

**THE FIFE COUNCIL - NORTH EAST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE – BLENDED MEETING**

**JP Court Room, County Buildings, Cupar**

**23 April 2025**

**9.30 am – 1.10 pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Jonny Tepp (Convener), Al Clark, Fiona Corps, Alycia Hayes, Stefan Hoggan, Gary Holt, Margaret Kennedy, Louise Kennedy-Dalby, Allan Knox, Robin Lawson, Jane Ann Liston, Donald Lothian, David MacDiarmid and Ann Verner.

**ATTENDING:** Kirstie Freeman, Community Manager - North East Fife, Vicky Wilson, Area Community Development Team Manager, Laiza Lorimer, Policy Officer, Communities and Neighbourhoods Service; Alan Paul, Head of Property Services; Alasdair Rankin, Lead Professional – Property Investment and Development, Business and Employability Service; Mark Barrett, Lead Officer Transportation Development Management, Janet Mackenzie, Environmental Strategy Officer (Climate Change and Zero Waste), Planning Services; Steven Sellars, Lead Consultant, Roads and Transportation Services; Joan Gallo, Lead Officer, Children and Families and Criminal Justice Services; Rona Weir, Education Manager, Lynn Black, Rector, Bellbaxter High School, Education Services; Claire Hallett, Housing Manager, Housing Services; and Emma Whyte, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Councillors John Caffrey and Sean Dillon.

**207. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Hayes declared an interest in paragraph 211 – Gillingshill Nature Reserve Local Management Group – as she was the Secretary to Friends of Gillingshill.

**208. MINUTE**

The committee considered the minute of the North East Fife Area Committee of 26 February 2025.

**Decision**

The committee approved the minute.

**209. NORTH EAST FIFE – ANTI-POVERTY REPORT 2024/25; APPROVAL OF FUNDING 2025/26**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service, providing an update on the activity undertaken to meet outcomes of the North East Fife Rural Poverty Action Plan 2023-2026, and to seek committee approval of the budget proposals for 2025-2026.

The work detailed in the report was in alignment with the key priorities for the area in the 2023-2026 North East Fife Local Community Plan.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) noted the progress relating to anti-poverty work in North East Fife during financial year 2024/25; and
- (2) approved the projected anti-poverty spend for financial year 2025/26, as detailed in the report's appendix - North East Fife Area anti-poverty report.

**210. RE-ALLOCATION OF COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUNDING 2025-26 – DUTCH VILLAGE, CRAIGTOUN PARK PROJECT**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service providing an update on the allocated CRF funding that had been agreed for various local projects in February 2023 and seeking approval to reallocate an underspend of £87,828 for continuation of temporary staffing and to provide contingency funds of £25,000 to the Dutch Village, Craigtoun Park project.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) noted the update on the allocated CRF to date; and
- (2) agreed to reallocate an underspend of £87,828 toward the continuation of temporary staffing and £25,000 to provide contingency funds to the Dutch Village, Craigtoun Park project.'

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

**211. GILLINGSHILL NATURE RESERVE - LOCAL MANAGEMENT GROUP**

The committee considered a report by the Lead Professional, Property Investment and Development, Business and Employability Service seeking approval to enter into a management agreement and to establish a Local Management Group (LMG) to manage Gillingshill Nature Reserve (as shown in Appendix 1), subject to the conclusion of its proposed sale on the open market.

To ensure the retention of its designation as a nature reserve, the Council required to retain an interest in its management and it was proposed that an LMG would be established. The Council would be represented on the LMG by the Fife Coast and Countryside Trust (FCCT).

**Decision**

The committee agreed to continue consideration of the report to allow officers to provide further information to members in relation to the detail of the draft legal agreement and marketing information.

*Councillor Hayes rejoined the meeting following consideration of the above item.*

*The meeting adjourned at 10.20 am and reconvened at 10.25 am.*

**212. OBJECTIONS TO ROADS CONSTRUCTION CONSENT FOR CARRON LODGE (PHASE 1), STRATHKINNESS LOW ROAD, ST ANDREWS – 24/02804/RCC**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Planning Services relating to objections to the Roads Construction Consent application for the proposed road serving a housing development at Carron Lodge (Phase 1), Strathkinness Low Road, St Andrews.

This application required to be considered by committee as there were more than five objections.

**Decision**

The committee agreed to set aside the objections and allow the Roads Construction Consent to be granted subject to the standard conditions.

