

2023 NEFAC 21

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

JP Court Room, County Buildings, Cupar

26 April, 2023

9.30 a.m. – 13.50 p.m.

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

ATTENDING: Donald Grant, Community Manager (North East Fife), Vicky Wilson, Area Community Development Team Manager, Communities & Neighbourhoods Service; Joan Gallo, Lead Officer, Children and Families and Criminal Justice Service; Morag Millar, Strategic Growth & City Region Deals Programme Manager, Business & Employability Services; Chris Smith, Lead Officer (Development Management), Planning Service; Dr. Helen Hellewell, Associate Medical Director (Fife Health & Social Care Partnership), Jacquie Stringer, Locality Planning Co-ordinator, Health & Social Care; John Mitchell, Head of Roads & Transportation, Susan Keenlyside, Service Manager (Sustainable Transport & Parking), Allan Maclean, Lead Consultant (Sustainable Traffic & Travel), Lesley Craig, Lead Consultant (Traffic Management), Roads & Transportation Services; Rona Weir, Education Manager, Stuart Booker, Improvement Officer (Strategic Planning & Performance), Education and Children's Services; and Elizabeth Mair, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Dallas Seawright, Conservation Manager, Fife Coast & Countryside Trust (for para. 58 only).

58. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

59. DEPUTATION ON RIVER EDEN SOURCE-TO-SEA SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERSHIP (RESSSP) BY CONSERVATION MANAGER, FIFE COAST AND COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

The Convener agreed, in terms of Standing Order No. 6.2, that Mr. Dallas Seawright, Conservation Manager, Fife Coast & Countryside Trust, would address the meeting to update members on the Eden Source-to-Sea Sustainability Project.

Mr Seawright advised of progress in removing giant hogweed and other non-native invasive species which infested the river and outlined proposals for future funding to continue work to improve the water quality and the ecology of the area.

Members thereafter asked several questions which were answered by Mr. Seawright.

Decision

The Convener thanked Mr. Seawright for his detailed and informative presentation.

60. NOTICE OF MOTION - RIVER EDEN SOURCE-TO-SEA SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERSHIP

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

Councillor Jonny Tepp, seconded by Councillor Jane Ann Liston, moved that:-

"The River Eden slowly flows across the Howe of Fife through the village of Strathmiglo to the market town of Cupar and then to Guardbridge where it enters the North Sea via the Eden Estuary, a nature reserve and an important conservation area for wading birds. The Eden Estuary is a Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and along with the Firth of Tay was designated a Ramsar site on 28 July 2000. The River currently is poor or moderate for river quality - with no designations on the river currently until the Eden Estuary.

The North East Fife Area Committee notes the coming together of the Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, Eden Angling Association, St Andrews University and Sustainable Cupar and their intention to create a formal partnership to be known as the River Eden Source-to-Sea Sustainability Partnership ("the RESSSP") to develop a joined up source-to-sea management plan covering the whole catchment area to improve water quality, improve habitats and develop community understanding of the River Eden.

The Committee welcomes plans for the formation of the partnership; agrees to express support for the work of the partnership and promote the work of the partnership where it aligns with the objectives of the North East Fife Local Area Plan; and instructs the Chair of the Committee to write to the Partnership to demonstrate its support in the terms of this motion".

Decision

The motion was unanimously agreed.

61. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of meeting of the North East Fife Area Committee of 15th February, 2023.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

62. JUSTICE SOCIAL WORK SERVICE – COMMUNITY PAYBACK: UNPAID WORK SCHEME

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Service (Education and Children's Services) updating members on developments within Fife Council Justice Social Work Service in relation to the work of the Community Payback Unpaid Work Team in the North East Fife Area Committee Wards during April 2021 to March 2022.

Decision

The Committee:-

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

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

63. APPOINTMENT TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATION - GIBSON HOUSE, ST ANDREWS

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services advising of a change of membership on The Gibson House St. Andrews SCIO and Gibson Training & Care Limited (formerly known as The Gibson Trust/Mortification).

Decision

The Committee agreed to appoint Councillor Al Clark as the Council's representative on The Gibson House St. Andrews SCIO and Gibson Training & Care Limited in place of Councillor Robin Lawson.

64. TAY CITIES DEAL ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Business and Employability Services presenting the second Annual Report on progress by the Tay Cities Region Deal 2021/22.

Decision

The Committee noted the progress on activity in North East Fife in connection with the Tay Cities Deal.

65. STOPPING UP OF FOOTWAY AREA USING SECTION 207 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Planning Services requesting approval for the stopping up of a paved access area adjacent to a public footway accessing an outdoor amenity/open space/play area to the west of Shoolbraids, St. Andrews.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) approved the proposed stopping up of the paved access area to allow for Planning Permission 22/02995/FULL to be realised on site; and
- (2) using section 207 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended, delegated its confirmation to officers if no objections were received and otherwise submission to the Scottish Government for confirmation.

66. HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE LOCALITY PLANNING – NORTH EAST FIFE

The Committee considered a report by the Associate Medical Director (Senior Leadership Team Lead for North East Fife H&SC Locality Planning Group) providing members with an overview of the Health and Social Care (H&SC) Locality Planning for North East Fife.

Decision

The Committee agreed that six monthly reports would be submitted to the Committee by the Health and Social Care Partnership with updates on locality planning and joint areas of interest between H&SCP and community planning partners.

