application for the removal of Condition 20 of 20/00450/FULL).

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the nineteen conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

163. 20/03008/FULL - 39 ROSSLYN STREET, KIRKCALDY

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for alterations and part change of use of existing mixed-use development to form two retail units (Class 1) and two hot food takeaways (Sui Generis) with associated access and parking.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the fifteen conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

The meeting adjourned at 3.25 p.m. and reconvened at 3.40 p.m.

164. 21/00872/FULL - THE CROSS, TANHOUSE BRAE, CULROSS

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for a change of use from cafe (Class 3) to dwelling (Class 9).

Motion

Councillor McGarry, seconded by Councillor Verrecchia, moved that the application be approved as per officer recommendation.

Amendment

Councillor Manekshaw, seconded by Councillor Law, moved that the application be continued to allow the applicant to provide further information in relation to the viability of the business.

Roll Call

For the Motion – 10 votes

Councillors Alice McGarry, David Alexander, Alastair Bain, John Beare, Derek Glen, Mick Green, Zoe Hisbent, Derek Noble, Ross Paterson and Andrew Verrecchia.

For the Amendment – 4 votes

Councillors Bobby Clelland, Gordon Langlands, Helen Law and Mino Manekshaw.

Having/

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Having received a majority of votes, the Motion to approve the application, was carried.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application unconditionally.

165. 21/00873/LBC - THE CROSS, TANHOUSE BRAE, CULROSS

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for Listed Building Consent for internal alterations.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application unconditionally.

166. 20/01178/OBL - FLEMING BUILDING, DONIBRISTLE INDUSTRIAL PARK, RIDGE WAY, DALGETY BAY

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for the Discharge of a Planning Obligation relating to 15/03782/PPP.

Decision

The Committee agreed to refuse the application.

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

167. 21/01007/FULL GREENSIDE HOTEL, LESLIE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for a change of use from hotel (Class 7) to mixed use (Sui Generis) as a residential care institution and day care/community service centre.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the condition and for the reason detailed in the report.

Councillor Verrecchia rejoined the meeting during consideration of the above item.

Councillor Law left the meeting during consideration of the above item.

168. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION, BUILDING WARRANTS AND AMENDED BUILDING WARRANTS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

Decision

The Committee noted the list of applications dealt with under delegated powers for the period 12th July to 8th August, 2021.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - NORTH EAST PLANNING COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

2nd June, 2021

1.30 p.m. – 5.35 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Donald Lothian (Convener), Tim Brett, Bill Connor, John Docherty, Andy Heer, Jane Ann Liston, David MacDiarmid, Karen Marjoram, Tony Miklinski, Dominic Nolan, Bill Porteous, Jonny Tepp, Brian Thomson and Ann Verner.

ATTENDING: Alastair Hamilton, Service Manager - Development Management; Bryan Reid, Planner - Development Management (North Section); George MacDonald, Technician Engineer, Transportation Development Management (North Fife), Economy, Planning & Employability Services; Steven Paterson, Solicitor; and Diane Barnett, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Linda Holt.

267. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

268. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the North East Planning Committee of 7th April, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

269. 19/01371/FULL - 37 LARGO ROAD, ST ANDREWS, FIFE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for the erection of a 57-bedroom hotel (Class 7) with associated car parking, bin store and landscaping (including demolition of existing commercial building).

Motion

Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Verner, moved to refuse the application on the grounds that the proposed development did not comply with:-

- (1) Policy 2 of the TAYplan Strategic Development Plan (2017); Policies 1 and 14 of the Adopted FIFEplan (2017); Making Fife's Places Supplementary Guidance (2018); and St Andrews Design Guidelines (2011) relating to the proposed development's visual impact on the surrounding area due to its design, scale and massing and overdevelopment of the site; and

(2)/

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- (2) Policies 1 and 10 of the Adopted FIFEplan (2017) relating to the proposed development's impact on the residential amenity of adjacent residential properties due to the siting and scale of the proposed development.

Amendment

Councillor Porteous, seconded by Councillor Thomson, moved as an amendment to approve the application subject to:-

- (1) the 20 conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report;
- (2) an amendment to condition 13 to include in the Traffic Management Plan a contingency plan relating to non-availability of the 23 car parking spaces at basement level in the event of mechanical failure of the proposed car lift;
and
- (3) an additional condition relating to the widening of the pavement to the front of the proposed development site, along Largo Road, to enhance cyclist and pedestrian safety.

Roll Call Vote

For the Motion - 5 votes

Councillors Heer, Liston, Marjoram, MacDiarmid and Verner.

For the Amendment - 8 votes

Councillors Brett, Connor, Docherty, Lothian, Nolan, Miklinski, Porteous and Thomson.

Councillor Tepp joined the meeting partway through the Planning Officer's presentation of the planning application in detail and, having not had the benefit of the full presentation, did not participate in the debate or voting on this item.

Having received a majority of votes, the amendment to approve the application was carried.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to:-

- (1) the 20 conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report;
- (2) an amendment to condition 13 to include in the Traffic Management Plan a contingency plan relating to non-availability of the 23 car parking spaces at basement level in the event of mechanical failure of the proposed car lift;
and
- (3) an additional condition relating to the widening of the pavement to the front of the proposed development site, along Largo Road, to enhance cyclist and pedestrian safety.

The/

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The Committee adjourned at 3.05 p.m.

The Committee reconvened at 3.15 p.m.

270. 20/03233/ARC - SITE TO WEST OF CHURCH STREET, LADYBANK

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for approval required by condition of planning permission 99/00991/EOPP for the erection of 60 residential units with associated infrastructure (revision to 04/01863/EARM to amend house types and landscaping).

Motion

Councillor MacDiarmid, seconded by Councillor Heer, moved to refuse the application on the grounds that the proposed development did not comply with Scottish Planning Policy (2020), Policies 1, 10 and 14 of the Adopted FIFEplan (2017) and Making Fife's Places Supplementary Guidance (2018) as the proposed variation to the layout and substitution housetypes were considered unacceptable in terms of visual amenity.

Amendment

Councillor Miklinski, seconded by Councillor Brett, moved as an amendment to approve the application subject to the 14 conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report, including amendment to Conditions 10 and 11, as follows:-

- (1) Condition 10 - "Prior to occupation of each residential unit, off-street parking shall be provided for that unit in accordance with the current Fife Council Transportation Development Guidelines. The off-street parking spaces shall be retained throughout the lifetime of the development for the purposes of off-street parking."

Reason: "In the interests of road safety; to ensure the provision of adequate off-street parking facilities."; and

- (2) Condition 11 - "All construction activity associated with the development hereby approved, which is audible at the site boundary or which will involve the arrival or departure of HGVs, shall take place on the site only between the hours of 8.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m., Monday to Friday and 8.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. on a Saturday. No activities shall take place at any time on a Sunday."

Reason: "In the interests of residential amenity; to ensure that the activity on the site does not generate a level of noise which would disturb neighbouring residential amenity."

Roll Call Vote

For/

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For the Motion - 8 votes

Councillors Docherty, Heer, Liston, Lothian, Marjoram, MacDiarmid, Tepp and Verner.

For the Amendment - 5 votes

Councillors Brett, Nolan, Miklinski, Porteous and Thomson.

Having temporarily left the meeting during the debate of this item and, having not had the benefit of participating in the debate, Councillor Connor did not vote on this item.

Having received a majority of votes, the Motion to refuse the application was carried.

Decision

The Committee agreed to refuse the application on the grounds that:-

- (1) the proposed development did not comply with Scottish Planning Policy (2020), Policies 1, 10 and 14 of the Adopted FIFEplan (2017) and Making Fife's Places Supplementary Guidance (2018) as the proposed variation to the layout and substitution housetypes were considered unacceptable in terms of visual amenity; and
- (2) delegated to the Head of Planning, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to finalise the full reason for refusal in order to ensure that a decision on the application was not unduly delayed.

271. 21/00123/FULL - STREET RECORD, CUPAR ROAD, NEWBURGH

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for the erection of 34 affordable dwellings and associated access road and SUDS and also containing a Development Framework for a larger development of up to 275 dwellings.

Motion

Councillor Miklinski, seconded by Cllr Porteous, moved to refuse the application on the grounds that the proposed development of 34 affordable dwellings and associated road and SUDS did not comply with - the Affordable Housing Supplementary Guidance (2018); Policies 1, 2 and 10 of the Adopted FIFEplan (2017); and Fife Council Planning Customer Guidelines on Garden Ground (2016) - due to the siting of all affordable dwellings in the one location; the design and layout of the site resulting in inadequate garden ground for the majority of the dwellings; and the close proximity of dwellings requiring unsatisfactory mitigation measures relating to noise ingress.

Amendment

Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Thomson, moved as an amendment to approve the application subject to the 29 conditions and for the reasons detailed in/

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in the report - with respect to both the affordable housing element and the larger Development Framework for development of up to 275 dwellings.

Roll Call Vote

For the Motion - 5 votes

Councillors Heer, MacDiarmid, Miklinski, Porteous and Tepp.

For the Amendment - 9 votes

Councillors Brett, Connor, Docherty, Liston, Lothian, Marjoram, Nolan, Thomson and Verner.

Having received a majority of votes, the Amendment to approve the application was carried.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the 29 conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

272. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION, BUILDING WARRANTS AND AMENDED BUILDING WARRANTS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

Decision

The Committee noted the lists of applications dealt with under delegated powers for the period 22nd March to 18th April; and 19th April to 16th May, 2021.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - NORTH EAST PLANNING COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

30th June, 2021

1.30 p.m. – 4.20 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Donald Lothian (Convener), Tim Brett, Bill Connor, John Docherty, Andy Heer, Linda Holt, Margaret Kennedy, Jane Ann Liston, David MacDiarmid, Karen Marjoram, Tony Miklinski, Dominic Nolan, Bill Porteous, Jonny Tepp, Brian Thomson and Ann Verner.

ATTENDING: Richard Simmons, Lead Officer Transportation Development Management (North Fife); Derek Simpson, Lead Officer Development Management (South Section), Economy, Planning & Employability Services; Steven Paterson, Solicitor, and Diane Barnet, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

273. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Liston, Nolan and Thomson declared an interest in Para. 276. - '21/00512/FULL - Land at Ladebraes Walk, Hepburn Gardens, St Andrews' - as Councillor Liston had previously publicly expressed a view; Councillor Nolan had also previously expressed a view, in principle; and Councillor Thomson had been involved in making a case for Fife Council funding towards the project.

Councillor Thomson also declared an interest in Para. 277. - '21/00644/FULL – 37 Cant Crescent, St Andrews' - as he was a personal friend of an objector.

274. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the North East Planning Committee of 2nd June, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

275. 21/00828/OBL - LAND SOUTH WEST OF THE MANSE, NEWARK, ST MONANS

Prior to consideration of this item, the Committee was advised that the application was now subject of an appeal to the DPEA (Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals) for non-determination. The Committee was asked, in light of the appeal, to determine whether they were minded to refuse or approve the application, as presented, to inform this Planning Authority's formal appeal response to the DPEA.

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for Modification of Planning Obligation (19/00250/FULL) relating to a contribution towards the proposed link road.

Motion/

Motion

Councillor MacDiarmid, seconded by Councillor Lothian, moved that the Committee be minded to refuse the application for the reason detailed in the report.

Amendment

Councillor Holt, seconded by Councillor Miklinski, moved as an amendment that the Committee be minded to approve the application to discharge the current planning obligation to provide a financial contribution towards the required link road as detailed in the report but subject to the proviso that the existing planning obligation be amended to direct the financial contribution towards the provision of a shared use path to provide a route enabling connectivity between the development and St Monans.

Roll Call Vote

For the Motion - 5 votes

Councillors Connor, Heer, Lothian, MacDiarmid and Thomson.

For the Amendment - 9 votes

Councillors Brett, Docherty, Holt, Liston, Marjoram, Nolan, Miklinski, Tepp and Verner.

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

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) confirmed that they were minded to approve the discharge of the planning obligation to provide a financial contribution towards the required link road as detailed in the report but subject to the proviso that the existing planning obligation be amended to direct the financial obligation towards the provision of a shared use path to provide a route enabling connectivity between the development and St Monans; and
- (2) agreed to delegate to the Head of Planning to submit the Committee's view to the DPEA, informing the Planning Authority's formal appeal response.

Councillor Porteous joined the meeting partway through the Planning Officer's detailed presentation of the above planning application and, having not had the benefit of the full presentation, was not entitled to participate in the debate or voting on this item.

Councillors Liston and Nolan left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item, having earlier declared an interest.

Councillor Thomson left the meeting prior to consideration of the following two items, having earlier declared an interest.

276. 21/00512/FULL - LAND AT LADEBRAES WALK, HEPBURN GARDENS, ST ANDREWS

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for the upgrading of an existing path, including widening, erection of fencing, installation of bollards and solar lighting.

Motion

Councillor Miklinski, seconded by Councillor Verner moved to approve the application subject to:-

- (1) the two conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report;
- (2) an additional condition that effective measures and signage to limit the speed of cyclists would be added in appropriate locations to protect pedestrian safety; and
- (3) to delegate to the Head of Planning, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to draft and formulate an appropriately worded planning condition to properly reflect the issues outlined and referred to at (2) above.

Amendment

Councillor Lothian, seconded by Councillor MacDiarmid, moved as an amendment to approve the application subject to the two conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

Roll Call Vote

For the Motion - 7 votes

Councillors Brett, Docherty, Heer, Holt, Miklinski, Porteous and Verner.

For the Amendment - 4 votes

Councillors Connor, Lothian, MacDiarmid and Tepp.

Having received a majority of votes, the motion to approve the application, including an additional condition as outlined above, was carried.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to:-

- (1) the two conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report;
- (2) an additional condition that effective measures and signage to limit the speed of cyclists would be added in appropriate locations to protect pedestrian safety; and
- (3)/

2021 NEPC 171

- (3) to delegate to the Head of Planning, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to draft and formulate an appropriately worded planning condition to properly reflect the issues outlined and referred to at (2) above.

Councillors Liston and Nolan re-joined the meeting following consideration of the above application.

Councillor Kennedy joined the meeting and Councillor Marjoram left the meeting during consideration of the above application.

The Committee adjourned at 3.25 p.m.

The Committee reconvened at 3.35 p.m.

277. 21/00644/FULL - 37 CANT CRESCENT, ST ANDREWS, FIFE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for a one and a half storey extension to the front of a dwellinghouse.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the five conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

Councillor Thomson re-joined the meeting following consideration of the above application.

278. 21/00924/FULL - 61 RUTHVEN PLACE, ST ANDREWS, FIFE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an addition of a first floor to dwellinghouse and external alterations.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the two conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

279. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION, BUILDING WARRANTS AND AMENDED BUILDING WARRANTS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

Decision

The Committee noted the lists of applications dealt with under delegated powers for the period 17th May to 13th June, 2021.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - NORTH EAST PLANNING COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

28th July, 2021

1.30 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Donald Lothian (Convener), Tim Brett, Bill Connor, John Docherty, Andy Heer, Linda Holt, Margaret Kennedy, Jane Ann Liston, David MacDiarmid, Karen Marjoram, Tony Miklinski, Dominic Nolan, Bill Porteous, Jonny Tepp and Ann Verner.

ATTENDING: Alastair Hamilton, Service Manager - Development Management; Richard Simmons, Lead Officer Transportation Development Management (North Fife), Economy, Planning & Employability Services; Steven Paterson, Solicitor; and Diane Barnet, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Brian Thomson.

280. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Verner declared an interest in Para. 282 - '20/01757/PPP - Land at East Craigs Farm, Blebocraigs, Fife' - as the applicant had supplied and delivered materials for her driveway.

Councillor Heer advised he had a connection to Para. 288 and Para. 289 - '5 Shuttlefield, Newburgh, Cupar' - as a next-door neighbour of the application site had contacted him about the planning application and he had referred them to an Enforcement Officer of Fife Council on one occasion and, on another occasion, to Planning Aid Scotland. However, having applied the objective test, Councillor Heer concluded that he had no interest to declare and would, therefore, remain and participate for those items.

281. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the North East Planning Committee of 30th June, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute, subject to reference to 'Councillor Noble' being amended to read 'Councillor Nolan'.

Councillor Verner left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item, having earlier declared an interest.

282. 20/01757/PPP - LAND AT EAST CRAIGS FARM, BLEBOCRAIGS, FIFE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for planning permission in principle for the erection of a dwellinghouse.

Motion/

Motion

Councillor Miklinski, seconded by Councillor Liston, moved to approve the application, delegating to the Head of Planning, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to draft appropriately worded conditions consistent to and pertinent with the grant of planning permission in principle including, where appropriate, planning conditions relating to:

- the residential caravan currently on site;
- land contamination;
- access to core path;
- low carbon matters;
- roads/access point(s); and
- the MOD Safeguarding Zone.

