

## 2023 CAC 32

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

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

14 June 2023

2.00 pm – 4.10 pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors Alex Campbell (Convener), Alistair Bain, Linda Erskine, Rosemary Liewald, Mary Lockhart, Lea Mclelland, Bailey-Lee Robb and Darren Watt.

**ATTENDING:** Anne-Marie Vance, Community Manager (Cowdenbeath Area); Scott Blyth, Project Manager, Community Development; Patricia Galfskiy, Policy Officer, Community Development Team (Cowdenbeath); Margaret King, Community Education Worker; Kirsty Mcelhinney, Community Education Worker; Amanda Cathrew, Housing Team Manager; Patricia Spacey, Safer Communities Team Manager; Brian Westwater, Safer Communities Lead Officer; Allan Maclean, Lead Consultant, Sustainable Traffic and Travel; Lesley Craig, Lead Consultant, Traffic Management North; Keith Johnston, Technician Engineer, Traffic Management South; Ryan McQuade, Fife Property Gazetteer Officer, Business and Economy Service; Wendy MacGregor, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

**ALSO ATTENDING:** Community Inspector Hazel Crielly and Community Sergeant John Nicol, Police Scotland and Station Commander Jenny Murray, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

Prior to the start of Committee business, the Depute Convener acknowledged the support and dedication of Gary Daniell during his time in post as Area Community Development Team Manager, Communities and Neighbourhoods Service. Gary had delivered a range of projects benefitting communities across the Cowdenbeath Area and on behalf of the Committee, wished Gary well in his new post and welcomed Izzy Scott-Trimmm as Gary's successor.

#### 55. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

#### 56. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the meeting of the Cowdenbeath Area Committee of 29th March, 2023.

#### Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) agreed to approve the minute;

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- (2) in regard to para. no 46 in the minute (2023 CAC 27), Motion on School Meals Provided at Lochgelly and Beath High Schools, noted that members had not received regular updates from the Education or Facilities Management Services regarding the possibility of increasing portion sizes and whether appropriate measures had been introduced to alleviate concerns over young people feeling hungry after eating lunch at school, or on further developments between both Schools, and requested that members were provided with an update on progress;
- (3) in regard to para. no 53 (2) - Cowdenbeath Forward Work Programme, noted that the report on Youth Provision and Anti-Social Behaviour would be presented to the Committee meeting on 6th September, 2023;
- (4) in regard to para. no 53 (3) and (4) - Cowdenbeath Forward Work Programme, noted an update from Councillor Erskine that a report covering Lochgelly Town Hall and Rockgelly would be presented to a future meeting of Fife Council and that an updated briefing note on the condition of Lochgelly Town Hall would be circulated to all Ward 7 and Ward 8 elected members once available.

### **57. SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN - OPERATIONAL BRIEFING ON POLICING ACTIVITIES WITHIN COWDENBEATH**

The Committee considered a report by Chief Inspector Kathryn Fairfield, Police Scotland providing an update on Policing activity in Cowdenbeath Area covering Wards 7 and 8.

#### **Decision**

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the contents of the report and the policing activity to date;
- (2) agreed to support Police Scotland moving forward in addressing priorities;
- (3) requested increased attendance from Police Officers at local community council meetings; and
- (4) noted concerns over the length of response time members of the public had experienced, when calling the Police Scotland Contact Centre telephone number 101, requested Community Inspector Hazel Crielly convey the committee's concerns to the Division and provide any feedback to members.

### **58. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE - COWDENBEATH AREA ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

The Committee considered a report by Jenny Murray, Station Commander, Lochgelly Community Fire Station, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service providing incident information for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. The incident information enabled the Committee to scrutinise the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Stirling-Clacks-Fife – Cowdenbeath Area - against its key performance indicators (KPIs).

**Decision**

The Committee:-

- (1) acknowledged the content of the report and the progress across a range of KPI's; and
- (2) requested that Deliberate Fire Reduction Plans implemented to address fire-setting and reduce operational demand for the Cowdenbeath area, was circulated to elected members.

