

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

7th October, 2020.

9.30 a.m. – 12.35 p.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 and West Fife), Mandy MacEwan, Team Manager (Community Development) and Lisa Hemphill, Local Development Officer, Communities and Neighbourhoods Service; Phil Clarke, Lead Consultant, Traffic Management (South Fife) and Neil Watson, Lead Consultant (Roads and Lighting Asset Management), Assets, Transportation and Environment; Gordon Mole, Head of Business and Employability, Economy, Planning and Employability Services; Helen Wilkie, Service Manager (Housing Condition and Supply), Jim Mitchell, Lead Officer (Affordable Housing and Regeneration) and Deborah Stevens, Lead Officer (Area Regeneration), Housing Services; Eleanor Hodgson, Accountant and Michelle McDermott, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services, Finance and Corporate Services.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor Judy Hamilton (for para. 231 only) and Ms. Nina Patton, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (for para. 228 only).

**226. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**227. MINUTES**

The Committee considered:-

- (a) Minute of meeting of South and West Fife Area Committee of 12th August, 2020.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

- (b) Minute of meeting of West Fife Area Common Good Sub-Committee of 4th August, 2020.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

**228./**

## 228. RADIATION MONITORING AT DALGETY BAY

Nina Patton from SEPA advised that, in August, they had received confirmation from the Ministry of Defence (MoD) that their contractor would not be on site in 2020 and that remediation works would commence in 2021 but it was noted that the MoD had confirmed that they had submitted information to Fife Council to extend the current planning permission and that these had been approved. Nina advised that the MoD had also confirmed that their contractor had applied to erect a concrete batching plant in Inverkeithing in advance of the remediation works. SEPA still had not received an application for an Environmental Authorisation's permit from the MoD for remediation works and were waiting to receive the necessary paperwork. It was noted that SEPA would continue to liaise with the MoD and their contractors to ensure appropriate permits were in place for the remediation works which was likely to be in 2021.

Nina also confirmed that signage and restrictions were still in place at Dalgety Bay and that monthly monitoring had been reduced during the covid lockdown but that the full monitoring programme had resumed in August. It was noted that, unfortunately, a representative from the MoD had not been in attendance to provide a further detailed update.

### **Decision**

The Committee agreed that the Convener write to the Ministry of Defence to express their disappointment at the lack of progress and that no representative had attended this morning's meeting to provide an update on the Radiation Monitoring situation at Dalgety Bay and requested that a representative from the MoD be in attendance when radiation monitoring was due to be heard at the next scheduled meeting.

## 229. NORTH QUEENSFERRY AND FORTH BRIDGES AREA

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service providing a response to the motion that was agreed by the South and West Fife Area Committee on 12th August, 2020.

### **Decision**

The Committee agreed that:-

- (1) future ongoing reporting on the key areas be undertaken through Ward 6 meetings;
- (2) that a report be presented to this Committee in late 2021 summarising progress;
- (3) that the Local Action Plan should include genuinely SMART objectives; and
- (4) the Chief Executive be requested to assign a specific officer to co-ordinate the delivery of the Local Action Plan and to provide that officer with the authority to enable its delivery within a reasonable timescale.

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*Councillors Bobby Clelland and Kate Stewart joined the meeting during consideration of the above item.*

### **230. RESPONSE TO MOTION TO REDUCE SPEED LIMIT OF MAIN STREET, LOW VALLEYFIELD TO 30MPH**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment requesting members to consider the Service's response to the motion which had been agreed by South and West Fife Area Committee on 12th August, 2020.

#### **Decision**

The Committee agreed to promote a 30mph speed limit at Low Valleyfield.

### **231. COUNCIL HOUSING - PROVISION OF WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE HOUSING**

Councillor Judy Hamilton, Convener of Community and Housing Services Committee provided a brief outline of how the housing regeneration at Spencerfield, Inverkeithing had been identified including details of the affordable housing element.

Helen Wilkie, Service Manager, Housing Services advised that Fife Council had been tasked to deliver 30% of properties as specific needs and 5% of that 30% would be for wheelchair properties. Helen advised that two properties at the Spencerfield development site had been identified as suitable for wheelchair use.

David Weir, Service Manager, Property Services answered members' questions in relation to the properties that Taylor Wimpey were building advising that, though Taylor Wimpey were not using Council designs for these properties, the designs they used were good value and were fit for purpose. David pointed out that the properties at Spencerfield had been categorised as "specific needs" rather than fully meeting the Council's full standards due to the size of the kitchens not being compliant.

#### **Decision**

The Committee thanked Councillor Hamilton, Helen Wilkie and David Weir for their detailed updates which had been helpful in understanding the Council's position on wheelchair accessible housing.

*The Committee adjourned at 10.57 a.m. and reconvened at 11.10 a.m.*

### **232. SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA - FLOODING INCIDENTS AUGUST 2020**

The Committee considered a briefing paper prepared by the Senior Manager, Roads and Transportation Services updating members on the extreme rainfall and subsequent flooding events throughout the South and West Fife Area on 11th/12th and 25th August, 2020.

#### **Decision/**

**Decision**

The Committee:-

- (1) agreed that a report be submitted to the Environment and Protective Services Sub-Committee which would include a full register of flood events across Fife detailing the location and key processes involved;
- (2) asked that the Council be proactive in following each flooding event by inviting external bodies (Police, Fire, SEPA) and local representatives to detail all flooding events; and
- (3) noted that there was no specific reference within the Appendix to the flooding that had taken place within the Rosyth area in August.

*Councillors Kate Stewart and Andrew Verrecchia left the meeting during consideration of the above item.*

**233. AREA ROADS PROGRAMME 2019/20 - FINAL REPORT**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment advising members of the delivery of the 2019-20 Area Roads Programme (ARP).

**Decision**

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

*Councillor Andrew Verrechia re-joined the meeting during discussion of the above item.*

**234. COMMON GOOD FUNDS ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) advising members of the current status of the Common Good Funds in the area and relevant fund activities over the financial year 2019-20.

**Decision**

The Committee noted the information contained in the relevant Appendices for the various Common Good funds.

**235. AREA CAPITAL UPDATE REPORT 2020-2021**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) advising members of the current status of the additional capital investment awarded to the South and West Fife Area in the 2017-20 budget.

**Decision**

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

**236. SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN - SOUTH EAST INVERKEITHING REGENERATION - PROGRESS REPORT**

The Committee considered a joint report by the Head of Housing Services and Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service advising members of progress with the regeneration of South East Inverkeithing.

**Decision**

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

**237. SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN - LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING BUDGET UPDATE**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service providing members with detailed information in relation to the allocation of funding from the local community planning budget, as agreed at the 4th March, 2020 Area Committee, to support the Forward West Fife Scottish Power Legacy Fund, Inverkeithing Neighbourhood Plan and Dalgety Bay Community Development Trust projects.

**Decision**

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

**238. SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN - LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN OUTTURN REPORT 2019-2020**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service updating members on the achievements and outcomes that had been delivered via various projects and initiatives developed with support from the local community planning budget in South and West Fife.

**Decision**

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

**239. SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2020**

**Decision**

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

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