Amendment

Councillor Heer, seconded by Councillor Connor, moved as an amendment to refuse the application for the two reasons detailed in the report.

Roll Call

For the Motion - 5 votes

Councillors Kennedy, Liston, Marjoram, Miklinski and Porteous.

For the Amendment - 9 votes

Councillors Brett, Connor, Docherty, Heer, Holt, Lothian, MacDiarmid, Nolan and Tepp.

Having received a majority of votes, the amendment to refuse the application was carried.

Decision

The Committee agreed to refuse the application for the two reasons detailed in the report.

Councillor Verner re-joined the meeting following consideration of the above item.

283. 20/02272/FULL - HAWKSWOOD COUNTRY ESTATE, PEAT INN, FALFIELD

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for the erection of restaurant/bistro (Class 3) with associated outdoor seating area, car parking and access road, installation of gates, helicopter landing facility and associated drainage infrastructure.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the ten conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

284./

284. 21/00178/FULL - LAND AT SPRINGFIELD EAST FARM, MAIN STREET, SPRINGFIELD

Alastair Hamilton, Service Manager (Committee Lead Officer) advised the Committee that, following the recent outcome of a planning court case of 21st July, 2021 relating to the most recent update to the Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) in December 2020, it was considered necessary to continue this application to enable the implications of the court decision to be properly considered in the context/assessment of this application.

Decision

The Committee agreed to continue consideration of the application to a future meeting, ideally at its next meeting on 25th August, 2021, if possible.

Councillor Kennedy left the meeting following consideration of the above item.

The Committee adjourned at 2.50 p.m.

The Committee reconvened at 3.00 p.m.

285. 20/02298/PPP - FORTHSIDE LIBERTY, ELIE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to planning permission in principle for the erection of two dwellinghouses with associated parking (demolition of existing dwellinghouse).

Decision

The Committee agreed:-

- (1) to approve the application subject to the five conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report;
- (2) that a condition be added restricting the height of the proposed development to no higher than the ridge-line of the adjacent property; and
- (3) to delegate to the Head of Planning, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to formulate an appropriately worded planning condition to properly reflect the additional condition outlined at (2) above.

286. 20/02301/CAC - FORTHSIDE LIBERTY, ELIE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for conservation area consent for the demolition of a dwellinghouse.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the two conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

287./

287. 21/00145/FULL - 46 BRAEHEAD, ST MONANS, ANSTRUTHER

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for the erection of a dwellinghouse with associated parking.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the six conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

288. 21/00504/FULL - 5 SHUTTLEFIELD, NEWBURGH, CUPAR

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an amendment to approved Planning Application 18/03481/FULL - for alterations to roof height and decking (in retrospect).

Motion

Councillor Holt, seconded by Councillor Porteous, moved to:-

- (1) refuse the application on the grounds that the alteration to the decking height, design, materials and screening - due to its detrimental visual impact on the conservation area and visual amenity of adjacent properties - was contrary to Policies 1, 10 and 14 of the adopted FIFEplan Local Development Plan (2017); and
- (2) delegate to the Head of Planning, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to initiate an enforcement investigation.

Amendment

Councillor Miklinski, seconded by Councillor Connor, moved as an amendment to:-

- (1) approve the application, subject to an amendment to the one condition detailed in the report, requiring 2 metre high opaque screen fence panels to be installed around the deck perimeter; and
- (2) delegate to the Head of Planning, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to formulate an appropriately worded planning condition relating to (1) above.

Roll Call

For the Motion - 6 votes

Councillors Docherty, Heer, Holt, Liston, MacDiarmid and Porteous.

For the Amendment - 7 votes

Councillors Brett, Connor, Lothian, Marjoram, Nolan, Miklinski and Verner.

Having/

2021 NEPC 176

Having received a majority of votes, the Amendment to approve the application, was carried.

Decision

The Committee agreed to:-

- (1) approve the application, subject to an amendment to the one condition detailed in the report, requiring 2 metre high opaque screen fence panels to be installed around the deck perimeter; and
- (2) delegate to the Head of Planning, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to formulate an appropriately worded planning condition relating to (1) above.

Councillor Tepp left the meeting during consideration of the above item.

289. 21/00220/LBC - 5 SHUTTLEFIELD, NEWBURGH, CUPAR

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for listed building consent for alterations to roof height and decking (work completed).

Motion

Councillor Holt, seconded by Councillor Porteous moved to:

- (1) refuse the application on the grounds that the alteration to the decking height, design, materials and screening - due to its detrimental impact on the appearance of the Category C Listed Building within the Newburgh Conservation Area - was contrary to Policies 1 and 14 of the adopted FIFEplan Local Development Plan (2017) ; and
- (2) delegate to the Head of Planning, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to initiate an enforcement investigation.

Amendment

Councillor Nolan, seconded by Councillor Brett, moved as an amendment to:-

- (1) approve the application subject to condition - reflecting the decision at Para. 288. (1) above (related application); and
- (2) delegate to the Head of Planning, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to formulate an appropriately worded planning condition as outlined at (1) above.

Roll Call

For the Motion - 6 votes

Councillors Docherty, Heer, Holt, Liston, MacDiarmid, Porteous.

For/

2021 NEPC 177

For the Amendment - 6 votes

Councillors Brett, Connor, Lothian, Nolan, Miklinski and Verner.

There being an equality of votes for each proposal, the Convener used his casting vote in support of the Amendment, therefore, the Amendment to approve the application, was carried.

Decision

The Committee agreed to:-

- (1) approve the application subject to condition - reflecting the decision at Para. 288. (1) above (related application); and
- (2) delegate to the Head of Planning, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to formulate an appropriately worded planning condition as outlined at (1) above.

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

The meeting adjourned at 5.25 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 5.30 p.m.

290. 21/00688/FULL - 8 BANKNOWE DRIVE, TAYPORT, FIFE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for a two-storey extension to the rear and a single storey extension to the side of a dwellinghouse.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the three conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

291. 21/01423/FULL - 10 GRANGE ROAD, ST ANDREWS, FIFE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for a single storey extension to the rear of a dwellinghouse.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application without condition.

292./

292. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION, BUILDING WARRANTS AND AMENDED BUILDING WARRANTS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

Decision

The Committee noted the lists of applications dealt with under delegated powers for the period 14th June to 11th July, 2021.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - NORTH EAST PLANNING COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

25th August, 2021

1.30 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Donald Lothian (Convener), Tim Brett, Bill Connor, John Docherty, Andy Heer, Linda Holt, Jane Ann Liston, David MacDiarmid, Karen Marjoram, Tony Miklinski, Dominic Nolan, Jonny Tepp, Brian Thomson and Ann Verner.

ATTENDING: Alastair Hamilton, Service Manager - Development Management; Bryan Reid, Planner - Development Management (North Section), Economy, Planning & Employability Services; Steven Paterson, Solicitor; and Diane Barnet, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors Margaret Kennedy and Bill Porteous.

293. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

294. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the North East Planning Committee of 28th July, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

295. 21/00178/FULL - LAND AT SPRINGFIELD EAST FARM, MAIN STREET, SPRINGFIELD

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning relating to an application for the erection of 30 affordable dwellings with associated access, landscaping, SUDS and other associated infrastructure (demolition of agricultural buildings).

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the application subject to the 24 conditions and for the reasons detailed in the report.

296. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION, BUILDING WARRANTS AND AMENDED BUILDING WARRANTS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

Decision

The Committee noted the lists of applications dealt with under delegated powers for the period 12th July to 8th August, 2021.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - FIFE PLANNING REVIEW BODY – REMOTE MEETING

28th June, 2021.

2.00 p.m. – 2.40 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors David Barratt (Convener), Mino Manekshaw, Alice McGarry, Ross Paterson and Bill Porteous.

ATTENDING: William Shand, Strategic Development Manager, Economy, Planning and Employability Services; and June Barrie, Manager (Legal Services), Legal and Democratic Services.

107. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

108. MINUTE

The minute of the Fife Planning Review Body of 10th May, 2021 was submitted.

Decision

The Review Body approved the minute.

109. APPLICATION FOR REVIEW - WEST MILL FARM, STRATHMIGLO, CUPAR (APPLICATION NO. 20/02466/FULL)

The Review Body considered the Application for Review submitted by studioEAST Chartered Architects, on behalf of Ms. D. Hill, in respect of the non-determination of planning permission for the conversion and renovation of stables to form guest accommodation (Application No. 20/02466/FULL).

Decision

The Review Body agreed:-

- (1) there was insufficient information before them to proceed to decide the matter and required the following information to be provided:-
 - (i) the applicant to provide, within 7 days, clarification of whether the guest accommodation was to be ancillary to the main dwellinghouse or stand alone guest accommodation to be let out;
 - (ii) the case officer to provide, within 14 days, a Report of Handling setting out the policy position and assessment criteria for the application, an assessment against these criteria and a list of conditions;
 - (iii) a consultation response from the Built Heritage officer within 14 days on whether the building is included in the listing of the main dwelling and the impact of the development on the listed buildings.
- (2) a site visit be carried out.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - FIFE PLANNING REVIEW BODY – REMOTE MEETING

9th August, 2021.

2.00 p.m. - 2.50 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors David Barratt (Convener), Mino Manekshaw, Alice McGarry, Ross Paterson and Bill Porteous.

ATTENDING: William Shand, Planning Adviser to the FPRB; June Barrie, Manager (Legal Services) and Christopher Glendinning, Solicitor, Legal and Democratic Services.

110. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

111. MINUTE

The minute of the Fife Planning Review Body of 28th June, 2021 was submitted.

Decision

The Review Body approved the minute.

112. APPLICATION FOR REVIEW - 102 HIGH STREET, NEWBURGH, CUPAR (APPLICATION NO. 20/03123/FULL) - CHANGE OF USE FROM SHOP STORE TO MANAGER'S RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION AND EXTERNAL ALTERATIONS

The Review Body considered the Application for Review submitted by Arthur Stone Planning and Architectural Design Limited, on behalf of Mr. Sharanjit Bookher, in respect of the decision to refuse planning permission for the change of use from shop store to manager's residential accommodation and external alterations including blocking up of door, installation of door and repairs to windows (Application No. 20/03123/FULL).

Decision

The Review Body agreed:-

- (1) sufficient information was before them to proceed to decide the matter; and
- (2) the application be approved subject to conditions (reversing the appointed officer's determination) and that the content of the Decision Notice be delegated to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Convener.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - REGULATION AND LICENSING COMMITTEE - GLENROTHES

18th May, 2021

9.30 a.m. – 2.15 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Carol Lindsay (Convener), Alistair Cameron, Bill Connor, John Docherty, Mick Green, Garry Haldane, Zoe Hisbent, Gordon Langlands, Lea McLelland, David MacDiarmid, Dominic Nolan and Graham Ritchie.

ATTENDING: Kimberley Langley, Solicitor, Gillian Love, Lead Officer, Miscellaneous Licensing and Craig Ritchie, Licensing Enforcement Officer all in Finance and Corporate Services; and Sergeant Neil Ewing, Police Scotland (Fife Division).

APOLOGIES: Councillors David Graham, Jane Ann Liston and Ryan Smart.

363. MINUTE

The Committee considered the Minute of Meeting of the Regulation and Licensing Committee of 10th November, 2020.

Decision

The Committee approved the Minute.

CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982

364. SUSPENSION OF TAXI/PRIVATE HIRE CAR DRIVER'S LICENCE

The Council's Lead Officer, Miscellaneous Licensing reported to the Committee that a decision was taken by the Executive Director, Finance & Corporate Services using the powers given to her under Section 2 of the Council's List of Officer Powers 'Emergencies and Cases of Urgency' to suspend a taxi/private hire car driver's licence with immediate effect under paragraph 12 of Schedule 1 to the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 having advised the Convener of the Committee of this decision. The decision was taken as information had been received which had to be considered prior to this meeting of the Committee.

Decision

The Committee noted that a taxi/private hire car driver's licence had been suspended with immediate effect.

365./

365. **APPLICATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH COMMENTS HAD BEEN MADE**

The Committee considered applications for licences by the undernoted and, having heard the representative for Police Scotland (Fife Division) or the Council's Lead Officer, Miscellaneous Licensing as well as the applicants thereon, dealt with the applications as shown:-

	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Activity & Period of Licence Applied For</u>
(a)	Mr. Robert Byers, 36 Laurel Crescent, Kirkcaldy.	Taxi Driver (renewal) 1 year

Motion

Councillor Graham Ritchie, seconded by Councillor John Docherty, moved that consideration of the above application be continued to the Committee's next meeting to afford the applicant a further opportunity to appear.

Amendment

Councillor Lea McLelland, seconded by Councillor Mick Green, moved as an amendment, that the application should be considered at this meeting of the Committee.

Vote

Amendment -	6
Motion -	6

The Convener exercised her casting vote in favour of the motion.

Decision

The Committee agreed to continue consideration of the above application to its next meeting to afford the applicant a further opportunity to appear.

(b)	Mr. Alister Cumming, Sherwood Cottage, Farnell, Brechin.	Taxi Driver (new application) 1 year
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Decision

The Committee agreed to grant the licence.

(c)/

2021.R.L.350

	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Activity & Period of Licence Applied For</u>
(c)	Mr. Travis Davidson, 21 Colton Court, Dunfermline.	Taxi Driver (new application) 1 year

Decision

The Committee agreed to continue consideration of the above application to its next meeting to afford the applicant a further opportunity to appear.

(d)	Mr. Ryan Dickson, 75 Mellerstain Road, Kirkcaldy.	Taxi Driver (renewal) 1 year
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Decision

The Committee agreed to grant the licence.

(e)	Mr. Mark Gorgon, 21 Henderson Terrace, Leuchars.	Taxi Driver (new application) 1 year
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Decision

The Committee agreed to grant the licence.

(f)	Mr. Steffan Hunter, 5 Ardgowan Place, Leven.	Taxi Driver (new application) 1 year
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Decision

The Committee agreed to grant the licence.

(g)	Mr. Arturas Iesmantas, 26 Clay Acres Court, Dunfermline.	Taxi Driver (new application) 1 year
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Decision

The Committee agreed to continue consideration of the above application to its next meeting to afford the applicant a further opportunity to appear.

(h)/

2021.R.L.351

	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Activity & Period of Licence Applied For</u>
(h)	Mr. Evelin Kunchev, 92 Pittencrieff Street, Dunfermline.	Taxi Driver (new application) 1 year

Decision

The Committee noted that the above application had now been withdrawn.

(i)	Mr. Craig Morris, 5 Birrell Drive, Dunfermline.	Taxi Driver (new application) 1 year
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Motion

Councillor Garry Haldane, seconded by Councillor Gordon Langlands, moved that the licence be granted with a warning.

Amendment

Councillor Alistair Cameron, seconded by Councillor David MacDiarmid, moved, as an amendment, that the licence be refused.

Vote

Amendment	-	6
Motion	-	6

The Convener exercised her casting vote in favour of the Amendment.

Decision

The Committee agreed to refuse the licence.

(j)	Mr. Arshdeep Singh, 16 Rothes Park, Leslie.	Taxi Driver (new application) 1 year
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Decision

The Committee agreed to continue consideration of the above application to its next meeting to afford the applicant a further opportunity to appear with a representative.

(k)/	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Activity & Period of Licence Applied For</u>
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2021.R.L.352

- (k) Mr. Michael Winston, Taxi Driver
52 Lomond Crescent, (renewal)
Dunfermline. 1 year

Motion

Councillor John Docherty, seconded by Councillor David MacDiarmid, moved that the licence be refused.

Amendment

Councillor Graham Ritchie, seconded by Councillor Garry Haldane, moved, as an amendment, that the licence be granted with a warning.

Vote

Amendment - 7
Motion - 5

Decision

The Committee agreed to grant the licence with a warning.

The applicants had been invited to attend and be represented at the meeting and with the exception of the applicants at (a), (c) and (h) above were all present and heard.

The warning given to the applicant at (k) above was that any future misdemeanours brought to the attention of the Committee could result in suspension of the licence.

The reason for refusal of the application at (i) above was that the applicant was not considered to be a fit and proper person to hold the licence applied for in view of the nature and extent of previous convictions recorded against him.

366. **OPPOSED APPLICATION**

The Committee considered application for licence by the undernoted in respect of which a police objection had been intimated and dealt with the application as shown:-

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Activity and Period of Licence Applied For</u>
Mr. John Duncan, 49 Meadowfield, Dalgety Bay.	Window Cleaner (new application) 1 year

Motion

Councillor Garry Haldane, seconded by Councillor John Docherty, moved that the

2021.R.L.353

licence be granted with a warning.