**59. SAFER COMMUNITIES TEAM UPDATE REPORT**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Housing Services updating on the operational activity of the Safer Communities Team within the Cowdenbeath committee area during the 12-month period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

**Decision**

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

**60. PROPOSED DOUBLE YELLOW LINES - BALLINGRY ROAD AND HILL ROAD, BALLINGRY**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation outlining proposals on the introduction of "No Waiting At Any Time" restrictions in Ballingry Road and Hill Road, Ballingry.

**Decision**

The Committee, in the interests of traffic flow and road safety:-

- (1) agreed to promote a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for the introduction of restrictions as detailed in drawing no. TRO23\_18 (Appendix 1 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.

**61. OBJECTION TO PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTION - GRAINGER STREET/HALL STREET, LOCHGELLY**

The Committee considered report by the Head of Roads and Transportation on an objection to a proposal to introduce "No Waiting At Any Time" restrictions in Grainger Street and Hall Street, Lochgelly.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to set aside the objection to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce the "No Waiting At Any Time" restrictions in Grainger Street and Hall Street, Lochgelly, as shown in drawing no. TRO23\_02 (Appendix 1 to the report), allowing the Order to be made and the restrictions to be put in place.

**62. PROPOSED RAISED PARALLEL CROSSING - LEUCHATSBEATH DRIVE, COWDENBEATH**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation proposing the introduction of a raised parallel crossing (raised table) on Leuchatsbeath Drive, Cowdenbeath.

**Decision**

The Committee, in the interest of road safety:-

- (1) agreed to promote a Road Hump Order (RHO) and pedestrian crossing notice for the introduction of a raised parallel crossing as detailed in drawing no. TRO23\_22 (Appendix 1 to the report), with all ancillary procedures; and
- (2) authorised officers to construct the raised parallel crossing within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

**63. AREA HOUSING PLAN 2023-26**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Housing seeking area committee approval for a revised area housing plan, setting out area performance, service delivery and highlights key housing issues following consultation with key stakeholders.

**Decision**

The Committee:-

- (1) approved the Cowdenbeath Area Housing Plan for 2023 – 2026, with an amendment to Appendix 1 of the report (page 83), which included Lumphinnans as an additional letting area;
- (2) noted concerns expressed by Councillor Lockhart on areas within the report, such as: definition of breach of tenancy, private landlords selling properties, recurring damp and mould issues in properties, presence of Housing Officers on estates, and requested that the Cowdenbeath Area Housing Manager contact Councillor Lockhart to discuss her particular concerns and to keep all elected members updated; and
- (3) requested a list of scatter homes and their location by ward, across Cowdenbeath.

*The Committee adjourned at 3.25 pm and reconvened at 3.35 pm..*

**64. COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT HOLIDAY PROGRAMME UPDATE - SUMMER, AUTUMN 2022 AND EASTER 2023. PLUS FUNDING REQUEST FOR SUMMER, OCTOBER 2023 PROGRAMME**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods, summarising the Community Learning and Development programme of activities in Summer, October 2022, and Easter 2023 in the Cowdenbeath area. The report also included the Summer and October 2023 plans and a request for financial support to support the programmes.

**Decision**

The Committee:-

- (1) acknowledged the Summer, October 2022, and Easter 2023 programme updates; and
- (2) agreed to an allocation of £75,000 to support the Community Learning and Development Summer and October 2023 activity provision.

**65. COWDENBEATH COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FUND AND IMMEDIATE RESPONSE SUPPORT TOP UP REQUEST**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods providing an update on progress of the Community Resilience Fund and Immediate Response Fund and seeking approval to extend funding for these projects. Also, an update on the DigiCom project operating within the Cowdenbeath Area was provided.