**213. CUPAR ROAD, CUPAR MUIR SPEED LIMIT ORDER AMENDMENT**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services relating to an amendment to the 20mph and 40mph speed limit orders for Cupar Road, Cupar Muir.

**Decision**

The committee, in the interests of road safety:-

- (1) agreed to the speed limit order amendment as shown in drawing TRO23\_63a (Appendix 1 of the report) with all ancillary procedures; and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order amendment within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

**214. PROPOSED WAITING PROHIBITION: MOATHILL ROAD AND BALGARVIE CRESCENT, CUPAR**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services relating to proposals to introduce 'No Waiting At Any Time' restrictions at Moathill Road and Balgarvie Crescent, Cupar.

**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 restrictions detailed in drawing no. TRO25\_11 (Appendix 1 of the report) with all ancillary procedures; and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the TRO within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

**215. OBJECTION TO CUPAR SPEED LIMIT AMENDMENTS**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services relating to an objection to the proposed 20mph and 40mph speed limit orders for Cupar.

**Decision**

The committee agreed to set aside the objection to the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to allow the speed limit orders to be made and implemented.

**216. OBJECTION TO PROPOSED RAISED TABLE CROSSING AT BONNYGATE, CUPAR**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services relating to an objection to the proposed raised table crossing at Bonnygate, Cupar.

**Motion**

Councillor Tepp, seconded by Councillor Lawson, moved to agree the recommendations in the report to uphold the objection.

**Amendment**

Councillor Hoggan, seconded by Councillor Kennedy-Dalby, moved to reject the objection and that the proposal for a raised table be implemented.

**Roll Call**

**For the Motion** – 6 votes

Councillors Al Clark, Gary Holt, Allan Knox, Robin Lawson, Donald Lothian and Jonny Tepp.

**For the Amendment** – 7 votes

Councillors Fiona Corps, Stefan Hoggan, Margaret Kennedy, Louise Kennedy-Dalby, Jane Ann Liston, David MacDiarmid and Ann Verner.

**Abstained** – 1 vote

Councillor Alycia Hayes.

**Decision**

The committee agreed to reject the objection and requested the proposal for a raised table be implemented.

**217. JUSTICE SOCIAL WORK SERVICE - COMMUNITY PAYBACK: UNPAID WORK SCHEME**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Service, Children and Families and Criminal Justice Services providing an update on developments within Fife Council Justice Social Work Service relating to the work of the Community Payback Unpaid Work Team in the Area Committee's wards, from April 2023 to March 2024.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) noted the contents of the report; and
- (2) agreed that further reports of the Unpaid Work Scheme by the Justice Social Work Service would be brought to this committee on an annual basis.

*The meeting adjourned at 11.25 am and reconvened at 11.40 am.*

**218. REPORT ON EDUCATION OUTCOMES - 2023/24**

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Education providing details of the attainment outcomes achieved by pupils within the area's schools during the school year 2023/24. The report also provided an overview of the range of strategies being developed to support the Service's key priority to raise attainment.

**Decision**

The committee noted:-

- (1) the overall progress in raising levels of attainment in 2023/24;
- (2) the strategies being implemented to raise attainment; and
- (3) acknowledged that arrangements had been made for an elected member workshop on 4 June 2025.

**219. CUPAR RECYCLING AND REUSE HUB**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Environment and Building Services providing an update on progress to establish a Recycling and Reuse Hub in Cupar.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) noted the challenges and opportunities presented by a new recycling and reuse hub in Cupar; and

- (2) agreed that a working group comprising officers and local ward members and the Convener of the North East Fife Area Committee be established to investigate the recommendations and options detailed in the report.

**220. AREA HOUSING PLAN UPDATE 2024/25**

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 2024-25 where figures were available at an Area level, since the approval of the North East Fife Area Housing Services Plan 2024-2025 at its meeting on 23 October 2024.

**Decision**

The committee noted:-

- (1) the work progressed through the Area Housing Plan for the financial year 2024-2025; and
- (2) the Expenditure for the HRA Locality Managed Budget for 2024-2025 outlined in Appendix 2 of the report.

*Councillor Kennedy-Dalby left the meeting during consideration of the above item.*

**221. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Property Services advising on action taken using the List of Officer Powers in relation to property transactions.

**Decision**

The committee noted the contents of the report.

**222. NORTH EAST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PLAN**

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services relating to the workplan for future meetings of the committee.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) noted the draft workplan for North East Fife Area Committee; and
- (2) agreed to request a report on the overall parking budget and devolved parking budget for North East Fife.