Amendment

Councillor David MacDiarmid, seconded by Councillor Gordon Langlands, moved, as an amendment, that the licence be refused.

Vote

Amendment - 2
Motion - 10

Decision

The Committee agreed to grant the licence with a warning.

The applicant had been invited to attend and be represented at the meeting and was present and represented by his Solicitor, Janet Hood, Angus.

The warning given to the above applicant was that any future misdemeanours brought to the attention of the Committee could result in suspension of the licence.

367. **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

The Committee resolved, under Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude the public and press from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Act.

368. **CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE SUSPENSION OF TAXI/PRIVATE HIRE CAR DRIVER'S LICENCE**

The Committee considered exercising its power of suspension under paragraph 11 of Schedule 1 to the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 in respect of the undernoted taxi/private hire car driver's licence and, having heard the representative for Police Scotland (Fife Division) and the licenceholder's representative thereon, dealt with the licence as shown:-

<u>Licenceholder</u>	<u>Type, No. of Licence & Expiry Date</u>
Mr. Sirfraz Mohammad, 67 Braemar Gardens, Glenrothes.	Taxi Driver 8853/0040981 Expiry Date: 10 December, 2022

Motion

Councillor Garry Haldane, seconded by Councillor John Docherty, moved that the licence should not be suspended.

2021.R.L.354

Amendment

Councillor Graham Ritchie, seconded by Councillor Alistair Cameron, moved, as an amendment, that the licence be suspended.

Vote

Amendment - 7
Motion - 4

Decision

The Committee agreed to suspend the licence with immediate effect.

Thereafter the Committee took a decision on the length of suspension.

Motion

Councillor Graham Ritchie, seconded by Councillor David MacDiarmid, moved that the licence be suspended until 10th December 2022. This being the unexpired portion of the duration of the licence.

First Amendment

Councillor Garry Haldane, seconded by Councillor Dominic Nolan, moved, as an amendment, that the licence be suspended until midnight on 19th May 2021.

Second Amendment

Councillor Lea McLelland, seconded by Councillor John Docherty, moved, as a further amendment, that the licence be suspended for a period of 12 weeks.

Vote

First Amendment - 3
Second Amendment - 7
Motion - 2

Decision

The Committee agreed to suspend the licence for a period of 12 weeks.

The licenceholder had been invited to attend and be represented at the meeting and was present and represented by his Solicitor, Sally McKenzie, Kirkcaldy.

The grounds for suspension of the above licence were that (i) the licenceholder was no longer considered to be a fit and proper person to hold the licence; and (ii) the carrying on of the activity to which the licence related was likely to cause a threat to public safety.

2021.R.L.355

The Committee considered applications for licences by the undernoted and, having heard the representative for Police Scotland (Fife Division) and the applicants or their representative thereon, dealt with the applications as shown:-

	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Activity and Period of Licence Applied For</u>
(a)	Mr. Barry Arnot, 32 Thomson Place, Rosyth.	Taxi Driver (renewal) 3 year

Decision

The Committee agreed to grant the licence with a warning.

(b)	Mr. Ethelbert Cowe, The Flat, 6 Woodburn Road, Ceres.	Taxi Driver (renewal) 1 year
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Decision

The Committee agreed to grant the licence.

(c)	Miss Danielle Martin, 56 School Drive, Glenrothes.	Taxi Driver (new application) 1 year
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Decision

The Committee agreed to grant the licence.

(d)	Mr. Robert Sim, 23 Aitken Court, Leven.	Taxi Driver (renewal) 1 year
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Decision

The Committee agreed to grant the licence with a warning.

(e)/

	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Activity and Period of Licence Applied For</u>
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2021.R.L.356

- | | | |
|-----|--|------------------------------------|
| (e) | Miss Shona Stewart,
17 Skye Road,
Dunfermline. | Taxi Driver
(renewal)
1 year |
|-----|--|------------------------------------|

Decision

The Committee noted that the above application had now been withdrawn.

The applicants had been invited to attend and be represented at the meeting and with the exception with the applicant at (e) were all present and heard.

The applicant at (c) was represented by her Solicitor, Sally McKenzie, Kirkcaldy.

The warning given to the applicants at (a) and (d) above was that any future misdemeanours brought to the attention of the Committee could result in suspension of the licence.

(Councillor Garry Haldane left the meeting following consideration of the application at (a) above).

THE FIFE COUNCIL - REGULATION AND LICENSING COMMITTEE - GLENROTHES

22nd June, 2021

9.30 a.m. – 12.45 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Carol Lindsay (Convener), Alistair Cameron, Bill Connor, John Docherty, Zoe Hisbent, Gordon Langlands, David MacDiarmid, Graham Ritchie and Ryan Smart.

ATTENDING: Kimberley Langley, Solicitor, Gillian Love, Lead Officer, Miscellaneous Licensing and Craig Ritchie, Licensing Enforcement Officer all in Finance and Corporate Services; and Sergeant Neil Ewing, Police Scotland (Fife Division).

APOLOGIES: Councillors David Graham, Mick Green, Garry Haldane, Jane Ann Liston and Dominic Nolan.

370. MINUTE

The Committee considered the Minute of Meeting of the Regulation and Licensing Committee of 18th May, 2021.

Decision

The Committee approved the Minute.

CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982

371. CIVIC GOVERNMENT LICENSING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

The Committee considered a report by Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services on the activities of the Civic Government Licensing Enforcement Officer from February to May, 2021.

Decision

The Committee, having heard the Civic Government Licensing Enforcement Officer on the report and following discussion, noted:-

- (1) the extensive and varied amount of work carried out by the Enforcement Officer during the four month period identified; and
- (2) that there would be further updates, on the activities of the Enforcement Officer, brought before the Committee on a regular basis.

372. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A TAXI OPERATOR'S LICENCE

The Committee considered application for the grant of a Taxi Operator's Licence by the undernoted and dealt with the application as shown: -

2021.R.L.358

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Area and Period of Licence Applied for</u>
Mr Seán F. Ó Dúláin-Osborne, 2 The Heathers Wynd, Dunfermline.	West Fife Area - 1 year

Decision

The Committee agreed to refuse the licence.

The applicant had been invited to attend and be represented at the meeting and was present and heard.

The reason for refusal of the above application was that the Committee was satisfied that there was no significant demand for the services of taxis in the West Fife Area that was unmet.

373. **APPLICATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH COMMENTS HAD BEEN MADE**

The Committee considered applications for licences by the undernoted and, having heard the representative for Police Scotland (Fife Division) or the Council's Lead Officer, Miscellaneous Licensing as well as the applicants thereon, dealt with the applications as shown:-

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Activity & Period of Licence Applied For</u>
(a) Mr. Muhammad Arif, 41 Kennedy Crescent, Kirkcaldy.	Taxi Driver (new application) 1 year

Decision

The Committee agreed to continue consideration of the above application to its next meeting to afford the applicant a further opportunity to appear.

(b) Mr. Robert Byers, 36 Laurel Crescent, Kirkcaldy.	Taxi Driver (renewal) 1 year
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Decision

The Committee agreed to refuse the licence.

(c)/

2021.R.L.359

	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Activity & Period of Licence Applied For</u>
(c)	Mr. Stewart Couper, 27 Ewing Street, Cowdenbeath.	Taxi Driver (new application) 1 year

Decision

The Committee agreed to continue consideration of the above application to its next meeting to afford the applicant a further opportunity to appear.

(d)	Mr. Travis Davidson, 21 Colton Court, Dunfermline.	Taxi Driver (new application) 1 year
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Decision

The Committee agreed to refuse the licence.

(e)	Mr. Darren Graham, 76 Woodstock Court, Waverly Drive, Glenrothes.	Taxi Driver (renewal) 3 year
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Motion

Councillor John Docherty, seconded by Councillor Graham Ritchie, moved that the licence be granted and requested that the applicant re-attend the first available taxi drivers' training course at Fife House in Glenrothes.

Amendment

Councillor Ryan Smart, seconded by Gordon Langlands, moved, as an amendment, that the licence be granted.

Vote

Amendment - 3
Motion - 6

Decision

The Committee agreed to grant the licence and requested that the applicant re-attend the first available taxi drivers' training course at Fife House in Glenrothes.

(f)	Mr. Arturas Iesmantas, 26 Clay Acres Court, Dunfermline.	Taxi Driver (new application) 1 year
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2021.R.L.360

Decision

The Committee agreed to continue consideration of the above application to its next meeting to afford the applicant a further opportunity to appear.

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|-----|--|------------------------------------|
| (g) | Mr. Brian Rodger,
15 Kenmore Terrace,
Kirkcaldy. | Taxi Driver
(renewal)
1 year |
|-----|--|------------------------------------|

Decision

The Committee agreed to grant the licence with a warning and requested that the applicant re-attend the first available taxi drivers' training course at Fife House, Glenrothes.

- | | | |
|-----|--|--|
| (h) | Mr. Arshdeep Singh,
16 Rothies Park,
Leslie. | Taxi Driver
(new application)
1 year |
|-----|--|--|

Decision

The Committee agreed to continue consideration of the above application to its next meeting to afford the applicant a further opportunity to appear.

- | | | |
|-----|---|------------------------------------|
| (i) | Mr. Douglas Watterston,
13 Willow Crescent,
Glenrothes. | Taxi Driver
(renewal)
1 year |
|-----|---|------------------------------------|

Decision

The Committee agreed to grant the licence with a warning.

The applicants had been invited to attend and be represented at the meeting and with the exception of the applicants at (a), (b), (c), (d), (f) and (h) above were all present and heard.

Consideration of applications at (b), (d), (f) and (h) above was continued from the meeting held on 18th May, 2021.

The warning given to the applicant at (i) above was that any future misdemeanours brought to the attention of the Committee could result in suspension of the licence.

The reason for refusal of the applications at (b) and (d) above was that the applicants were not considered to be fit and proper persons to hold the licences applied for in view of the nature and extent of previous offences recorded against them.

374. **OPPOSED APPLICATION**

The Committee considered application for licence by the undernoted in respect of which a police objection had been intimated and dealt with the application as shown:-

2021.R.L.361

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Activity and Period of Licence Applied For</u>
CR Gordon Sales Ltd., Tailabout Farm, Cupar	Second Hand Dealer selling cars from Tailabout Farm, Cupar between the hours of 9.00 am – 6.00pm 7 days a week (new application) 3 year

Decision

The Committee agreed to grant the licence.

The applicant had been invited to attend and be represented at the meeting and was present and supported by Tracy Miller. Annaline Barr and Ursula Webster were both present as objectors to the above application.

375. **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

The Committee resolved, under Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude the public and press from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Act.

376. **APPLICATION IN RESPECT OF WHICH POLICE COMMENTS HAD BEEN MADE**

The Committee considered application for licence by the undernoted and, having heard the representative for Police Scotland (Fife Division) and the applicant thereon, dealt with the application as shown:-

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Activity and Period of Licence Applied For</u>
Miss Chanel Stewart, 124 Golfdrum Street, Dunfermline.	Street Trader (new application) Selling hot & cold food & drinks Monday – Friday 7 am – 2 pm Saturday 8 am – 1pm 1 year

Decision

The Committee agreed to grant the licence.

The applicant had been invited to attend and be represented at the meeting and was present and heard.

377. **OPPOSED APPLICATION**

The Committee considered application for licence by the undernoted in respect of which a police objection had been intimated and dealt with the application as shown:-

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Activity and Period of Licence Applied For</u>
Mr. John Kay, 26 Cluny Park, Cardenden.	Taxi Driver (new application) 1 year

Decision

The Committee agreed to continue consideration of the above application to its next meeting to afford the applicant a further opportunity to appear.

The applicant had been invited to attend and be represented at the meeting but was not in attendance.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - POLICY AND CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

24th June, 2021.

10.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors David Alexander (Convener), John Beare, Tim Brett, Altany Craik, Linda Erskine, David Graham, Judy Hamilton, Andy Heer, Linda Holt, Helen Law, Carol Lindsay, Mino Manekshaw, Karen Marjoram, Tony Miklinski, David Ross, David J. Ross (substituting for Dave Dempsey), Fay Sinclair, Jonny Tepp (substituting for Donald Lothian), Ross Vettraino and Craig Walker.

ATTENDING: Steve Grimmond, Chief Executive; Eileen Rowand, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services), Elaine Muir, Head of Finance, Sharon McKenzie, Head of Human Resources, Charlie Anderson, Head of ICT, Business Technology Solutions, Ashleigh Allan, Business Partner, Helena Couperwhite, Manager (Committee Services) and Michelle McDermott, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services, Finance and Corporate Services; Angela Logue, Head of Education and Children's Services (Primary Schools and Improvement Support); Michael Enston, Executive Director (Communities), John Mills, Head of Housing Services, Helen Wilkie, Service Manager (Housing Condition and Supply), Housing Service, Sharon Douglas, Community Investment Team Manager and Zahida Ramzan, Policy Co-ordinator (Equalities), Communities and Neighbourhoods Service; and Gordon Mole, Head of Business and Employability, Economy, Planning and Employability Services.

298. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

299. MINUTES

(i) **Policy and Co-ordination Committee of 13th May, 2021**

Decision

The Committee approved the minute.

(ii) **Common Good and Trusts Investment Sub-Committee of 29th April, 2021**

Decision

The Committee approved the minute.

(iii) The following minutes were submitted for noting:-

- Education and Children's Services Sub-Committee of 11th May, 2021
- Community and Housing Services Sub-Committee of 26th May, 2021
- Environment/

2021 PC 81

- Environment and Protective Services Sub-Committee of 27th May, 2021
- Economy, Tourism, Strategic Planning and Transportation of 10th June, 2021

Decision

The minutes were noted.

300. REVENUE BUDGET - PROVISIONAL OUTTURN 2020-21

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) providing members with a strategic overview of Fife Council's finances and also the provisional outturn position for 2020-21. Members noted that significant costs had been incurred as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic as detailed in reports throughout the year and this report provided a provisional outturn position for these costs, the impact and the financial strategy applied.

Motion

Councillor David Ross, seconded by Councillor David Alexander, moved that the recommendations contained within the report be approved.

Amendment

Councillor Tim Brett, seconded by Councillor Jonny Tepp, moved that the following be added to the recommendations contained within the report:-

"The Policy & Co-ordination Committee is asked to approve the creation of:-

1. a ring-fenced "Fife Futures Funds" made up from the £48M of uncommitted balances.
2. a cross-party working group to develop criteria to help guide best use of the fund.

The working group should:-

1. be guided by the Director of Finance on the longer-term financial position
2. be mindful of the non-recurring nature of the fund and the need for long-term investments that both improve services and reduce future revenue spend
3. report back to the Policy & Coordination Committee by the end of September alongside a report from the Director of Finance".

Roll Call

For the Motion - 14 votes

Councillors David Alexander, John Beare, Altany Craik, Linda Erskine, David Graham, Judy Hamilton, Linda Holt, Helen Law, Carol Lindsay, Karen Marjoram, David Ross, Fay Sinclair, Ross Vettraino and Craig Walker.

For/

For the Amendment - 6 votes

Councillors Tim Brett, Andy Heer, Mino Manekshaw, Tony Miklinski, David J. Ross and Jonny Tepp.

The motion was accordingly carried.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the scale and complexity of the financial impacts during the course of the pandemic and the extent of additional funding provided over the course of the year;
- (2) noted the high level financial position as detailed in the report;
- (3) noted that detailed provisional outturn reports would be submitted to the relevant Sub-Committees when it was practical to do so;
- (4) approved the earmarking of balance for Covid-19 funding for use in future years; and
- (5) approved the suspension of the Budget Carry Forward Scheme for 2020-21 with the exception of items referenced in Appendix 4 to the report.

301. CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN - PROVISIONAL OUTTURN 2020-21

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) providing a strategic financial overview of the Capital Investment Plan and providing an update on the provisional outturn for the 2020-21 financial year.

Decision

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the provisional outturn position, the risks and mitigating actions for the major projects within the Capital Investment Plan;
- (2) the provisional outturn position for the 2020-21 Capital Investment Plan;
- (3) that more detailed capital outturn reports for 2020-21 would be submitted to relevant Sub-Committees of the Council in accordance with agreed financial reporting arrangements; and
- (4) that budget variances would be managed by the appropriate Directorate in conjunction with the Investment Strategy Group.

Councillor Linda Holt left the meeting during discussion of the above item.

