

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

Civic Centre, Inverkeithing

11 December 2024

9.30 am - 11.00 am

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

ATTENDING: Lesley Craig, Lead Consultant, Roads and Transportation Service; Shelagh McLean, Head of Education (Early Years and Directorate Support) and Lyn Meeks, Quality Improvement Officer, Education Service; Claire Mackinlay, Housing Team Manager, Housing Service; Eleanor Hodgson, Accountant and Michelle McDermott, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services, Finance and Corporate Services.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Nina Patton, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) for para. 185 only; Councillor Jan Wincott, Environment and Climate Change Spokesperson and Mr. Simon Young, Service Manager, Cireco for para. 186 only.

Councillor David Barratt, Convener, on behalf of the committee, welcomed Councillor Karen Beaton to her first meeting of the South and West Fife Area Committee following her appointment at the recent by-election held in November.

183. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

As a matter of transparency and with reference to para. 186 - Dalgety Bay Recycling Centre Booking System - Verbal Update - Councillor Browne declared he was a council appointee on Cireco (Scotland) LLP / Fife Resource Solutions LLP. However, as this was not considered a connection under the Councillors' Code of Conduct for the purposes of this item, he remained and participated in the meeting.

As a matter of transparency and with reference to para. 189 - Supporting the Local Community Plan - Local Community Planning Budget Request - Whinny/Brankholm Burn River Restoration Project - Councillor Goodall declared he was a council appointee to the Fife Coast and Countryside Trust. However, as this was not considered a connection under the Councillors' Code of Conduct for the purposes of this report, he remained and participated in the meeting.

184. MINUTE

The committee considered the minute of the South and West Fife Area Committee meeting of 30 October 2024.

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In terms of Standing Order No. 27.4(1), Councillor Browne, seconded by Councillor Barratt, moved that the minute be amended at para. 182(5) to reflect that it was agreed that the Area Committee, and not Councillor Browne, would liaise with the Head of Education in relation to presenting a report on the Care Inspectorate inspections of education facilities.

The procedural motion was unanimously agreed and the minute was approved.

185. RADIATION MONITORING AT DALGETY BAY

Ms. Patton, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) advised that the monthly monitoring and removal of detected contamination was still being undertaken. This provided data for the verification of the effectiveness of the remediation for future years. It was noted that signage would also remain in place until the end of the two year verification period. It was noted that the DIO's contractors were currently undertaking the monitoring and would continue with that until SEPA deemed the verification process to be completed.

Once the verification process had been completed, SEPA would take over the monitoring and determine the frequency of scrutiny once the verification results were available.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) thanked Ms. Patton for her update; and
- (2) noted the written update provided by Mr. Richard Harker, Ministry of Defence (DIO).

186. DALGETY BAY RECYCLING CENTRE BOOKING SYSTEM - VERBAL UPDATE

Councillor Jan Wincott, Environment and Climate Change Spokesperson, provided an update on the booking system at Dalgety Bay Recycling Centre advising that a Working Group had been set up with its first meeting being held in September. Simon Young of Cireco had reviewed the various proposals that had been put forward at that meeting and subsequently the Working Group agreed to submit Councillor Barratt's proposed solution for the removal of the booking system to the FRS' Board meeting which had taken place on 10 December 2024.

The outcome from the Board meeting was that a paper would be presented to their next meeting outlining potential options for removing the booking system in a manner that was both safe for staff and members of the public.

187. A994 CAIRNEYHILL - 30MPH SPEED LIMIT AND NEW DEVELOPMENT 20MPH ZONE

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services detailing proposals to lower the current national speed limit to 30mph on the A994 to Cairneyhill and implement a new 20mph speed limit zone on Flaxfield Crescent and Handweavers Court.

Decision

The committee, in the interests of traffic management and road safety:-

- (1) agreed to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce the 30mph and 20mph speed limits as detailed in Drawing No. TRO24_56 with all ancillary procedures; and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

188. NAMING OF THE RELOCATED INVERKEITHING HIGH SCHOOL

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Education) seeking permission to consult with stakeholders regarding the naming of the replacement Inverkeithing High School.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) agreed that local stakeholders be consulted for suggestions for the name of the replacement Inverkeithing High School;
- (2) following the initial stakeholder consultation, agreed to review and select three names to be shortlisted for a final stakeholder vote. Results of the initial engagement would be presented to this committee on 5 February 2025; and
- (3) noted that the outcome of the stakeholder vote would be advised verbally at this committee on 30 April 2025.

189. SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN - LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING BUDGET REQUEST - WHINNY/BRANKHOLM BURN RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking agreement for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget for Whinny/Brankholm Burn River Restoration Project.

Decision

The committee agreed an award of £16,250 from the Local Community Planning Budget 2024/25, equally divided between the Ward 5 and Area allocation as a contribution towards the initial feasibility study.

190. SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA HOUSING PLAN 2024-25 AND LOCAL LETTINGS PLAN 2024-27

The committee considered a report by the Head of Housing Services seeking approval of a revised Area Housing Plan for South and West Fife which set out area performance, service delivery and highlights key housing issues.

Decision

The committee agreed:-

- (1) to approve the revised South and West Fife Area Housing Plan 2024-25 and the South and West Fife Local Lettings Plan 2024-2027;
- (2) that future versions of the Housing Plan should provide more detail on future outcomes, targets and actions; and
- (3) that prior engagement, via a workshop, be undertaken with members prior to future Housing Plans being submitted to committee for approval.

191. COMMON GOOD AND SETTLEMENT TRUST FUNDS ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) advising members of the current status of the Common Good and Settlement Trust Funds in the South and West Fife Area and relevant fund activities over the financial year 2023-2024.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) noted the information contained within the relevant appendices for the various Common Good Funds and Trust Funds;
- (2) agreed to continue to support the disbursement of Trust Funds, including the Waugh and Wharrie Bequest, to suitable projects which included the amalgamation of individual trusts and, where appropriate, the dissolution of individual trusts including transferring the funds to suitable third party organisations who were providing similar support to local priorities; and
- (3) agreed that a report be brought back to this committee within six months' time on the review being undertaken of the Settlement Trusts.

192. APPOINTMENT TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

The committee considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services seeking nominations to the Comrie Colliery Environment Trust and Liaison Committee; Dunfermline and West Fife Local Tourist Association; and Longannet Power Station and Valleyfield Ash Lagoons Liaison Committee.

Decision

The committee agreed to appoint Councillor Karen Beaton to the Comrie Colliery Environmental Trust and Liaison Committee and the Longannet Power Station and Valleyfield Ash Lagoons Liaison Committee.

Dunfermline and West Fife Local Tourist Association

Councillor Barratt, seconded by Councillor Jackson, proposed that Councillor Brian Goodall be appointed to the Dunfermline and West Fife Local Tourist Association.

Councillor Browne, seconded by Councillor Verrecchia, proposed that Councillor Karen Beaton be appointed to the Dunfermline and West Fife Local Tourist Association.

Roll Call

For Councillor Goodall - 5 votes

Councillors David Barratt, Brian Goodall, Andy Jackson, Sarah Neal and Sam Steele.

For Councillor Beaton - 4 votes

Councillors Karen Beaton, Patrick Browne, Andrew Verrecchia and Conner Young.

Abstention - 1 vote

Councillor Dave Dempsey

Decision

The committee agreed to appoint Councillor Goodall to the Dunfermline and West Fife Local Tourist Association.

193. SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2025

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) supporting the committee's consideration of the Forward Work Programme for future meetings of the committee.

Decision

The committee reviewed and noted the South and West Fife Area Forward Work Programme 2025.