

THE FIFE COUNCIL - NORTH EAST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

9 December, 2020

9.30 a.m. – 12.30 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, Bill Porteous, Jonny Tepp, Brian Thomson and Ann Verner.

ATTENDING: Janice Laird, Community Manager (North East Fife), Sheena Watson, Team Manager (Community Development), Communities and Neighbourhoods; Colin Stirling, Lead Consultant, Traffic Management (North Fife), Neil Watson, Lead Consultant (Roads & Lighting Asset Management), Roads & Transportation Services; Eleanor Hodgson, Accountant, Finance; Gordon Binnie, Housing Manager, Area Housing Management, Deborah Stevens, Lead Officer (Area regeneration), Housing Services; Elizabeth Mair, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

287. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Brian Thomson declared an interest in Para. 291 - Appointment to Partner Organisation - St Andrews BID Management Board, as a Director of BID St Andrews.

Councillor Jane Ann Liston declared an interest in Para. 291 - Appointment to Partner Organisation - St Andrews BID Management Board, as she had just resigned as a Director of BID St Andrews.

Councillors Tony Miklinski and Karen Marjoram declared an interest in Para. 294 - Non-Settlement Trusts Annual Update and Review of Trust Funds, as they had been consulted in the process of reviewing the Funds, but were satisfied that the interest was so insignificant and remote that it would not prejudice discussion or decision making in their role as Councillors and they would therefore remain in the meeting.

Councillor Holt joined the meeting following consideration of the above item.

288. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of meeting of the North East Fife Area Committee of 28 October 2020.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

289. PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS - ST LEONARDS ROAD, ST ANDREWS

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation & Environment in respect of proposals to introduce “No Waiting at Any Time” restrictions on St Leonards Road, St Andrews.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) agreed, in the interests of accessibility and road safety, to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce the restrictions detailed in drawing no. TRO/20/34 with all ancillary procedures; and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

290. PROPOSED FOOTWAY ADOPTION - PITTENWEEM

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation & Environment advising of an objection to a proposed Traffic Regulation Order to adopt a section of footway at Abbey Wall Road, Pittenweem.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) agreed to set aside the unresolved objection to allow the implementation of a Traffic Regulation Order to adopt a section of footway at Abbey Wall Road, Pittenweem, as shown on the plan attached to the report; and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order with all ancillary procedures within a reasonable period.

Having earlier declared an interest, Councillors Thomson and Verner left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item.

291. APPOINTMENT TO PARTNER ORGANISATION - ST ANDREWS BID MANAGEMENT BOARD

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services in respect of a change of membership on the St Andrews BID Management Board.

Decision

The Committee unanimously agreed that Councillor Dominic Nolan be appointed in place of Councillor Jane Ann Liston as the Council's representative on the St Andrews BID Management Board.

Councillors Thomson and Verner rejoined the meeting following consideration of the above item.

292. APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM ST MONANS COMMON GOOD FUND

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods in respect of an application received from the Jim Matthew Camera Collection Trust for grant funding from St. Monans Common Good Fund.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee approved a contribution of £12,500 from St Monans Common Good Fund to the Jim Matthew Camera Collection Trust, to secure a unique collection of cameras and the St. Monans building in which it was housed.

293. COMMON GOOD ANNUAL UPDATE

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Finance & Corporate Services, advising 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 in the North East Fife Area.

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

294. NON-SETTLEMENT TRUSTS ANNUAL UPDATE AND REVIEW OF TRUST FUNDS

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods providing a position statement on the expenditure relating to the Non-Settlement Trusts covering North East Fife and a Fife-wide statement on funds as at April 2020. The report also provided feedback on the outcome of decisions taken by Committee on 29 January 2020 following a review of Non-Settlement Trust Funds.