302./

302. FIFE COUNCIL REFORM AND RECOVER PROGRAMME - ATTAINMENT AND CLOSING THE GAP REFORM

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Education and Children's Services (Primary Schools and Improvement Support) providing an update on progress in the Attainment and Closing the Gap Reform workstream and providing further details on key activities underway to ensure sustained education recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic through increased universal or targeted support for our children and young people.

Decision

The Committee reviewed and commented on progress and the next steps of the workstream and key activities planned or underway to support education recovery.

303. DRAFT PLAN FOR FIFE - A PLAN FOR RENEWAL

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Communities) reviewing progress on the development of the three yearly update to the Plan for Fife 2017-2027 as the basis for Fife's recovery and renewal from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Decision

The Committee noted and commented on:-

- (1) the draft three year Plan;
- (2) the proposed delivery and monitoring arrangements for the Plan; and
- (3) progress in delivering the short-term actions for reform and recovery agreed by the Committee in March, 2021.

The meeting adjourned at 11.45 a.m. and re-convened at 11.55 a.m.

304. NEW BUILD AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRANSITIONAL PROGRAMME (2022-24)

The Committee considered a joint report by the Head of Housing Services, Head of Finance and Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment providing an in-principle proposal for the development and delivery of a transitional two year development programme to immediately follow on from the current Phase 3 Affordable Housing Programme (AHP) from May, 2022. Detailed, costed proposals to deliver the transitional Programme would be reported to the Community and Housing Services Sub-Committee in October, 2021.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) considered the in-principle proposal for delivering a Transitional Affordable Housing Programme 2022-24 (TAHP);
- (2)/

2021 PC 84

- (2) agreed, in principle, to the proposal to build 1200 new affordable houses during 2022-2024 as outlined in section 3.14 of the report;
- (3) agreed that a financial report be brought back to this Committee by November, 2021 to test the affordability of the current proposition, following the completion of the 2021 HRA Business Plan Review, and the outcome of the current review of housing subsidy by the Scottish Government and COSLA;
- (4) agreed that the current partnership with the Fife Housing Association Alliance was appropriately amended, as outlined in section 4.5 of the report, and implemented by 1st July, 2021 running through to June, 2024;
- (5) agreed that the commitment to developing a multi-tenure approach on the large affordable housing sites and Section 75 contribution sites would be fully evaluated by June, 2024; and
- (6) agreed to support the development of a Town Centre Housing Approach within the 2022-27 Local Housing Strategy building on the current and anticipated pilot projects in Phase 3 and the proposed Transitional Programme.

305. SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT PLACE BASED INVESTMENT PROGRAMME FIFE'S ALLOCATION OF £3.163M

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Business and Employability Services seeking agreement for an approach to disbursing Fife's allocation of £3.163m from the Scottish Government's Place Based Investment Programme, which replaced the Town Centre Capital Fund, and which builds on the £4.335m awarded in financial year 2019/20 and the £1.56m awarded in financial year 2020/21 from that Fund. The new round of funding was more flexible than previous allocations and allowed investment to be used to support projects over wider spread of settlements.

Members noted that the Scottish Government had, again, set rigid timescales and conditions to which Fife Council would be required to adhere, including that monies were to be legally committed and/or spent or projects commenced within financial year 2021-2022 with an expectation that projects would be completed by the end of September, 2022.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the background to the fund, including conditions and timescales involved in delivering projects;
- (2) noted that there was some flexibility to allow movement of funds from one project to another as necessary with the agreement of the Executive Director (Enterprise and Environment) for changes above £100,000 and that below this would be at the discretion of the Head of Business and Employability Services; and
- (3) agreed that the projects listed in Table 1, as outlined in para. 2.3 of the report, were those to receive investment from the Fund.

306. INVESTING IN ECONOMIC RECOVERY: BUSINESS AND EMPLOYABILITY SERVICE CAPITAL AND REVENUE INVESTMENT 2021-2024

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Business and Employability Services advising members of the planned activity for capital and revenue investments agreed through the Fife Council budget meeting of 11th March, 2021 for Inclusive Growth and Growing the Economy. Members noted that these investments were aligned to the Council's Plan4Fife and Leading Economic Recovery Reform Action Plan.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) considered and approved the plans for additional revenue and capital investment for Business and Employability for 2021/22 and future years; and
- (2) noted that reporting on spend would be received on a regular basis by Committee through the revenue and capital monitoring process.

307. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY SCHEME 2021-2025

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service providing an update on the Council's Equality and Diversity Scheme 2017-2021 and set out another set of equality outcomes and actions for 2021-2025.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) approved the equality outcomes and actions contained within the report; and
- (2) approved the Equal Pay Statement detailed within the Appendix to the report.

308. ENSLAVEMENT EDUCATION GROUP - PROPOSED ACTION PLAN

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service advising on the findings of the work of the Enslavement Education Working Group following the motion agreed by Fife Council at its meeting on 10th September, 2020.

Decision

The Committee approved the Enslavement Education Group Action Plan.

309. UK GOVERNMENT FUNDING - COMMUNITY RENEWAL FUND

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Communities) updating members on the Community Renewal Fund, including Fife's application to the fund which had been submitted on 18th June, 2021 to the UK Government's Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee noted the process in inviting and assessing applications to the Community Renewal Fund for projects to be delivered in Fife and approved the Fife application.

310. SUSTAINING SERVICES THROUGH NEW WAYS OF WORKING

The Committee considered a joint report by the Head of Human Resources and Head of ICT providing an update on the delivery plan for Future Workstyles which featured in the Sustaining Services Through New Ways of Working workstream.

Decision

The Committee noted the progress on Future Workstyles and approved the outputs and actions as detailed in the report.

Councillors Tim Brett and Judy Hamilton left the meeting during consideration of the above item.



THE FIFE COUNCIL - POLICY AND CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

5th August, 2021.

10.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors David Ross (Convener), David Alexander, David Barratt, Tim Brett, Altany Craik, Dave Dempsey, Linda Erskine, Derek Glen (substituting for Fay Sinclair), David Graham, Judy Hamilton, Andy Heer, Helen Law, Rosemary Liewald (substituting for Carol Lindsay), Donald Lothian, Alice McGarry (substituting for Karen Marjoram), Tony Miklinski, Ann Verner (substituting for John Beare), Ross Vettraino and Craig Walker.

ATTENDING: Steve Grimmond, Chief Executive; Eileen Rowand, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services), Alison Binnie, Business Partner, Helena Couperwhite, Manager (Committee Services) and Michelle McDermott, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services, Finance and Corporate Services; Shelagh McLean, Head of Education and Children's Services (Early Years and Directorate Support); Alan Paul, Senior Manager (Property Services) and Louise Playford, Service Manager (School Estate), Assets, Transportation and Environment.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors Linda Holt and Mino Manekshaw.

311. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Ann Verner declared an interest at para. 313 - Building Fife's Future: Dunfermline Learning Campus - Outline Business Case - being a Council appointed member on Opportunities Fife Partnership but was satisfied that the interest was so insignificant and remote that it would not prejudice discussion in her role as a Councillor and would therefore remain in the meeting.

312. MINUTES

(i) **Policy and Co-ordination Committee of 24th June, 2021**

Decision

The Committee approved the minute.

(ii) **Appointments Sub-Committee of 27th May and 23rd June, 2021**

Decision

The minutes were noted.

313./

313. BUILDING FIFE'S FUTURE: DUNFERMLINE LEARNING CAMPUS - OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) which presented the Outline Business Case for the proposed investment to replace Woodmill and St. Columba's RC High School buildings as part of the Dunfermline Learning Campus project.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) reviewed and approved the Outline Business Case and noted that all decisions and actions in the report were subject to the approval of any recommendation to relocate both schools outlined in the statutory Consultation Report which was due to be considered by the Education and Children's Services Sub-Committee on 7th September, 2021;
- (2) authorised the instruction of the enabling works and provided delegated authority to officers to continue the detailed design stage and instruct other key work packages (specifically those for which there was the likelihood that delivery would be impacted by the pandemic);
- (3) noted that the land acquisitions would proceed in line with the decision of the Assets and Corporate Services Sub-Committee on 22nd April, 2021;
- (4) approved the actions outlined in section 20.0 - Next Steps - of the report;
- (5) agreed that officers submit a full Business Case to a future meeting of the Committee early in 2022; and
- (6) agreed that the Co-Leaders would write to the Scottish Government:-
 - (i) expressing the Council's concerns in relation to the following risks and financial pressures and requesting clarification on these issues:-
 - the impact of capital accounting review on the affordability of the capital plan and clarification on what happens if there was an overspend in the budget; and
 - the risk of costs not being managed within the overall budget in light of cost inflation, particularly construction inflation costs; and
 - (ii) requesting a commitment from the Scottish Government to meet any increase in costs that may arise.

Councillor Vettraino left the meeting during consideration of the above item.

**THE FIFE COUNCIL - ENVIRONMENT, FINANCE & COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING**

1 June, 2021

10.00 a.m. – 11.25 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Tim Brett (Convener), John Docherty, Linda Erskine, Derek Glen, Andy Heer, Rosemary Liewald, Lea McLelland, Ross Paterson, Fay Sinclair, Ryan Smart, Darren Watt and Jan Wincott.

ATTENDING: Eileen Rowand, Executive Director, Finance & Corporate Services; Charlie Anderson, Head of ICT; Diarmuid Cotter, Head of Customer & Online Services; Les Robertson, Head of Revenue & Commercial Services; and Elizabeth Mair, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors Neil Crooks, Ian Ferguson and Mick Green.

49. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

50. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of meeting of the Environment, Finance & Communities Scrutiny Committee of 13 April 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

51. DIGITAL PROGRESS IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT - FIFE POSITION

The Committee considered a report by the Head of ICT outlining Fife's position in relation to progress and areas of further consideration with reference to the report "Digital Progress in Local Government" published by Audit Scotland in January 2021, highlighting both progress made and challenges encountered in delivering true digital transformation in Scottish Councils.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the progress made in Fife and the areas for further development and improvement; and
- (2) agreed that a further update report be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee in 12 months time.

52./

52. CONTACT CENTRE AND PANDEMIC RESPONSE REVIEW

2021 EFCSC 21

The Committee considered a joint report by the Head of Customer & Online Services and the Head of Revenue & Commercial Services providing an overview of progress with an increase in online services through fife.gov.uk, along with an update on the activity in Customer & Online services in the year 2020/21, including information on involvement in a number of support mechanisms for individuals and businesses during the Covid pandemic.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the information contained in the report;
- (2) expressed appreciation to staff for their efforts and commitment during a very difficult period; and
- (3) agreed that an update report on the Contact Centre and Fife Council website - Fife.gov.uk, be submitted to the Committee in December 2021.

53. ENVIRONMENT, FINANCE & COMMUNITIES FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee noted the Environment, Finance & Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme which would be further updated as appropriate.

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THE FIFE COUNCIL - ENVIRONMENT, FINANCE & COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

31 August 2021

10.00 a.m. – 11.45 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Tim Brett (Convener), Neil Crooks, John Docherty, Linda Erskine, Ian Ferguson, Derek Glen, Mick Green, Andy Heer, Rosemary Liewald, Lea McLelland, Ross Paterson, Fay Sinclair, Ryan Smart, Darren Watt and Jan Wincott.

ATTENDING: Eileen Rowand, Executive Director, Finance & Corporate Services; Nigel Kerr, Head of Protective Services, Lisa McCann, Service Manager, Environmental Health (Food & Workplace Safety), Economy, Planning & Employability Services; Anne-Marie Cardle, HR Service Manager, Human Resources; Sharon Douglas, Community Investment Team Manager, Zahida Ramzan, Policy Co-ordinator (Equalities), Communities and Neighbourhoods; Elizabeth Mair, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

ALSO ATTENDING: Councillor Ross Vettraino (for Paragraph 56) and Kenny Murphy, Chief Executive, Fife Voluntary Action.

54. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

55. MINUTE

The committee considered the minute of the meeting of the Environment, Finance & Communities Scrutiny Committee of 1 June 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

56. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Protective Services providing an overview of the functions, responsibility and current challenges for Environmental Health in Fife.

The meeting adjourned at 11.00 a.m. and reconvened at 11.20 a.m.

Decision

The Committee agreed:-

(1) to note the information in the report, including the impact of the Covid19 Pandemic on the Environmental Health activities and the current resource difficulties;

(2)/

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- (2) to note that the Head of Protective Services, in consultation with the Head of Human Resources and Head of Finance, would undertake a review of the staffing levels within Protective Services required to fulfil the Environmental Health statutory functions, giving cognisance to age profile, recruitment difficulties, salary, student training and succession planning;
- (3) to ask for a report to come back to the next Scrutiny Committee on the managing change exercise and the review of staffing levels; and
- (4) to express concern to the Administration on the current Environmental Health staffing levels, ask them to ensure that this was given a priority within the Council and to request that the Council leaders raise this nationally to support the focus on this area.

57. FIFE COUNCIL'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE THIRD SECTOR

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods providing an update on actions agreed previously to strengthen the relationship between Fife Council and Fife's third sector.

Decision

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

58. COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER - UPDATE

The Committee considered a joint report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods and the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment providing an update on initial feedback received from community organisations on their experience of the community asset transfer process.

Decision

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the contents of the report; and
- (2) that a further report would be submitted to the next meeting of this Committee.

59. ENVIRONMENT, FINANCE & COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee noted the Environment, Finance & Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme which would be further updated as appropriate.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - STANDARDS AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

3rd June, 2021

10.00 a.m. – 11.10 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Dave Dempsey (Convener), Lesley Backhouse, John Beare, Dave Coleman, Gordon Langlands, Mary Lockhart, Derek Noble, Jonny Tepp, Ann Verner and Ross Vettraino.

ATTENDING: Elaine Muir, Head of Finance, Les Robertson, Head of Revenue and Commercial Services, Avril Cunningham, Service Manager, Audit and Risk Management Services, Helena Couperwhite, Manager - Committee Services and Wendy MacGregor, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Patricia Fraser, Senior Audit Manager and Ross Hubert, Auditor, Audit Scotland.

177. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made in terms of Standing Order No. 7.1.

178. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the meeting of the Standards and Audit Committee of 11th February, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

179. STRATEGIC AUDIT PLAN 2021-26 AND OPERATIONAL AUDIT PLAN 2021/22

The Committee considered a report by the Service Manager, Audit and Risk Management Services seeking approval for the revised 2021/26 Strategic Audit Plan and the Operations Audit Plan for the period June 2021 to March 2022.

Decision

The Committee approved:-

- (1) the Operational Audit Plan for 2021/22; and
- (2) the revised 2021/26 Strategic Audit Plan, as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report.

180./

180. UPDATE ON 2020/21 REVISED AUDIT PLAN AND ANALYSIS OF ISSUED AUDIT REPORTS

The Committee considered a report by the Service Manager, Audit and Risk Management Services providing an update on 2020/21 audits in the revised audit plan and an analysis of findings in audit reports issued to date.

The report highlighted areas of concern and instances where appropriate action was implemented by Services, in the opinion of the Audit and Risk Management Services Manager.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the content of the report and the Summary of Audit Reports issued as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (2) noted the progress made on the 2020/21 Revised Audit Plan detailed in Appendix 2 and the Audit Scorecard detailed in Appendix 3 of the report; and
- (3) requested that members receive an up to date list of Procurement savings achieved, in partnership between Fife Council and Scotland Excel (Public Procurement Centre of Expertise), established to deliver procurement related savings and to improve the skills and capabilities of the Council's Procuring Services.

181. POST AUDIT REVIEW REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Service Manager, Audit and Risk Management Services advising members of internal audit reports issued in the period 1st July, 2020 to 31st March, 2021. The report also provided an update on outstanding reports and recommendations, for the period prior to 1st July, 2020.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report and the progress made in relation to implemented recommendations.

182. AUDIT SCOTLAND - ANNUAL AUDIT PLAN FIFE COUNCIL

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Finance which provided details of Audit Scotland's annual audit plan for Fife Council for the financial year 2020/21, setting out the risks highlighted, planned work, audit scope and timing.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the Audit Scotland annual audit plan 2020/21.

183./

183. STANDARDS AND AUDIT COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee noted the contents of the Standards and Audit Forward Work Programme which would be updated as appropriate.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - STANDARDS AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

29th June, 2021

10.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Dave Dempsey (Convener), Lesley Backhouse, John Beare, Gordon Langlands, Derek Noble, Jonny Tepp, Ann Verner and Ross Vettrano.

ATTENDING: Eileen Rowand, Executive Director - Finance and Corporate Services, Elaine Muir, Head of Finance, Laura Robertson, Finance Operations Manager, Avril Cunningham, Service Manager, Audit and Risk Management Services, Anne Bence and Paul Noble, Accountants, Finance; Helena Couperwhite, Manager - Committee Services and Wendy MacGregor, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services, Finance and Corporate Services.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Ross Hubert, Auditor, Audit Scotland.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors Dave Coleman and Mary Lockhart.

184. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were submitted in terms of Standing Order 7.1.

185. ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT 2020/21

The Committee considered the annual audit report by the Service Manager, Audit and Risk Management Services, containing the Annual Assurance Statement 2020/21, overview of the 2020/21 audit performance, compliance with the Public Sector Internal Auditing Standards (PSIAS) and an update on staffing and fraud and incident report.

Decision

The Committee:

- (1) noted the findings of the 2020/21 annual audit report;
- (2) noted that a medium/high level of control existed and that reasonable assurance could be placed on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's systems of corporate governance and internal control in the year to 31st March, 2021; and
- (3) acknowledged that Avril Cunningham, Service Manager, Audit and Risk Management Services would be retiring in August, 2021. The Convener, on behalf of the Committee thanked Avril for her substantial contribution and time spent on the Committee and wished her well in her future retirement.

186./

186. UNAUDITED FIFE COUNCIL ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services which contained the unaudited Annual Accounts for Fife Council and its group for 2020-21.

Decision

The Committee noted:

- (1) the content of the report;
- (2) that the Fife Council Audited Annual Accounts 2020/21 would be submitted to the Standards and Audit Committee on 28th October, 2021 for approval; and
- (3) that the Head of Finance would be available to discuss with members any specific queries which might arise prior to submission of the final accounts.

187. UNAUDITED CHARITABLE ACCOUNTS

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services which contained the Fife Council Charitable Trusts - Unaudited Annual Accounts and Financial Statements 2020-21.

Decision

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the content of the report;
- (2) that the Audited Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements 2020-21 would be submitted to the Standards and Audit Committee on 28th October, 2021; and
- (3) that the Head of Finance would be available to discuss any specific queries which might arise prior to the submission of the final accounts.

188. RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY REVIEW AND STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER REVIEW UPDATE

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services which updated members on progress with the Risk Management Strategy Review and Risk Register Review.

Decision

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the progress to date and the next stage of the Risk Management Strategy review - to establish the Risk Management Strategy Group and remit, to develop and implement the Risk Management Strategy and framework;
- (2)/

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- (2) that a further update on progress with the Risk Management Strategy review and action to be taken, would be reported to a future meeting of the Standards and Audit Committee, and
 - (3) that the revised Strategic Risk Register would be submitted to the Standards and Audit Committee for approval later in the year.
-

THE FIFE COUNCIL - SUPERANNUATION FUND AND PENSIONS COMMITTEE AND FIFE PENSION BOARD – REMOTE MEETING

15th June, 2021

10.00 a.m. - 12.25 p.m.-

PRESENT: Committee - Councillors Dave Dempsey (Convener). David Barratt, Bobby Clelland, Altany Craik, Colin Davidson, Fiona Grant, Mino Manekshaw, Alistair Suttie and Jonny Tepp.

Fife Pension Board – Councillor Ian Ferguson, Robert Graham, Ross Hugh, Colin Paterson, Gordon Pryde, John Wincott and Vicki Wyse.

ATTENDING: Elaine Muir, Head of Finance, Avril Cunningham, Service Manager, Audit and Risk Management, Audit and Risk Management Services, Laura Robertson, Finance Operations Manager, John Mackie, Pension Administration Team Manager and Fiona Clark, Pensions Specialist, Revenue and Commercial Services, Anne Bence, Accountant, Karen Balfour, Senior Banking and Investments Officer, Finance; Helena Couperwhite, Manager - Committee Services and Wendy MacGregor, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Albert Chen, Portfolio Manager and Bruce Miller, Chief Investment Officer, Lothian Pension Fund.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Dave Coleman, Fife Pension Board.

137. MEMBERSHIP OF FIFE PENSION BOARD

The Convener, on behalf of the Committee, welcomed Ross Hugh to the meeting and noted his appointment as Employee Representative member (Unite) on the Fife Pension Board.

The Committee also noted that John Wincott was newly appointed as the Chair of Fife Pension Board and that Vicki Wyse and Gordon Pryde were appointed as Joint Secretaries.

138. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made in terms of Standing Order no. 7.1.

139. MINUTE -

The Committee considered:-

- (a) the minute of the meeting of the Superannuation Fund and Pensions Committee of 9th March, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

(b)/

- (b) the note of meeting of Fife Pension Board of 9th March, 2021.

Decision

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the comments arising from the meeting on 9th March, 2021; and
- (2) the updates provided by the Head of Finance on the areas within the Fife Pension Board comments.

140. ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT 2020/21

The Committee considered an annual audit report by the Service Manager, Audit and Risk Management Services, containing the Annual Assurance Statement 2020/21, a performance overview, and an update on compliance with the Public Sector Internal Auditing Standards (PSIAS).

Following the introduction of the report, the Convener acknowledged that Avril Cunningham, Service Manager, Audit and Risk Management Services was retiring in August, 2021. The Convener, on behalf of the Committee and Fife Pension Board, showed appreciation for the time Avril had spent on the Committee and wished her well in her future retirement.

Decision

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the contents of the report; and
- (2) that a medium/high level of control existed and that reasonable assurance had been placed on the adequacy and effectiveness of the systems of corporate governance and internal control up to 31st March, 2021.

141. PENSION FUND ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2020-21

The Committee considered a report by the Chief Executive, seeking approval of the Pension Fund Annual Governance Statement – this would be included in the Pension Fund Annual Report and the annual accounts. The report also provided some background on the processes adopted for preparing the Pension Fund Annual Governance Statement appended to the report for the Committee's approval.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the contents of the report; and
- (2) approved the draft Pension Fund Governance Statement, included as an appendix to the report.

142./

142. PENSION ADMINISTRATION MONITORING REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services), providing monitoring information on the performance on the Pensions Team, to ensure that regulatory timescales and Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) were met.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the contents of the report;
- (2) noted concerns relating to processing pensions payroll data, following the implementation of the Oracle payroll system from December, 2020;
- (3) agreed that the next report for this Committee's consideration at its meeting on 28th September would provide a detailed update on the progress taken by the Oracle Team and Pensions Team to resolve issues with the Oracle system; and
- (4) agreed to request that the Convener of the Environment, Finance and Communities Scrutiny Committee scrutinise Fife Council's decision to 'go live' with the Oracle Payroll System, resulting in issues with the transfer of pensions data.

143. PENSION FUND TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Finance providing an update on the progress made to date, in implementation of the training policy for members of the Superannuation and Pension Fund Committee and Fife Pension Board.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted that a varied training programme had been provided over the last financial year on a range of topics;
- (2) noted the results of the training needs assessment and that members felt they had some knowledge of the subject matter;
- (3) approved the requirement for all new members of the Committee and Board to complete The Pension Regulator toolkit within 6 months of appointment, including all newly appointed Committee members following the Local Government Elections in May 2022;
- (4) approved the proposed approach to training and the suggested topics identified; and
- (5) noted the requirement to attend training sessions and confirmation of attendance to the Head of Finance.

144. UPDATE ON 2020/21 AUDIT PLAN AND SUMMARY OF AUDIT REPORTS ISSUED

The Committee considered a report by the Audit Services Manager, Audit and Risk Management Services providing an update on the 2020/21 Audit Plan and a summary of each report issued.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

145. POST AUDIT REVIEW

The Committee considered a report by the Audit Team Manager, Audit and Risk Management Services, providing an update on the Internal Audit reports issued since 27th February, 2020 and advising that all actions were completed for reports issued prior to 27th February, 2020.

Decision

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the contents of the report; and
- (2) the progress made in implementing its recommendations.

146. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee noted the Superannuation Fund and Pensions Committee Forward Work Programme, which would be updated accordingly.

147. NOTICE OF MOTION

Motion

Councillor David Barratt, seconded by Councillor Fiona Grant, moved as follows:-

“The Superannuation Fund and Pensions Committee:-

- (1) notes the decision by other pension funds to divest partially or completely from companies whose main purpose is extracting fossil fuels and that these include the likes of the UK’s largest pension fund, the government-backed National Employment Savings Trust (Nest); Aviva; Cardiff Council Pension Fund; Oxford City Council Pensions fund; The Environment Agency Pension Fund; and London Borough of Hackney Pension Fund, and that many others are actively discussing the move;
- (2) notes the Council's fiduciary duty must be paramount in all decision making around pension funds;
- (3)/

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- (3) notes that recent studies, including by Impex Asset Management, show eliminating the fossil fuel sector from a global benchmarking index actually had a small positive return effect and further notes a report from leading think-tank, Ceres, which identifies unreported risks in fossil fuel funds, which suggest the fiduciary duty may be best served by divestment from fossil fuels;
- (4) notes clarification from the Scottish Government that local authorities may decide that fulfilment of their Public Bodies Duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 requires them to reduce the carbon emissions associated with their funds and investments; and
- (5) requests a report to be prepared setting out the impacts for the Fife Pension fund if it was to introduce a policy of partial or complete fossil fuel divestment and the steps that would be necessary to achieve this, said report to be brought back to this committee within three months."

http://baiii.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Beyond-Fossil-Fuels_-The-Investment-Case-for-Fossil-Fuel-Divestment-IMPAX-Asset-Management.pdf

https://www.ceres.org/sites/default/files/reports/2017-03/Ceres_AssetsRiskFossilFuel_InsuranceCo_060616_2.pdf

Decision

The Committee unanimously approved the motion.

The Committee adjourned at 11.30 a.m.

The Committee reconvened at 11.40 a.m.

148. SUPERANNUATION FUND - INVESTMENT UPDATE (PRIVATE REPORT) (EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS)

The Committee resolved, under Section 50(a)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, to exclude the public and press from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of part 1 of Schedule 7a of the Act

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Finance providing an overview of the Fund's investments at 31st March, 2021. A verbal update was also provided on manager monitoring activity and investment strategy.

Decision

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the Fund's strategic asset allocation and current allocations relative to target;
- (2)/

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- (2) the value of the Fund's assets detailed in the report at 31st March, 2021 after returning a rise of 1.7% over the quarter;
- (3) that the Fund had made steady progress towards its target strategic allocation, and;
- (4) that longer term absolute returns were strong and relative returns were above both the asset and liability benchmarks.

Councillor Fiona Grant left the meeting during consideration of the above item.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - SUPERANNUATION FUND AND PENSIONS COMMITTEE AND FIFE PENSION BOARD – REMOTE MEETING

29th June, 2021

2.00 p.m. – 5.10 p.m.

PRESENT: Committee - Councillors Dave Dempsey (Convener), David Barratt, Bobby Clelland, Colin Davidson, Mino Manekshaw, Alistair Suttie and Jonny Tepp.

Fife Pension Board – Councillor Ian Ferguson, Robert Graham, Ross Hugh, Colin Paterson, Gordon Pryde, John Wincott and Vicki Wyse.

ATTENDING: Elaine Muir, Head of Finance, Laura Robertson, Finance Operations Manager, John Mackie, Pension Administration Team Manager, Anne Bence, Accountant, Karen Balfour, Senior Banking and Investments Officer, Finance; Helena Couperwhite, Manager - Committee Services and Wendy MacGregor, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

ALSO ATTENDING: Tim Bridle, Audit Manager; Audit Scotland, Albert Chen, David Hickey and Stewart Piotrowicz, Portfolio Managers and Bruce Miller, Chief Investments Officer, Lothian Pension Fund; Scott Jamieson, Independent Adviser, Tedmoor Consulting and Stan Pearson, Independent Adviser.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Dave Coleman, Fife Pension Board.

149. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Ian Ferguson declared an interest in the business on the agenda, as his wife was a member on the Board of Directors for Citizens Advice and Rights Fife.

150. ANNUAL REPORT ON THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director - Finance and Corporate Services, which provided an annual update of the administration of the Fife Pension Fund.

Decision

The Committee noted the content of the report.

151. FIFE PENSION FUND - ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2020-2021

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director - Finance and Corporate Services which contained the unaudited Annual Report and Accounts and for Fife Pension Fund for the financial year 2020-21.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee:

- (1) noted the content of the report;
- (2) noted that the Audited Fife Pension Fund Annual Report and Accounts 2020-21 would be submitted to the Superannuation Fund and Pensions Committee on 28th October, 2021 for approval; and
- (3) acknowledged the hard work, effort and commitment of Fife Council Finance staff in the preparation, under challenging circumstances, to submit the Fife Council Unaudited Annual Accounts 2020/21 for this Committee's consideration within the required timescales.

Councillor Colin Davidson joined the meeting during consideration of the above item.

152. FIFE PENSION FUND INVESTMENT STRATEGY

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Finance detailing the output and conclusions of the review of investment strategy of the Fife Pension Fund. The report also detailed the recommended strategy following review by the Fund's investment advisers and was similar to the Fund's current asset allocation but with slight amendments compared with the existing strategy. If the funding position continued to improve, it would be possible that Equities could be reduced further, thereby also reducing risk further.

Decision

The Committee approved the amendments to the investment strategy as outlined in paragraphs 2.31 to 2.34 of the report.

The Committee adjourned at 3.35 p.m.

The Committee reconvened at 3.40 p.m.

153. STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Finance which introduced the annual review of the Statement of Investment Principles (SIP) for Fife Pension Fund. The document replaced the SIP agreed by this Committee in November 2019. The report also outlined governance arrangements for the implementation of investment strategy and the assurance provided and considered the format and frequency of reporting to this Committee.

Decision

The Committee agreed to adopt the revised Statement of Investment Principles.

154./

154. FIFE PENSION FUND - STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Finance seeking approval of the proposed Statement of Responsible Investment Principles (SRIP). The report detailed the rationale for the introduction of the document and the proposed SRIP was included in Appendix 1 of the report. The intention was that the SRIP would complement the Statement of Investment Principles which was a statutory document.

Decision

The Committee

- (1) agreed to adopt the Statement of Responsible Investment Principles (SRIP) and the actions and commitments contained in it; and
- (2) agreed that a progress report would be submitted to the Committee by the end of the year 2022.

155. VOTING AND ENGAGEMENT CONTRACT (PRIVATE REPORT)

The Committee resolved, under Section 50(a)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, to exclude the public and press from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Finance updating members on the recent joint procurement process undertaken for the provision of Voting and Engagement Services. Council officers have delegated authority to approve tenders, however, it was considered appropriate that this Committee also approved the contract as it confirmed their commitment to voting and engagement services as well as supporting the Statement of Investment Principles.

Decision

The Committee:

- (1) reaffirmed their commitment to voting and engagement services; and
- (2) approved the awarded contract, as detailed in the private report, for Engagement and Voting Services for Fife Pension Fund for a period of four years with the option to extend until 31st October, 2027.

156. SMALL EMPLOYERS: PROPOSED EXIT STRATEGY – UPDATE (PRIVATE REPORT)

The Committee resolved, under Section 50(a)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, to exclude the public and press from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of part 1 of Schedule 7a of the Act

The/

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The Committee considered a report by the Head of Finance which provided an update on the progress made in respect of the proposed exit strategy offered to Employers who met the agreed criteria.

Decision

The Committee noted the progress made to date.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - GLENROTHES AREA COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

23rd June, 2021

9.30 a.m. – 10.50 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Fiona Grant (Convener), John Beare, Julie Ford, Derek Noble, Ross Vettraino and Jan Wincott.

ATTENDING: Norman Laird, Community Manager (Glenrothes), Communities and Neighbourhoods; Rick Haynes, Lead Consultant - Flooding, Shoreline and Harbours, Assets Transportation & Environment; John Flaherty, Housing Manager – Glenrothes & Tenancy Sustainment; Patricia Spacey, Team Manager - Safer Communities; Lisa Taylor, Lead Officer (Safer Communities Officer), Housing Services; Inspector Kirk Donnelly, Community & Response Policing Lead, Police Scotland, Fife Division; Andy Bennett, Station Manager, Glenrothes & St Andrews Fire Stations, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service; and Diane Barnet, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors Altany Craik and Mick Green.

228. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

229. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of meeting of the Glenrothes Area Committee of 19th May, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute, subject to an amendment to the heading at Para. 224 - 'Proposed 40 mph Speed Limit, U039 from **St Dorstan's** Cemetery to Markinch' - to read '**St Drostan's** Cemetery'.

230. 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 Glenrothes Committee area during the 12-month period 1st April, 2020 to 31st March, 2021.

Decision

The Committee noted the wide range of safer communities' activity undertaken in the Committee area, in line with local priorities and emerging issues.

