

## 2023 LAC 12

### THE FIFE COUNCIL - LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMITTEE – BLENDED MEETING

Committee Room 2, 5th Floor, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes.

8<sup>th</sup> February, 2023

9.30 a.m. – 12.20 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillors Colin Davidson (Convener), Tom Adams, Ken Caldwell, David Alexander, Eugene Clarke, David Graham, John O'Brien and Alistair Suttie.

**ATTENDING:** David Paterson, Community Manager (Area), Communities and Neighbourhoods; Neil Watson, Lead Consultant, Roads and Lighting Asset Management, Lesley Craig, Lead Consultant, Traffic Management; Peter Corbett, Lead Officer - Economy, Economy Tourism & Town Centres; Jill Simpson, Headteacher, Kennoway Primary School, Tracey McDougall, Headteacher, Balcurvie Primary School; Zoe Thomson, Quality Improvement Officer, Education Administration Management Team; Education Services and Michelle Hyslop, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Robert Gibson, Fifers from the Community and Colin Rafferty, Police Constable, Police Scotland.

Prior to the start of business, the Convener intimated the intention to vary the sequence of items from that on the agenda to take items 8 (para 36) and item 13 (para 37) consecutively, as he would be declaring an interest in both items.

#### 30. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Alexander and Clarke declared an interest in Para. 35 – Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan – Community Recovery Fund (CRF) Proposals Levenmouth, as both Councillors were members of the Committee relating to the temple toilets upgrade, however, having applied the objective test, both members concluded that it was so insignificant that they remained and participated in the meeting.

Councillor Davidson declared an interest in Para. 36 – Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan – Fifers for the Community Resource Request – Community Recovery Fund, as he had been a founding member in setting up Fifers for the Community.

Councillors Davidson and Caldwell declared an interest in Para. 37 – Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan – Warm Spaces Additional Funding Allocation from Anti-Poverty Funding. Councillor Davidson as he had a share of an allotment site based at Kennoway Shed and Councillor Caldwell as he had been a member of the Rotary Club of Buckhaven and Methil.

#### 31. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the meeting of the Levenmouth Area Committee of 9th November, 2022.

**Decision/**

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

**32. AREA ROADS PROGRAMME REPORT 2023-2024**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation which identified the projects proposed for inclusion in the 2023-24 Area Roads Programme for the Levenmouth Area.

**Decision**

The Committee: -

- (1) approved the proposals identified in Appendices 1-3, of the report;
- (2) delegated authority to the Head of Roads and Transportation to manage the lists of Category 1 and 2 projects in line with the available resources/funding as the programme developed, and in consultation with the Area Convener and Vice-Convener; and
- (3) noted Appendices 4 and 5 of the report.

**33. PUPIL EQUITY FUND**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director of Education and Children's Services, outlining the progress of the Pupil Equity Fund and updating members on the work of schools in the Levenmouth Area to address the challenge of Closing the Poverty Related Attainment Gap. The report also presented an overview of the rationale, implementation, and impact, to date, of the Pupil Equity Fund within schools across the Levenmouth Committee Area.

**Decision**

The Committee: -

- (1) welcomed and noted the presentation;
- (2) noted that the Pupil Equity Fund had positively impacted on educational outcomes for children and young people in the Levenmouth Area;
- (3) noted the work of schools in developing approaches to reduce the cost of the school day; and
- (4) agreed that members would directly link with individual schools for further information as required.

**34./**

**34. LOCAL AREA ECONOMIC PROFILES (DECEMBER 2022)**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Business and Employability providing members with an annual overview of the local economic profile for each of the seven local committee areas using the latest available data.

**Decision**

The Committee: -

- (1) noted the issues raised following the analysis of the latest available data; and
- (2) recognised the ongoing economic impact and uncertainty.

**35. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND (CRF) PROPOSALS LEVENMOUTH.**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods providing members with an update on the current proposals being put forward as part of the Community Recovery Fund (CRF) for the Levenmouth Area in 2022. The report sought agreement from members to commence work on several projects as part of the allocation for the 2022/23 financial year.

**Decision**

The Committee: -

- (1) noted the current proposals outlined in the report;
- (2) agreed that Officers would continue to develop the proposals that were ready to commence into fully fledged projects, as part of the Community Recovery Fund proposals; and
- (3) noted the key projects that were ready to commence, including the Promenade Design Project, Tourism Project Manager position, temporary increase in policing resource, CORRA resource support, and FTTC resource support.

**36. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – FIFERS FOR THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE REQUEST - COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND.**

*Having earlier declared an interest, Councillor Davidson left the meeting prior to consideration of this and the following item. The Depute Convener thereafter took the chair.*

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods seeking agreement from members to contribute £21,700 from the Community Recovery Fund to support Fifers for the Community (FFTC) in continuing to employ two officer positions within the Levenmouth Area, to be funded over the 2023/24 financial year.