Decision

The Committee agreed to:-

- (1) note the expenditure statement for the financial year 2019/20 contained in Appendix 1;
- (2) note the funds available at the year end;
- (3) note the projects supported by the disbursement of these funds as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report;
- (4) note the action taken to implement the Committee's decisions of 29 January 2020 as detailed in Appendix 3 to the report;
- (5) approve the proposals detailed in paragraph 3.2.2 to allocate funding to repair potholes on the middle road of Duffus Park, install a raised walkway at the entrance to the play park, erect signage to toilet facilities, allocate £90k for disabled play equipment and accessibility, provide set up costs for the Lucky Ewe project;
- (6) approve the proposals detailed in paragraph 3.2.4 to transfer funding from the Provost Scott Memorial Fund to SRUC Elmwood College, to be used for a student award;
- (7) approve the proposals detailed in paragraph 3.2.7 to create a new sheltered seating area in Mugdrum Park;
- (8)/

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- (8) approve the proposals detailed in paragraph 3.2.8 to provide 50% of the total funding from the Thomson Bequest and the Laing Library to Age Concern in Newburgh and 50% to the Laing Library, deferring a decision on the use of the Laing Library funding until Fife Cultural Trust completed its review of Culture and Heritage;
- (9) approve the proposals detailed in paragraph 3.2.1 to retain the Crail Public Library Trust pending the outcome of negotiations being undertaken by Crail Community Partnership; and
- (10) note that action to add a WW1 soldier's name to the St Andrews War Memorial would be concluded in the near future, following which the St Andrews War Memorial Trust Fund would be closed, as detailed in paragraph 3.2.5 of the report.

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

295. SETTLEMENT TRUSTS ANNUAL UPDATE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods providing a position statement on the expenditure relating to the Settlement Trusts in the North East Fife area along with a Fife wide statement of funds held in both capital and revenue accounts as at April 2020.

Decision

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the expenditure statement for the financial year 2019/20 as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (2) the funds available at the year-end relating to amounts held as interest, in Revenue accounts and as Capital;
- (3) the detail of the projects supported by the disbursement of these funds found in section 2 of the report; and
- (4) the acceptable uses for this funding detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.

296. NORTH EAST FIFE 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 Area Housing Plan for the financial year 2020/21 where figures were available at an Area level and advising that a revised Plan for 2021/23 would be presented at a future meeting once consultation had been carried out on future priorities for the North East Fife Area.

Decision

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the work progressed through the Area Housing Plan for the financial year 2020/21; and
- (2) the Expenditure for the HRA Locality Managed Budget for 2020/21 outlined in Appendix 2 to the report.

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

The meeting adjourned at 11.22 a.m. and reconvened at 11.30 a.m.

297. NORTH EAST FIFE CLD PLAN & ANTI-POVERTY UPDATE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods providing a 6-month update on the North East Fife Anti-Poverty Action Plan (2020/21) and a 12-month progress report on the work of the Community Development Team (October 2019 to October 2020), giving a joined-up picture of the work being delivered by the Council and the voluntary sector to address rural poverty and needs in North East Fife.

Decision

The Committee noted the work being undertaken by the NEF Community Development Team and its partners to benefit individuals and local communities in North East Fife and to address rural poverty.

298. NOTICE OF MOTION

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

Councillor Jonny Tepp, seconded by Councillor Tim Brett, moved as follows:-

“The North East Fife Area Committee requests Roads & Transportation to consider whether resources can be made available for the following actions:

- to engage with colleagues in Perth & Kinross in order to understand the costs, benefits and opportunities that a Green Route scheme could provide in North East Fife
- to identify potential Green Routes in North East Fife;
- and to outline costs and potential sources of funding.

Officers are asked to report back their findings to the Committee within 6 months.”

Decision

The Committee agreed the motion unanimously.

299. NOTICE OF MOTION

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

Councillor Brian Thomson, seconded by Councillor Ann Verner, moved as follows:-

“Committee notes the significant concern within the Strathkinness community about the safety of the B939/C4 crossroads at Strathkinness. Committee also notes the concern expressed by both Strathkinness Community Council and Kemback, Pitscottie and Blebo Community Council, and their requests for improvements to the crossroads to be considered.

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Committee requests Roads and Transportation Services to carry out an option appraisal of potential improvements to the crossroads, including cost estimates, with the options including – but not limited to – the following measures:

- improved signage;
- improved sightlines;
- a reduction in the speed limit to 40mph; and
- a roundabout.

Committee further requests that the option appraisal is reported to Committee no later than 21st April 2021, for full consideration.”

Decision

The Committee agreed the motion unanimously.

300. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

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

Decision

The Committee noted the report.

301. NORTH EAST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee noted the current forward work programme for the North East Fife Area Committee.