231./

231. OPERATIONAL BRIEFING ON POLICING ACTIVITIES WITHIN GLENROTHES AREA – APRIL 2020-APRIL 2021

The Committee considered a report by Inspector Kirk Donnelly, Community and Response Policing Lead, providing information on matters impacting on, or involving Police Scotland, which had relevance to community safety in the Glenrothes policing areas.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report relating to the priorities set out in the Police Scotland, Glenrothes Area Plan for 2020-23.

232. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE LOCAL PLAN ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Committee considered a report by Andy Bennett, Station Manager, Glenrothes and St Andrews Fire Stations, providing incident information for the period 1st April, 2020 to 31st March, 2021 - which enabled the Committee to have an overview of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Glenrothes Committee area against its key performance indicators (KPIs).

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report and the progress across a range of KPIs detailed in the report.

233. AREA HOUSING PLAN UPDATE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Housing Services providing an update on progress in delivering service priorities and performance information for the financial year 2020/21 relating to the Glenrothes Area Housing Plan approved in October 2017. A revised Plan would be presented at this Committee once there had been the opportunity to consult on future priorities for the Glenrothes area.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the contents of the report and the work progressed through the Area Housing Plan for the financial year 2020/21; and
- (2) acknowledged that a revised Glenrothes Area Housing Plan would be presented at a subsequent meeting of this Committee following consultation on future priorities for the Glenrothes area.

Councillor Julie Ford joined the meeting prior to consideration of the following item.

234./

234. SEVERE FLOODING IMPACTS AND POTENTIAL MITIGATION

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment providing an update on the progress of intelligence gathering following the severe flooding of August 2020 and providing an update relating to Flood Risk Management activities and progress on mitigation measures.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the update on the August 2020 flooding event in the Glenrothes area;
- (2) agreed to consider a further report to this Committee on the summary findings once the Glenrothes Flood Study had concluded; and
- (3) requested that Officers provide regular updates at Ward meetings, as appropriate, in the interim.

235. GLENROTHES AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22

The Committee considered the Glenrothes Area Committee draft Forward Work Programme 2021/22.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the draft Glenrothes Area Committee Forward Work Programme 2020/21;
- (2) agreed to feed back to the Community Manager (Glenrothes) and the Convener any suggestions for further reports to be included, within the context of the remit of this Committee; and
- (3) noted the Forward Work Programme would be amended to include:-
 - revised Glenrothes Area Housing Plan (Para. 233. (2) above refers); and
 - report on the summary findings of the Glenrothes Flood Study at a future meeting of this Committee (Para. 234. (2) above refers).

THE FIFE COUNCIL - LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

23rd June, 2021

9.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Ken Caldwell (Convener), David Alexander, John O'Brien, Colin Davidson, David Graham, Ryan Smart and Alistair Suttie.

ATTENDING: Ken Gourlay , Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment, John Mitchell, Service Manager, Sustainable Transport and Parking, Michael Drever, Programme Manager Levenmouth Reconnected Blueprint, Eva Martinez, Technician Engineer - Traffic Management (North Fife), Assets Transportation and Environment, Roads and Transportation Services; David Paterson, Community Manager (Levenmouth), Communities and Neighbourhoods; Lisa Taylor, Lead Officer (Safer Communities Officers), Peter Nicol, Housing Manager - Levenmouth, Elaine Campbell, Lead Officer, Kirstie Freeman, Safer Communities Area Co-ordinator, Housing Services and Michelle Hyslop, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

ALSO ATTENDING: Brian Poole, Chief Inspector, Paul Gillespie, Community Inspector, Police Scotland and Chris Smith, Station Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS)

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Graham Ritchie.

258. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

259. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the meeting of the Levenmouth Area Committee of 19th May, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

At this stage, the Convener intimated that he had agreed to vary the sequence of item from that on the agenda to consider the following item next.

260. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE LOCAL PLAN ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Committee considered a report by Chris Smith, Station Commander, Levenmouth Community Fire Station, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, providing information relating to incidents for the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 in the Levenmouth Committee area.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report and the progress across the range of key performance indicators detailed in the report.

Councillor Smart joined the meeting during consideration of the following item.

261. SPEED LIMIT REVIEW A915, LEVEN ROAD, AND PILMUIR ROAD, LUNDIN LINKS

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

- (1) extend the 20mph on Leven Road, Lundin Links, from its current limit westwards, including the service road;
- (2) remove the section of national speed limit between Leven and Lundin Links and replace it with a 40mph limit; and
- (3) extend the 30mph limit on Pilmuir Road.

Decision

The Committee in the interests of road safety:-

- (1) agreed to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce the restrictions detailed in drawing nos. TRO/21/24-PART1 and TRO/21/24-PART2, with all ancillary procedures; and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

262. AREA HOUSING PLAN UPDATE 2021

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Housing Services providing an update on progress in delivering service priorities and performance information for the financial year 2020/21 relating to the Levenmouth Area Housing Plan approved in November 2017. A revised Plan would be presented to this Committee once there had been the opportunity to consult on future priorities for the Levenmouth area.

Decision

The Committee: -

- (1) noted the contents of the report and the work progressed through the Area Housing Plan for the financial year 2020/21; and
- (2) acknowledged that a revised Levenmouth Area Housing Plan would be presented at a subsequent meeting of this Committee following consultation on future priorities for the Levenmouth area.

263./

263. LEVENMOUTH AREA LOCK UP PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Housing Services providing an update on the progress of the programme for improving and modernising the lock up service offered to tenants within the Levenmouth area.

Decision

The Committee: -

- (1) noted the content of the report; and
- (2) acknowledged the proposed and completed work for the lock up programme for 2021/22 and 2022/23 within the Levenmouth area.

The meeting adjourned at 11.04 a.m. and reconvened at 11.10 a.m.

264. REVISION OF LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING PRIORITIES IN LEVENMOUTH– ALIGNMENT TO REFORM AND RECOVERY

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods, providing updated details of the current local community plan (LCP or Plan 4 Levenmouth) in supporting the current Reform and Recovery priorities. The report also provided an overview of the current activities in place to support the existing Local Community Plan in aligning with the Plan 4 Fife strategic document which is currently under review.

Decision

The Committee noted: -

- (1) the framework to be used in driving local community and officer input, to be used in shaping the local planning priorities within the Levenmouth area, and in line with Council objectives around recovery and reform;
- (2) the process would broadly cover the local approach in adapting and adopting the new priorities as part of the Local Community Plan, the Community Learning and Development Plan and the Neighbourhood Plan for Buckhaven South;
- (3) that the place-based focus on building the asset base within the Levenmouth area would fully align with the key priorities contained within the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme approach; and
- (4) progress for the 2020/21 projects alignment with the 2019/2022, local community plan for the Levenmouth area.

265./

265. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH PLAN – ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR CONCERNS MULBERRY CRESCENT.

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods, which sought support for an intervention to prevent issues surrounding anti-social use of motorcycles and quad bikes within a specified area within Levenmouth.

Decision

The Committee: -

- (1) noted the concerns raised locally surrounding anti-social use of motorcycles and quad bikes;
- (2) noted the engineering solution that had been proposed by Grounds Maintenance and the associated costs;
- (3) agreed to a site meeting with elected members for Ward 22, Police Scotland, and Grounds Maintenance representatives;
- (4) noted possible implications of the proposals detailed in the report;
- (5) agreed a mechanism to release funds (if appropriate following the site visit) and subject to the approval of members, to allow works to be carried out in Summer 2021, and
- (6) agreed that a report would be brought back to the Levenmouth Area Committee in August, 2021.

266. 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 Levenmouth Committee area during the 12-month period 1st April, 2020 to 31st March, 2021.

Decision

The Committee noted the activity to date as detailed in the report.

267. OPERATIONAL AND COMMUNITY BRIEFING ON POLICING ACTIVITIES WITHIN LEVENMOUTH

The Committee considered a report by Chief Inspector, Brian Poole, Local Area Commander, Levenmouth, providing information on matters impacting on, or involving Police Scotland, which had relevance to community safety in the Levenmouth policing areas.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee endorsed the action taken to date and noted support for Police Scotland to move forward in addressing priorities.

The meeting adjourned at 1.05 p.m. and reconvened at 1.10 p.m.

268. LEVENMOUTH RECONNECTED PROGRAMME

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment which detailed the key grant award process and documentation proposed for allocating funding from the £10m Levenmouth Reconnected Programme fund, and provided an update on the progress of the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme, Leven Rail Link, and River Leven Programmes.

Decision

The Committee: -

- (1) agreed the key grant application process and documentation as detailed in appendices 1, 2, 7 to 13 of the report, which completed the strategy and guidance for the £10m Levenmouth Reconnected fund; and
- (2) noted that regular reports on the progress and expenditure of the programme would be presented to this Committee.

Councillor Graham left the meeting during consideration of the following item.

269. 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.

270. LEVENMOUTH AREA FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Decision

The Committee noted the content of the Levenmouth Area forward work programme.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

11th August, 2021

9.30 a.m. – 10.10 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Ken Caldwell (Convener), David Alexander, John O'Brien, Colin Davidson, David Graham, Graham Ritchie and Alistair Suttie.

ATTENDING: Vicki Connor, Co-ordinator (Programme and Financial Management), Assets Transportation and Environment, Roads and Transportation Services; David Paterson, Community Manager (Levenmouth), Communities and Neighbourhoods; Ryan McQuade, Property Gazetteer Officer, Economy, Planning and Employability Services and Michelle Hyslop, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Ryan Smart

271. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

272. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the meeting of the Levenmouth Area Committee of 23rd June, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

273. AREA ROAD PROGRAMME 2020-21 - FINAL REPORT

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

Decision

The Committee noted the content of the report and appendices.

274. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN - LEVEN TOWN CENTRE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods seeking approval from members for a contribution of £7,750 from the Local Community Planning Budget, Ward 21, for the cost of the erection and dismantling of the festive decorations for Leven Town Centre.

Decision./

Decision

The Committee agreed to a total contribution of £7,750 towards the overall project costs, which would be split accordingly:

1. £5,450 towards the cost of erecting and dismantling the festive decorations within Leven Town Centre during November/December 2021;
2. £1,800 to carry out 5KN pull tests on wall mounted eyelets and straining points to ensure the safety of the infrastructure, to be signed off by a qualified engineer; and
3. £500 to cover incidental repairs should they be identified from the pull tests.

275. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH PLAN - AREA CAPITAL UPDATE REPORT – GREIG INSTITUTE WINDYGATES

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods advising members of the current status of the additional capital budget allocated to the Levenmouth area, which included the allocation of £10,000 to support the upgrade of the toilets at the Greig Institute, Windygates that was previously pre-approved by members.

Decision

The Committee:

1. reconfirmed agreement to spend £10,000 from the new capital allocation towards the renewal of the toilet facilities at the Greig Institute, Windygates;
2. noted the new area capital allocation to the Levenmouth area; and
3. noted further reports on potential projects would be presented to members for agreement within the current calendar year.

276. STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING CONSULTATION

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Business and Employability which asked members to approve the street name "McKay Court", under Section 97 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982. The report proposed that the name "McKay Court" be adopted as a new street name at the development on the land to the east of Station Road Leven, (planning reference, 20/01761/FULL).

Councillor Caldwell extended his thanks to Mr James Taylor Hamish McKay on behalf of the Committee, for his contribution to the Levenmouth Community throughout the years.

Decision

The Committee agreed that the new street name 'McKay Court' be adopted for the Quale Homes development on the land to the east of Station Road, Leven.

277./

277. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

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

Decision

The Committee noted the content of the report.

278. LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Decision

The Committee noted the content of the Levenmouth Area forward work programme.

2021 CODAC 100

THE FIFE COUNCIL - CITY OF DUNFERMLINE AREA COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

8th June, 2021

9.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Helen Law (Convener), James Calder, Derek Glen, Garry Haldane, Jean Hall-Muir, Jim Leishman, Ross Paterson, David J Ross and Fay Sinclair.

ATTENDING: Lorraine Evans, Tree Protection Officer, Economy, Planning & Employability Services; Phil Clarke, Lead Consultant, Traffic Management (South Fife), Assets, Transportation and Environment Services; Dawn Jamieson, Team Manager (Safer Communities) and Brian Westwater, Lead Officer (Safer Communities), Housing Services; Chief Inspector Yvonne Stenhouse and Community Inspector Jill Moss, Police Scotland; Russell Hammell, Station Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; Andrew Gallacher, Community Manager - City of Dunfermline, Communities and Neighbourhoods; Gordon Wardrope, Education Manager, Iain Yuile, Headteacher, Dunfermline High School, Ruth McFarlane, Headteacher, Queen Anne High School, Mick McGee, Headteacher, St Columbas High School and Sandy McIntosh, Headteacher, Woodmill High School, Education and Children's Services; and Emma Whyte, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Gavin Ellis.

251. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

252. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the City of Dunfermline Area Committee of 27th April, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

253. TREE PRESERVATION ORDER - HARTLEY HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Enterprise and Environment which asked members to consider an objection to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) at Hartley House, Viewfield Terrace, Dunfermline.

Decision

The/

2021 CODAC 101

The Committee considered the terms of the objection to the Tree Preservation Order and agreed to confirm the TPO.

254. TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER - SPEED LIMIT EXTENSION - A907 HALBEATH BYPASS, HALBEATH

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment which asked members to consider a proposal to extend the 30mph speed limit on the A907 Halbeath Bypass, Dunfermline.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) agreed to promote a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to extend the speed limit as detailed in drawing TRO/21/30 (Appendix 1 of the report), with all ancillary procedures; and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

255. SAFER COMMUNITIES ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Housing Services which provided members with an update on the operational activity of the Safer Communities Team within the City of Dunfermline Committee area during the 12 month period 1st April, 2020 to 31st March, 2021.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

256. POLICE SCOTLAND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Local Area Commander, West Fife, Police Scotland which provided members with an update on policing activity in the City of Dunfermline area.

Decision

The Committee endorsed the action taken to date and confirmed their support for Police Scotland in moving forward in addressing priorities.

257. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Station Commander, Dunfermline Community Fire Station, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service which provided members with information relating to incidents for the period 1st April, 2020 to 31st March, 2021 in the City of Dunfermline area.

Station Commander advised members that there had been an error in the report and/

2021 CODAC 102

and that the figure relating to accidental fire casualties had been 5 rather than 11 as stated in the report.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

258. AREA CAPITAL UPDATE REPORT 2021-2022

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service which advised members of the current status of the additional capital investment awarded to the City of Dunfermline area in the 2021-31 budget.

Decision

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

The meeting adjourned at 10.25am and reconvened at 10.30am.

259. SCHOOL ATTAINMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Education and Children's Services which provided members with a summary of 2019-20 School Attainment for young people who left school in 2019-20 across the secondary schools in the City of Dunfermline area.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) agreed to engage directly with schools to find out more about School Attainment and Achievement;
- (2) noted 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) noted the information provided in the secondary schools' reports; and
- (4) agreed 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.

260. CITY OF DUNFERMLINE AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Decision

The Committee noted the forward work programme.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - CITY OF DUNFERMLINE AREA COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

24th August, 2021

9.40 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Jean Hall Muir (Convener), James Calder, Gavin Ellis, Ian Ferguson, Derek Glen, Garry Haldane, Jim Leishman, Ross Paterson, David J Ross and Fay Sinclair.

ATTENDING: Phil Clarke, Lead Consultant, Traffic Management (South Fife), Vicki Connor, Co-ordinator (Programme & Financial Management), Assets, Transportation and Environment Services; Andrew Gallacher, Community Manager - City of Dunfermline, Shirley Melville, Team Manager (Community Development) - Dunfermline, Communities and Neighbourhoods; David Thomson, Customer Experience Lead Officer/ SPSO Liaison Officer, Customer & Online Services; Lynne Johnston, Lead Officer - Area Housing Management, Housing Services; and Emma Whyte, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Helen Law.

261. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

262. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the meeting of City of Dunfermline Area Committee of 8th June, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

263. OBJECTION TO SPEED CUSHIONS - HERITAGE QUARTER, DUNFERMLINE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment which asked members to consider an objection to proposed speed cushions in the Heritage Quarter, Dunfermline.

Decision

The Committee agreed to set aside the objection which would allow officers to proceed with the construction of the traffic calming measures.

264./

264. LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING AREA BUDGET REQUEST - HEALTHY HOMES DUNFERMLINE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking agreement for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Area Budget to support Greener Kirkcaldy with their Healthy Homes Dunfermline Initiative.

Decision

The Committee agreed:-

- (1) a contribution of £22,000 from the Local Community Planning Budget; and
- (2) that the detailed application be circulated to members for further discussion at the next megaward meeting.

265. LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING AREA BUDGET REQUEST - KINGSEAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking agreement for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Area Budget to support Kingseat Community Council deliver initiatives in Kingseat village including floral enhancements, promotion of services for the elderly and young people, additional support for the community garden project in Frew Place, Christmas lights switching on ceremony, park maintenance and support of the Youth Café.

Decision

The Committee agreed:-

- (1) a contribution of £5,679 from the Local Community Planning Budget; and
- (2) that the detailed application be circulated to members.

266. DUNFERMLINE LOCAL AREA COMMUNITY PLAN YEAR END PERFORMANCE 2020/21

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service which presented the 2020 to 2021 Delivery Plan for the Dunfermline Local Community Plan - the Plan 4 Dunfermline which combined the Reform Areas for the Plan for Fife in 2020.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) approved the end of year Delivery Plan for the Local Community Plan for Dunfermline - Plan 4 Dunfermline 2019-20;- and
- (2) considered the Plan for Fife reformed priority areas from 2020 onwards.

267./

267. AREA ROADS PROGRAMME 2020-2021 - FINAL

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment which advised members on the delivery of the 2020-2021 Area Roads Programme (ARP) for the City of Dunfermline area.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

268. COMPLAINTS ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Communities which provided an overview of complaints received relating to the City of Dunfermline area for the period 1st April, 2020 to 31st March, 2021.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

269. AREA HOUSING PLAN AND DECENTRALISED BUDGET - 6 MONTHLY UPDATE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Housing Services which provided an update on progress in delivering service priorities and performance information for the financial year 2020/21.

It was noted that a revised Plan for 2021/23 would be presented to the Committee once there had been the opportunity to consult on future priorities for the City of Dunfermline area.

Decision

The Committee commented on and noted the work progressed through the Area Housing Plan for the financial year 2020/21.

270. NOTICE OF MOTION

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

Councillor James Calder, seconded by Councillor David J Ross, moved that:-

Abbeyview CCTV

"Committee notes that due to the community wardens being relocated away from the local office building as well as other circumstances, the CCTV system in Abbeyview is no longer active.

Committee also notes that there has been some antisocial behaviour in the area, including vandalism, and that this has caused distress to many in the local community.

Committee/

2021 CODAC 106

Committee believes that CCTV can be useful as a deterrent to this kind of unacceptable behaviour as well as helping to detect any crimes.

Committee asks for Safer Communities to bring forward a report to the City of Dunfermline Area Committee which details the issues related to the CCTV, the costs involved in reinstatement or replacement and options for Councillors to decide on how best to proceed for the future."

Amendment

Councillor Garry Haldane, seconded by Councillor Fay Sinclair, moved that:-

"Fife Council and Police Scotland are currently renewing all 102 cameras throughout Fife. This work is due to be completed this financial year, by March 2022.

All issues with cameras in Dunfermline will be picked up and addressed through this programme of work.

Committee asks that there are regular updates brought forward to ward and area committee meetings to ensure that issues in Dunfermline are addressed as part of the wider project."

The mover and seconder of the motion agreed to accept the amendment.

Decision

The Amendment was unanimously agreed.

271. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

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

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

272. CITY OF DUNFERMLINE AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Decision

The Committee noted the City of Dunfermline Area Committee forward work programme.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - KIRKCALDY AREA COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

8th June, 2021

2.00 pm – 4.50 pm

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

ATTENDING: John Mills, Head of Housing Services, Joan Lamie, Housing Manager - Kirkcaldy, Patricia Spacey, Team Manager - Safer Communities, Paul Coleman, Lead Officer (Safer Communities), Sara Gray, Lead Officer (Safer Communities), Housing Services; Julie Dickson, Community Manager (Kirkcaldy Area), Communities and Neighbourhoods and Lesley Robb, Lead Officer - Committee Services, Legal & Democratic Services.

ALSO ATTENDING: Sergeant Kevin Davidson, Police Scotland (Fife Division) and Graham Hogg Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

266. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were submitted in terms of Standing Order 7.1.

267. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the meeting of Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 27th April, 2021.

Decision

The Committee approved the minute.

268. PEOPLE LEADERSHIP - TEST OF CHANGE FOR GREATER COLLABORATION OF LOCAL SERVICES TO FOCUS ON POVERTY

The Committee considered a joint report by the Head of Housing Services, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods and the Head of Education and Children's Services setting out the proposed Test of Change, within the context of the development of the People and Place Leadership Groups in the Kirkcaldy Area.

The proposed Test of Change promoted soft integration of three key local services: Housing Services, Community and Neighbourhood Services and Community-based Social Work Services. The intention of the Test of Change was to offer a one-council service offering to work with people affected by poverty and disadvantage and to improve their overall wellbeing in the post-pandemic period.

Decision/

Decision

2021 KAC 118

The Committee:

- (1) considered and discussed the Test of Change proposal, as outlined in the report;
- (2) agreed that the Test of Change would run from July 2021 to June 2022; and
- (3) agreed that an interim evaluation of the approach would be reported back to Kirkcaldy Area Committee by March 2022.

269. AREA HOUSING PLAN UPDATE REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Housing Services providing an update on progress in delivering service priorities and performance information for financial year 2020-21 on the previously approved Kirkcaldy Area Housing Services Plan 2017-19 (*Previous Minute Reference Para. 38 – Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 30 January 2018 - refers*), where figures were available at an Area level.

A revised Plan for 2021-23 would be presented to Kirkcaldy Area Committee once there had been the opportunity to consult on future priorities for the Kirkcaldy Area.

Decision

The Committee:

- (1) commented on the work progressed through the Area Housing Plan for the financial year 2020-21; and
- (2) noted the expenditure for the Housing Revenue Account Locality Managed Budget for 2020-21, as outlined in Appendix 2 of the report.

270. OPERATIONAL BRIEFING ON POLICING ACTIVITIES WITHIN KIRKCALDY AREA

The Committee considered a report by the Community Inspector, Kirkcaldy and Burntisland Ward Areas, Police Scotland providing information on matters impacting on, or involving Police Scotland, which had relevance to community safety in the Kirkcaldy and Burntisland ward policing area.

The meeting adjourned at 3.35pm and reconvened at 3.45pm.

Decision

The Committee considered and commented on the update provided.

271./

271. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE - KIRKCALDY AREA ANNUAL UPDATE

2021 KAC 119

The Committee considered a report by the Station Commander, Kirkcaldy Community Fire Station, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service providing incident information for the period 1st April, 2020 - 31st March, 2021. The incident information enabled the Committee to scrutinise the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Kirkcaldy Area against its key performance indicators.

Decision

The Committee considered and commented on the progress across a range of key performance indicators detailed in the report.

272. SAFER COMMUNITIES TEAM ANNUAL UPDATE REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Housing Services providing Members with an update on the operational activity of the Safer Communities Team, within the Kirkcaldy Committee Area, during the 12 month period 1st April, 2020 to 31st March, 2021.

Decision

The Committee noted and commented on the activity to date.

273. KIRKCALDY AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Decision

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

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)/

2021 KAC 121

- (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

The/

2021 KAC 123

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.

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

16th June, 2021.

9.30 a.m. – 11.05 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Alice McGarry (Convener), David Barratt, Bobby Clelland, Dave Coleman, Dave Dempsey, Sharon Green-Wilson, Mino Manekshaw, Tony Orton and Andrew Verrecchia.

ATTENDING: Alastair Mutch, Community Manager (South and West Fife), Mandy MacEwan, Team Manager (Community Development) and Mike Payne, Community Education Worker, Communities and Neighbourhoods Service; Dawn Jamieson, Team Manager (Safer Communities), Claire Mackinlay, Housing Manager (South West Fife Area Team) and Brian Westwater, Lead Officer (Safer Communities), Housing Services; Yvonne Stenhouse, Chief Inspector and Tony Rogers, Community Inspector, Police Scotland; Russell Hammell, Station Commander, Dunfermline Community Fire Station, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; and Michelle McDermott, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services, Finance and Corporate Services.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Kate Stewart.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Paul Dale, SEPA and Mr. Stephen Ritchie, Ministry of Defence (DIO) for para. 282 only.

280. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Dave Coleman declared an interest at para. 282 – Radiation Monitoring at Dalgety Bay – as he was a sub-contractor to the main contractor dealing with the radiation works at Dalgety Bay.

281. MINUTES

The Committee considered:-

- (a) Minute of meeting of South and West Fife Area Committee of 21st April, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

- (b) Minute of West Fife Area Common Good Sub-Committee of 27th April, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

282./

282. RADIATION MONITORING AT DALGETY BAY

Stephen Ritchie, Ministry of Defence (DIO) advised that the contractor had now applied and received the licence required from SEPA to progress works. It was noted that SEPA had processed the licence expeditiously and, as from 17th May, 2021, the contractor had been on site to begin the process of decontamination of the beach. Mr. Ritchie advised that the MoD were still collaborating with SEPA to ensure that the project was completed by the timescale of September, 2022.

Dr. Paul Dale, SEPA confirmed that they continued to work with the MoD and that the permit had now been lodged and processed.

Decision

The Committee thanked Mr. Ritchie and Mr. Dale for their updates and were pleased to note that progress on the project was now underway.

283. SAFER COMMUNITIES TEAM UPDATE REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Housing Services updating members on the operational activity of the Safer Communities Team within the South and West Fife Committee area during the twelve month period 1st April, 2020 to 31st March, 2021.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

284. SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN - OPERATIONAL BRIEFING ON POLICING ACTIVITIES WITHIN SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA

The Committee considered a report by the Local Area Commander, West Fife, Police Scotland providing members with an update on policing activity within the South and West Fife Area.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) endorsed the action taken to date and confirmed their support for Police Scotland in moving forward in addressing priorities; and
- (2) thanked colleagues within Police Scotland for all their efforts and support during the past year, particularly in relation to the Covid pandemic.

285. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE - SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Station Commander, Dunfermline Community Fire Station, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service providing members with information relating to incidents for the period 1st April, 2020 to 31st March, 2021 in the South and West Fife Area.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the contents of the report; and
- (2) thanked colleagues within the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for all their efforts and support during the past year, particularly in relation to the Covid pandemic.

286. AREA HOUSING UPDATE

The Committee considered an interim report by the Head of Housing Services providing members with an update on progress in delivering service priorities and performance information for the financial year 2020/21 where figures were available at an area level. Members noted that the production of a new Housing Area Plan had been delayed due to the pandemic and a revised Plan for 2021/23 would be presented to Committee once there had been the opportunity to consult on future priorities for the South and West Fife Area.

Decision

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the contents of the report; and
- (2) the expenditure for the HRA Locality managed budget for 2020/21 as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report.

287. PITCH OPTIONS - ROSYTH FOOTBALL CLUB

Alastair Mutch, Community Manager updated members on the pitch options for Rosyth Football Club. It was noted, however, that no discussions had taken place with Rosyth Football Club or any of the landowners regarding the proposed sites at the present time. Alastair advised that colleagues in Estates had identified sites that could locate a football pitch area or which were currently on a football pitch. Alastair then provided detailed information on the pros and cons for each of the seven sites proposed. A brief summary of the proposed sites was detailed below:-

Site 1 - Whinnyburn Place - privately owned with opportunities for housing development

Site 2 - Camdean Primary School playing fields - part of the site to the north of the school was subject to flooding however there was potential to develop a football pitch and pavilion on the western part of the site which was not affected by flooding

Sites 3, 4 and 5 - Park Road Area of Rosyth - Parkgate have existing football pitches or development pitches presently used by under 11s and 12 teams and part of the site also accommodated the existing rugby pitch and new football ground, however, part of the area was subject to flooding

Site 6 - Fleet Grounds currently occupied by South West Fife Community Sports Partnership - Rosyth FC currently utilise this pitch which has a synthetic turf pitch and is part of the site for the new Inverkeithing High School. Noted that the SFA would require boundary fencing to be put in place as part of their league requirements

Site 7/

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Site 7 - Civil Service Sports Ground - Rosyth FC had indicated a strong interest in this site. Civil Service Sports Clubs UK had engaged a consultant on their behalf following the closure of the Civil Service Club in Rosyth and were undertaking a consultation exercise with interested parties who had indicated a desire to utilise part of the site or whole of the site

Recreation Park - was a possible further option but, due to potential loss of capital receipt, was not a financially viable alternative.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) thanked Alastair for his detailed update; and
- (2) agreed that an update be brought back to Committee once more information was available on the various site options.

288. SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN - WELFARE REFORM AND ANTI POVERTY ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2020-21

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service updating members on achievements and outcomes of the Welfare Reform and Anti-Poverty Action Plan for South and West Fife.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report including the outcomes and achievements of the 2019/20 South and West Fife Welfare Reform and Anti-Poverty projects.

289. SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2021

Decision

The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme 2021 which would be further updated as appropriate.

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

25th August, 2021

9.30 a.m. – 10.10 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Alice McGarry (Convener), David Barratt, Bobby Clelland, Dave Coleman, Dave Dempsey, Sharon Green-Wilson, Mino Manekshaw, Tony Orton, Kate Stewart and Andrew Verrecchia.

ATTENDING: Alastair Mutch, Community Manager (South & West Fife), Communities and Neighbourhoods; David Thomson, Customer Experience Lead Officer / SPSO Liaison Officer, Customer & Online Services; Paul Hocking, Co-ordinator (Asset Management & Programme Development), Roads & Transportation Services; and Elizabeth Mair, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

290. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

291. MINUTES

The Committee considered:-

- (a) Minute of meeting of South and West Fife Area Committee of 16th June, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

- (b) Minute of West Fife Area Common Good Sub-Committee of 16th June, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

292. 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, 2020 to 31st March, 2021.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

293./

293. AREA ROADS PROGRAMME 2020-21 - FINAL REPORT

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

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

294. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

The Committee noted the contents of a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment advising on action taken under delegated powers in relation to property transactions in the South and West Fife Committee Area.

295. SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2021

With reference to the Forward Work Programme 2021, the Convener advised that it had been suggested that the Annual Report on the Care Inspectorate Inspections and Grading Process should not be presented to the Committee as these reports were not submitted to other Area Committees.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the Forward Work Programme 2021 which would be further updated as appropriate; and
- (2) agreed that the annual Care Inspectorate report continue to be submitted to the Committee.

296. NOTICE OF MOTION

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

Councillor Mino Manekshaw, seconded by Councillor Bobby Clelland, moved as follows:-

"With regard to the current national speed limit (60mph) from the C53 junction with the B915 (at Balmule Fisheries), down through Bowershall and then southward, towards Townhill, as far as the ward boundary, Committee recognises the concerns expressed by the Police, the Bowershall community and the Townhill Community Council and acknowledges their request for a reduction to 40 mph in the interests of road safety. Officers are requested to please bring forward a report by the next Area Committee meeting which is scheduled for the 6th of October 2021".

Decision

The motion was unanimously agreed.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - COWDENBEATH AREA COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

16th June, 2021

2.00 p.m. – 4.40 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Linda Erskine (Convener), Alistair Bain, Alex Campbell, Gary Guichan, Rosemary Liewald, Mary Lockhart, Lea McLelland and Darren Watt.

ATTENDING: Gary Daniell, Team Manager (Community Development), Alastair Mutch, Community Manager (South & West Fife), Communities and Neighbourhoods; Neil Watson, Lead Consultant (Roads and Lighting Asset Management), Assets, Transportation, and Environment, Roads and Transportation Services; Jacqueline Price, Quality Improvement Manager for SEIC, Debbie Aitken, Headteacher, Stephen Ross, Rector, Education Services; Russell Gray, Housing Manager - Cowdenbeath, Dawn Jamieson, Team Manager (Safer Communities), Lisa Taylor, Lead Officer (Safer Communities Officers), Housing Services; Brian Westwater, Lead Officer (Safer Communities), Housing Services; Elizabeth Mair, Committee Officer, and Michelle Hyslop, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services

ALSO ATTENDING: Group Commander Iain Brocklebank, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; Community Inspector Gavin Cameron and Chief Inspector Yvonne Stenhouse, Police Scotland

224. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

225. MINUTE OF MEETING OF 28TH APRIL 2021

The Committee considered the minute of the meeting of the Cowdenbeath Area Committee of 28th April, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

At this stage, the Convener agreed to defer items 4 and 5 on the agenda until later in the meeting as the officer presenting the reports was having technical difficulties joining the meeting.

226. SCHOOL ATTAINMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT UPDATE

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Education and Children's Services which provided members with a summary on 2019-20 school attainment for young people who left school in 2019-20 across the secondary schools serving the area.

Details./

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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) agreed to engage directly with local schools to find out more about school attainment and achievement;
- (2) 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;
- (3) noted the information provided on the secondary schools,
- (4) agreed 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, and
- (5) thanked all staff in Education for their work over the past year during the Covid-19 pandemic.