**Decision/**

**Decision**

The Committee: -

- (1) agreed unanimously that Officers would be required to provide more detailed information on the background of the Fifers for the Community (FFTC) funding request, and requested that an updated report be submitted for the Committee's consideration at its meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2023; and
- (2) noted that Fifers for the Community would continue to seek other sources of funding which could reduce the amount requested.

**37. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – WARM SPACES ADDITIONAL FUNDING ALLOCATION FROM ANTI-POVERTY FUNDING.**

*Having earlier declared an interest, Councillor Caldwell left the meeting prior to consideration of this item.*

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods seeking agreement to contribute £10,326.75 from the anti-poverty fund towards the full cost of the provision of the warm spaces initiative in the Levenmouth Area.

**Decision**

The Committee: -

- (1) agreed to contribute £10,326.75 towards the full cost of the warm spaces initiative in the Levenmouth Area;
- (2) noted that the request for additional funding was to cover the shortfall identified during the application process, and was also to fund the warm spaces initiative that was administered by Fife Voluntary Action (FVA) on behalf of Fife Council; and
- (3) noted the funding criteria as detailed in the report.

*Councillors Caldwell and Davidson re-joined the meeting at this stage.*

**38. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – PROMENADE LEVEN – DESIGN FUNDING COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND.**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods seeking agreement from the Area Committee to contribute up to £50,000 from the Community Recovery Fund, to be used towards the full cost of bringing forward a design specification for the Promenade, Leven.

**Decision/**

**Decision**

The Committee: -

- (1) agreed to contribute up to £50,000 towards the estimated cost of commissioning a detailed design for the promenade area in Levenmouth Area,
- (2) acknowledged that the design works would help to improve the amenities and access to the area, which was also part of the active travel route for the new railway station in Levenmouth Area;
- (3) noted the designs would be informed by input from the local residents and was part of the planned consultation process; and
- (4) noted that the design works would be used to support a significant application to Sustrans Place for Everyone framework, as a bid to secure the funding in taking forward the finalised design to construction.

**39. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – SHORT TERM POLICING RESOURCE, COVID RECOVERY**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods seeking agreement from the Area Committee to contribute £11,232.99 from the Community Recovery Fund, to be used towards the cost of providing short-term policing resource in the Levenmouth Area.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to contribute £11,232.99 from the Community Recovery Fund to be used towards the cost of providing short term policing resource in the Levenmouth Area.

**40. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY - CORRA ADDITIONAL RESOURCE**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods seeking agreement to contribute £19,000 from the Community Recovery Fund, to support the continuation of the Corra Foundation Officer activity in the Levenmouth Area for the financial year 2023/24. The report acknowledged that further support would be requested in the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years to partially fund Corra activity in the area, and future funding requests would be sought from the Anti-Poverty funding component of the Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB).

**Decision**

The Committee: -

- (1) agreed to contribute £19,000 from the Community Recovery Fund to support the continuation of the CORRA Officer activity in Levenmouth Area for the 2023/24 financial year; and
- (2)/

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- (2) noted that officers would bring back reports in the next two financial years to secure equivalent funding for the proposal and that the funds for 2024/25 and 2025/26 would be taken from the anti-poverty funding component of the Local Community Planning Budget.

### **41. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – PROJECT MANAGER POST (TOURISM) COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND.**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods seeking agreement to contribute up to £75,000 from the Community Recovery Fund, to be used towards the cost of funding a Project Manager position to work within the Levenmouth Local Tourist Association (LLTA).

#### **Decision**

The Committee: -

- (1) agreed to contribute up to £75,000 from the Community Recovery Fund towards the cost of employing a project manager to support the development of the tourism related work, and in preparation for the completion of the Levenmouth rail link; and
- (2) noted this figure was based on an expected salary and ongoing costs of around £40,000 (including management fees) for the project manager post, and £35,000 would be made available for ongoing developmental work.

### **42. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – RAILING WORK, EAST WEMYSS CEMETERY**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods seeking agreement to contribute £15,935.31 from the Ward 22 allocation of the Local Community Planning Budget, to be used towards the cost of painting all the metalwork and gates at East Wemyss Cemetery.

#### **Decision**

The Committee agreed to contribute £15,935.31 towards the cost of painting all the metalwork and gates at East Wemyss cemetery.

### **43. COMMON GOOD POLICY STATEMENT**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods presenting the draft Common Good Policy Statement which formed the basis of a public consultation exercise.

#### **Decision**

The Committee noted :-

- (1) the draft Common Good Policy Statement; and
- (2) the community consultation process.

**44./**

**44. 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 contents of the report.

**45. LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

**Decision**

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