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67. SOUTH STREET, ST ANDREWS - STREET LAYOUT

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services updating members on the temporary street layout in Murray Place and South Street, St. Andrews and the recent public consultation carried out on the future of the South Street spaces as part of a "place-based" approach.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the results of the recent public consultation exercise;
- (2) approved the retention of temporary footway extensions on South Street, St Andrews;
- (3) agreed that officers would progress preliminary design work for the footway extensions on South Street, St Andrews and submit a further report to the committee once these designs had been developed; and
- (4) agreed that a permanent footway extension would be built in Murray Place, St Andrews to replace the temporary feature.

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 11.45 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

68. A912 & B936 FALKLAND – PROPOSED SPEED LIMITS

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services detailing proposals to introduce a 20mph speed limit on the A912 Pleasance / Main Street and B936 Newton Road, Falkland and a 40mph buffer zone on the A912.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) agreed to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce 20mph and 40mph speed limits as detailed in Drawing No. TRO/23/24B attached to the report, with all ancillary procedures; and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

69. 20 MPH SPEED LIMITS, ST ANDREWS

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services detailing issues surrounding a request for 20mph speed limits in St Andrews.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the issues surrounding the request for all 30mph roads in St. Andrews to be reduced to 20mph speed limit; and
- (2) agreed the inclusion of the 20mph speed limit in St. Andrews as a proposed capital Area Roads Programme scheme for 2024/25.

70. EAST NEUK SKATEPARK – COMMUNITY-LED CONSULTATION

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service advising members of the outcome of the community-led consultation carried out in relation to the options appraisal for the East Neuk Skatepark.

Motion

Councillor Alycia Hayes, seconded by Councillor Ann Verner, moved that the committee agree the recommendations in the report.

Amendment

Councillor Sean Dillon, seconded by Councillor Fiona Corps, moved as follows:-

The North East Fife Area Committee:-

1. thanks the local community group supported by the Kilrenny, Anstruther & Cellardyke Community Council in undertaking and reporting the findings of their community consultation;
2. recognises the community support for an East Neuk Skatepark;
3. notes that Bankie Park and Waid Academy were considered as potential locations for an East Neuk Skatepark;
4. recognises the continuing concerns expressed by some of the local community regarding the consultation's preference for Bankie Park as the site for the East Neuk Skatepark;
5. requests officers to undertake an options appraisal and project design for an East Neuk Skate Park for further consideration by committee and that Bankie Park and other sites including Waid Academy should be appraised; and
6. requests that officers work with the local community to develop the options appraisal and project design incorporating the wider greenspace impact and assessing other impacts for the project.

Each option should be scored for its effect on community cohesion.

Roll Call

For the motion – 5 votes

Councillors Hayes, Hoggan-Radu, Lothian, MacDiarmid and Verner.

For the amendment – 8 votes

Councillors Clark, Corps, Dillon, Holt, Knox, Lawson, Liston and Tepp.

Having received a majority of votes, the amendment was accordingly carried.

Decision

The Committee agreed in terms of the amendment.

71. LOCAL AREA BUDGETS 2022-24

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service providing members with the necessary information to allocate funding for various projects from local area budgets.

Decision

The Committee approved the following list of projects:-

Anti-Poverty

- Lived Experience - £6,000
- Summer Programme - £20,000
- Additional CEW for 12 months - £43,000
- Additional Welfare staff temp part-time for 12 months - £36,000

Mental health/social isolation

- Adult Befriending - LINK - £10,000
- Cupar Local Studies - FCT - £23,000

Climate Change

- Eden Hogweed - FCCT - £24,000

Transport and access to services

- Feasibility Study Newburgh Pontoon - £10,000
- Duffus Park Middle Car Park - £80,000
- Public Building Wifi - £20,000

Community Participation

- St. Andrews Bandstand - funding shortfall - £12,000
- Waterstone Crook Pitch - £10,000

Local Place Plans - Consultancy Support - £15,000

72. SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN - NORTH EAST FIFE CLD PLAN AND ANTI-POVERTY UPDATE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service updating members on the work of the NEF Community Development Team which included reporting on youth work, adult learning, family, capacity building work and anti-poverty work.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the work of the NEF Area Team and the work to address rural poverty in the area;
- (2) approved the following areas of spend projected for 2023/24 in anti-poverty funding, aligned to the NEF Local Community Plan:-
 - St Andrews Environmental Network - £24,000
 - Holiday Activities - £13,000
 - Project staff - £49,500
 - Discretionary Fund - £22,400
 - Hardship Provision - £26,100; and
- (3) noted the selected areas of spend for the 2022/23 allocated budget and the impacts on those who had received funding to combat poverty.

73. REPORT ON EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES - 2021/22

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) providing members with details of the attainment outcomes achieved by pupils within the area's schools during the school year 2021/22.

Decision

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the overall progress in raising levels of attainment in 2021/22; and
- (2) the strategies being implemented to raise attainment.

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

74. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

The Committee considered a report by the Senior Manager, Property Services advising of action taken using the List of Committee Powers in relation to property transactions.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

75. NORTH EAST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) in support of the Committee's consideration of the workplan for future meetings of the Committee.

Decision

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the North East Fife Area Committee Forward Work Programme; and
- (2) that members should contact the Convener with suggestions for future agenda items.