**Decision**

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the work to date on the Community Resilience Fund and Immediate Response Fund;
- (2) agreed to increase the Community Resilience Fund budget from £5,000 to £17,500 from the anti-poverty budget;
- (3) agreed to increase the Immediate Response Fund budget from £5,000 to £8,000 from the anti-poverty budget;
- (4) noted the work undertaken as part of the DigiCom Project; and
- (5) noted concerns from Councillor Robb at sections 1.3 and 1.7 on the report, that two separate sums of funding for £5000 had been allocated by officers to the Cowdenbeath Resilience Fund and Immediate Response Fund from the Anti-poverty budget, and that funding of £5000 or above should have been approved by Committee. The Committee agreed in retrospect to both allocations of funding and requested that any future funding applications of £5000 and above was submitted to this committee for approval.

**66. COWDENBEATH AREA UPDATE - BUDGET PROGRESS REPORT**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods providing an update and budget progress report on projects approved at the Cowdenbeath Area Committee in December 2022.

**Motion**

Councillor Bailey-Lee Robb, seconded by Councillor Lea McLelland, moved as an amendment to include the following two additional recommendations at numbers 3 and 4 of the report:-

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- (3) Committee notes that the Ward Contingency Fund (2.1) is marked for carry forward of £15,070.08. Committee requests that officers remit this money back into the respective ward budgets for local members to utilise throughout the financial year 2023/24 (Ward 7 - £8885.04 and Ward 8 - £6185.04); and
- (4) Committee further notes that Pending Allocations (2.9) is also marked for carry forward of £10,000 and requested that officers remit this money back into the respective ward budgets for local members to utilise throughout the financial year 2023/24 (Ward 7 - £5000.00 and Ward 8 - £5000.00) '

### **Decision**

The Committee:-

- (1) noted an amendment to the wording at section 2.1 of the report to read - 'the allocation of ward funds provides a resource for staff in consultation with members to agree projects or applications for funding' and at 3.1 of the report on Ward Contingency Fund to read – Spend as at June 2023 £14,929.92 and Carried forward or reallocated £15,070.08;
- (2) unanimously agreed to the terms of the motion to include two additional recommendations; and
- (3) agreed that, where children had to pay to take part in after school clubs, for instance, to cover hire of hall, the cost was supported from the £60,000 allocation from the Breakfast Club/After School Expanded Provision project.

### **67. COWDENBEATH AREA LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING, ANTI-POVERTY, WARD AND COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND BUDGET UPDATE**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and neighbourhoods, providing an update on the Cowdenbeath Area Local Community Planning, Anti-poverty, Ward 7, Ward 8 2022/2023 budgets and Community Recovery budgets spend to date.

### **Decision**

The Committee noted spend to date on the Cowdenbeath Area budgets 2022/2023 and on the Community Recovery budget.

### **68. 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.

### **69. COWDENBEATH AREA COMMITTEE WORKPLAN**

The Committee considered the Cowdenbeath Area Committee Workplan.

**Decision**

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the Cowdenbeath Area Committee Workplan;
- (2) agreed to include an additional report from the Roads and Transportation Service detailing spend over the last three financial years, covering the Cowdenbeath Area, to include potholes and other issues; and
- (3) noted a verbal update on staffing resources advising of two Community Education posts appointed in January 2023 and further plans to appoint more staff in the coming months; and agreed that a full report detailing staffing resources would be submitted for this committee's consideration at its next meeting on 6 September 2023.

**70. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEM - STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING CONSULTATION – WILLIE CLARKE STREET, NEW FLOCKHOUSE, LOCHORE**

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Business and Employability proposing under Section 97 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, that the name 'Willie Clarke Street' be approved as a new street name for the housing development to the south of New Flockhouse, Lochore. A copy of the site plan for the development showing the layout of the new street, was included at Appendix 1 to the report.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to adopt the new street name 'Willie Clarke Street' for the Richard Street Ltd development to the south of New Flockhouse, Lochore.