227. 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 Cowdenbeath Committee area during the 12 month period from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted and commented on the activity, to date, as detailed in the report; and
- (2) agreed that a workshop be arranged to allow members to input to the development of a plan to deal with recent anti-social issues arising in Lochgelly.

228. SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – OPERATIONAL BRIEFING ON POLICING ACTIVITIES WITHIN COWDENBEATH.

The Committee considered a report by Chief Inspector, Yvonne Stenhouse, Local Area Commander, West Fife, which provided members with an update on Policing activities in the Cowdenbeath Area.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the policing activities taken forward; and
- (2) agreed to support Police Scotland in addressing their priorities.

229./

229. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE COWDENBEATH AREA ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Committee considered a report by Mike Youngson, Station Commander, Lochgelly Community Fire Station (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service) providing incident information for the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 in the Cowdenbeath area to enable the Committee to scrutinise the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) activity against its key performance indicators (KPIs).

Decision

The Committee noted the progress across a range of the key performance indicators as detailed in the report.

230. PROPOSED ROAD ADOPTIONS - COWDENBEATH

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment which sought approval to promote the adoption of a section of carriageway and some footpaths at Johnston Park, Cowdenbeath.

Decision

The Committee agreed to defer the item to the next meeting of the Cowdenbeath Area Committee on 18th August, 2021 to allow further information to be provided.

Councillor Mary Lockhart left the meeting during consideration of the above item.

231. LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN, WARD AND ANTI-POVERTY BUDGET PROPOSAL

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods detailing proposals for the allocation of the LCP, Ward and Anti-Poverty area budgets.

Decision

The Committee approved the proposals as detailed in the report.

232. APPLICATION TO COWDENBEATH ANTI-POVERTY BUDGET AND LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING BUDGET

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods in respect of an application from the Cowdenbeath Community Learning and Development team for £40,000 to fund the return of the youth work programme during the 2021 summer school break.

Decision

Members approved an award of £40,000 to the Cowdenbeath Community Learning and Development team for the return of the youth work programme, being a contribution of £15,000 each from the Ward 7&8 budgets and £10,000 from the Anti-Poverty Budget.

233./

233. COWDENBEATH AREA FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee noted the draft forward work programme for the Cowdenbeath Area Committee.

234. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Questions were submitted (in terms of Standing Order No 6.1.) by Mr Tom Kinnaird, resident of Benarty, and Mr David Taylor, Secretary, Cardenden Community Council respectively.

Question 1

Remedial works on the Shank Brae, Ballingry previously included a new retaining wall at a cost of £24,000 and above that a new timber fence at a cost of £6000. The retaining wall was constructed of basic concrete block and though it is a good solid construction and does its job, it is not aesthetically pleasing and the stepped pattern is irregular.

As this brae is an entrance to the village and to Fife, first impressions are surely important and I wonder if it might be possible to look at completing the wall with either facing brick or masonry slips to present something a bit more pleasing to the eye? Similarly, the £6000 timber fence is low quality and is showing signs of distortion already. This should be either attended to by the original contractor or replaced with something more substantial; a nice set of railings maybe, to match the Miner's Memorial Garden opposite perhaps?

Finally, the fencing contractor dumped their spoil and a number of large boulders onto the embankment which prevented the Parks and Open Spaces crews from mowing the grass, leading it to overgrow and become a complete mess. It received just one cut in the last year and is now an unruly weed patch. Would it be possible to have this area returned to a neat and tidy garden once more, with a selection of shrubs, like it used to be?

Response

Housing Services previously invested a significant amount of money in renewing the wall and installing fencing at the Shank brae. This was in response to a health & safety issue as the existing wall was in poor condition and was unstable in areas.

We have carried out recent checks on the work and agree that it is a good solid construction. We are aware that the embankment is in need of attention and have carried out a site inspection with our Grounds Maintenance Team. The result being we have agreed to undertake a programme of spraying and strimming to clear the area, including the front of the fence. When this is complete, we are looking to improve the appearance with ground spreading plants and shrubs

Whilst upgrading the fence and the brickwork are not essential works at this time, we are happy to keep this under review as we identify projects for improvements on Housing land over the remainder of the financial year.

Question 2./

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Question 2

Cardenden Community Council have received numerous questions by members of the public regarding the condition of the roads in and around Cardenden.

We, the Committee of Cardenden Community Council would request that the Cowdenbeath Area Committee review the following points on our behalf, and that of the people residing within the Cardenden area, in order to provide us with feedback.

The road from Lochgelly to Cardenden has part of the road resurfaced with a further section from Auchterderran Road to the Graveyard section to be completed within the next budget year. Unfortunately, the remainder of the road is peppered with deep potholes with the exit from the Purvis site now broken down so that you can see both the base and sub-base sections. (Numerous complaints of cars being damaged when it has been impossible to avoid the deep potholes – ball joints being the most common complaint.) We have been unable to ascertain when this road will be fully repaired as there doesn't appear to be any contingency in the Roads Budget for 2021/22 for these works.

Drains and gullies are in bad repair with gullies broken and drains blocked, especially at Dundonald Brae. Some areas were repaired during August 2020. Unfortunately, it appears the repairs have been faulty as they have broken apart again.

Flood water lying in various roads of the village, eg Woodend, outside the old Auchterderran School Janitor's house (drain now leads to a soakaway instead of to the drainage system). Also, water gathering at the bottom of Liza Brae.

Roads within the village are breaking up – similar to the road outside of the Purvis Site entrance, eg Orebank Road near to where it joins with Derran Drive, roads in the Dundonald area, road from the Main Street to Fernlea Residential Home and access to the back of Bowhill Swimming Pool.

The road humps in Carden Avenue are breaking up and leaving sharp edges on both sides of the road.

Numerous patches have been made to the roads but these have broken up and are often now worse than when the repair was made.

Numerous areas of pavements are in a bad way and the repairs to the pavement adjacent to the River Ore have not addressed the camber of the pavement and is uneven resulting in many deep puddles after it rains.

It is not clear how often the roads in and around Cardenden are inspected.

At the moment, it is not possible to identify what budget has been allocated to the roads in and around Cardenden in comparison to similar sized towns/villages in Fife in the Roads Budget for 2021/2022. We would be grateful if these issues can be addressed and if necessary a site visit to the area arranged to see first hand the problems being encountered.

Response./

Response from Sara Wilson, Lead Consultant

We have been awarded additional budget this year and next for patching and resurfacing works across Fife.

Although pothole repairs were issued for the B981 at the end of April, the local inspector also identified the area outside Purvis as a possible patching site. This area will be assessed further and added to a rather long list of competing priorities. The areas you have highlighted within the village will also be assessed and Ian Balfour (Network Condition) will get back to you directly with his findings. The road humps will also be taken into consideration during inspection.

I have forwarded your observations about blocked gullies to my colleague Kane Smith who looks after gully cleaning in the area, and I will arrange inspection of Dundonald Brae specifically paying attention to the ironwork. Any defects causing concern will be picked up and an order issued for repair.

The main roads through Cardenden are inspected on a monthly basis, i.e., the bus routes. The more residential areas are inspected annually. If there are any specific areas of concern at present, please let me know and I will arrange an ad-hoc inspection.

The Cowdenbeath Area Roads Programme may be viewed here: [Cowdenbeath | Fife Council](#).

The locations you have identified with flooding/drainage concerns have been noted and added to our Wet Day Check register. Please note it may be some time before these are inspected as we are still following up on areas identified during the flooding last August. Ross Walker will get back to you with an update.

Response from Neil Watson, Lead Consultant

Regarding your query about budgets and a comparison of spend in towns similar in size to Cardenden.

We don't gather information town by town, so I am unable to provide a comparison. Note that not all roads wear out at the same rate and not all similar sized towns have the same mix of A Class, B Class, C Class and unclassified roads, each will have differing traffic volumes and road construction depths, so comparisons wouldn't be meaningful.

The Area Roads Programme (ARP) is a capital budget which is devolved to the seven area committees. This budget is for resurfacing over the full width and along significant lengths. Anything which doesn't need full width resurfacing tends to be repaired by planned patching. Planned patching budgets are not devolved to area committees and is spent on an as needs basis across Fife.

The overall carriageways ARP budget is split into an allocation for each committee area. The split is based on the results of an annual independent machine-based road condition survey of a sample of roads.

During./

During the period April to October each year, any carriageway or footpath location identified as perhaps requiring to be resurfaced is assessed using set criteria,

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ranked in order of how poor the condition is and an estimated cost for resurfacing is calculated.

Locations for assessment can come from a variety of sources, e.g. machine-based surveys, roads inspector's reports, requests from Elected Members, the public etc. The ranked lists of assessed locations are then discussed with the Elected Members on the committee, usually in November/ December, to agree the schemes to be taken forward in the following financial year up to the limit of their allocated budget. A formal report is taken to each area committee detailing the agreed schemes so we have an approved programme for each area committee by 31st March at the latest. These programmes are then delivered the following financial year through a mix of external contractors and our own in-house construction team.

If your Community Council has suggestions for roads and paths to be assessed then please let us know, ideally with a good description of the location or a plan.

Actions since 20th May 2021

The gullies on Dundonald Brae have been checked and are all running apart from the one adjacent to streetlight column number 10 which is full of concrete. An order has been issued to replace the gully.

Ian Balfour has yet to inspect the Cardenden carriageways and footways.

Drainage/flooding issues cannot be assessed properly until the next significant rainfall.

Decision

The Committee noted the questions submitted by Mr Tom Kinnaird and Mr David Taylor and the respective responses.

Councillor Campbell left the meeting during consideration of the above item.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - COWDENBEATH AREA COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

18th August, 2021

2.00 p.m. – 4.45 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Linda Erskine (Convener), Alistair Bain, Alex Campbell, Gary Guichan, Rosemary Liewald, Mary Lockhart, Lea McLelland and Darren Watt.

ATTENDING: Vicki Connor, Co-ordinator (Programme and Financial Management), Keith Johnston, Technician Engineer - Traffic Management (South Fife), Ian Jones, Lead Consultant, Network Management, Assets Transportation and Environment, Roads and Transportation Services; Gary Daniell, Team Manager (Community Development), Sarah Roxburgh, Community Manager (Cowdenbeath Area), Communities and Neighbourhoods; David Thomson, Customer Experience Lead Officer / SPSO Liaison Officer, Customer and Online Services; Michelle Hyslop, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

ALSO ATTENDING: Tom Ewing, Cowden in the Community, (Central Park Community Trust).

Prior to the commencement of the formal Committee business, Councillor Erskine extended her thanks to Lorraine Mullen and her team for their invaluable work within the Lochgelly area and commended her on receiving a medal from the Lord Lieutenant.

235. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

236. MINUTE OF COWDENBEATH AREA COMMITTEE OF 16TH JUNE, 2021

The Committee considered the minute of the meeting of the Cowdenbeath Area Committee of 16th June, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

237. PRESENTATION - THE CENTRAL PARK COMMUNITY TRUST

The Committee considered a presentation by Mr Tom Ewing (Central Park Community Trust) relating to Cowden in the Community.

Decision

The Committee welcomed and noted the presentation and thanked Mr Ewing for his contribution within the local area.

238./

238. PROPOSED ROAD ADOPTIONS - COWDENBEATH

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment seeking approval to promote the adoption of a section of carriageway and some footpaths at Johnston Park, Cowdenbeath.

Decision

The Committee agreed to the promotion of the adoption under Section 1 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984.

239. AREA ROADS PROGRAMME 2020-21 - FINAL REPORT

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

Decision

The Committee noted and commented on the contents of the report.

240. OBJECTIONS TO SPEED CUSHIONS – B981 CARDENDEN ROAD, CLUNY

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment asking members to consider the objections to the proposed speed cushions on the B981, Cardenden, Cluny.

Decision

The Committee: -

1. refused the recommendation contained in the report, to set aside the objections, allowing officers to proceed with the construction of the proposed traffic calming measures;
2. requested that officers undertake further consultations with ward Councillors to consider other traffic calming options available; and
3. noted that a report detailing further options would be brought back to committee for consideration.

241. COMPLAINTS UPDATE

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director of Communities which provided members with an overview of complaints received for the year from 1 April, 2020 to 31 March, 2021, for the Cowdenbeath area.

Decision

The Committee noted the service response statistics and improvements made in relation to complaints for the Cowdenbeath area as detailed in the report.

242./

242. CHRISTMAS 2020 AND EASTER 2021 HOLIDAY PROVISION – CAFÉ INC TO GO

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods which provided members with a summary of the Cafe Inc To Go provision during the Christmas Holidays 2020 and the Easter Holidays 2021 for the Cowdenbeath area.

Decision

The Committee noted and commented on the contents of the report.

243. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

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

Decision

The Committee noted the content of the report.

244. COWDENBEATH AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Decision

The Committee noted the draft forward work programme for the Cowdenbeath area Committee.

245. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Questions were submitted (in terms of Standing Order No 6.1.) by Mr Tom Kinnaird, resident of Benarty.

Question 1

Following the conclusion of the Glenraig/Lochgelly boundary campaign, and an agreement of where Lochgelly ends and Glenraig begins, I requested that the Glenraig and Lochgelly signposts be relocated to reflect the decision. I was told that this would be done when resources became available. Can we look forward to these signs being moved to their new locations soon?

Response

We note the changes to the Community Council Boundaries between Glenraig and Lochgelly. However, as the settlement boundaries have not changed, we will not be making any changes to the settlement signage.

Question 2./

Question 2

At the inaugural meeting of the Friends of Lochore Meadows (FOLM) back in 2018, the then Cowdenbeath Area Manager Kevin Sayer was asked if the available park funding pot of £750'000 had been allocated to projects in the park, and answered that it had not and that it was available to be spent on whichever projects the new board saw fit and that additional match funding could be sought in order to make the funding go much further. That triggered discussion and it was agreed that public consultations would be required in order to validate suggestions around which projects were favoured by the surrounding local communities.

Only two public consultations were carried out however, the Benarty Matters Facebook Poll, and later, the FOLM carried out a park visitor survey. The results of those are on file for anyone who wishes to see them, but for the sake of brevity, the top 5 suggestions in each were as follows;

Benarty Matters Facebook Poll

1. New inclusive play areas
2. Camping and caravan facilities
3. Fishing piers and a trout hatchery
4. Extend the beach
5. Refurbishment of the Mary Pit Monument

FOLM Visitor Survey

1. Improve the café
2. Improve the playpark
3. Provide more water sports
4. Provide additional toilets outside
5. Bring back fishing, restock and offer child fishing tuition.

These are all good suggestions and as you can see, there are two suggestions in the top 5 of each set of results which are similar, the play area modernisation and the request to restore the trout fishing. Bearing that in mind then, and the fact that the Cowdenbeath Area Committee hold the power of veto over any decisions the FOLM group makes, can the Committee explain why they took the decision not to break up the funding into smaller seeding packets and seek match funding for each project and instead blow the lot in one go by allocating £500'000 to the play park and £250'000 to an external organisation in order to fund an extension to the new Lochore Meadows Golf Clubhouse?

Response

The play experience will incorporate inclusive play equipment to enhance the offer as a destination venue. This will complement the Visitor Centre which already has an extensive café offer and high-quality toilet facilities servicing the customer experience at Lochore Meadows County Park (LMCP). It is noted that LMCP has attracted increased visitor number over the last few years, and this also highlights the importance of having high quality outdoor destination venues.

The./

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The play experience is a key component to this, and the design and development of the facility has to meet this aspiration, incorporating inclusive play equipment for children with specific complex needs. This has to be a priority to ensure the sustainability of the facility and will have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of children and contribute to the local economy by attracting a customer base from a wider geographical area.

Developing such a project is complex and will require significant funds to deliver. £500K has been allocated to the project which will hopefully attract external match funding. NHS Fife and Friends of Lochore Meadows (FoLM) will consider funding applications for the project. The final design of the project will be shared for on-site consultation to allow for community and customer feedback on the scheme before finalising with key stakeholders such as FoLM and the NHS.

Smaller projects

To allocate the funding to many small projects will not have the same impact as an investment in a larger project the latter of which will be more high profile. The capital allocation cannot be used for revenue projects such as restocking the loch for trout fishing, providing water sports & tuition programmes. These are development programmes and should be discussed with the respective departments and partners.

Other projects (£250k)

As far as we are aware, there is no specific project allocated to utilise this funding and it will be for the Cowdenbeath Area to decide on how best to use the funding.

Decision

The Committee noted the questions submitted by Mr Tom Kinnaird and the respective responses.