

**THE FIFE COUNCIL - COWDENBEATH AREA COMMITTEE – BLENDED**

**Willie Clarke Centre, Lochore Meadows Country Park, Lochgelly.**

**30 October 2024**

**2.00 pm – 3.35pm**

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

**ATTENDING:** Anne-Marie Vance, Community Manager (Cowdenbeath), Scott Blyth, Project Manager and Izzy Scott-Trimmm, Community Development Team Manager (Cowdenbeath Area), Communities and Neighbourhoods Service; Rob Bowditch, Service Manager and Kenny Bisset, Lead Officer, Environmental Health Services (Public Protection); Lesley Craig, Lead Consultant, Traffic Management and Keith Johnston, Technician Engineer, Traffic Management South, Roads and Transportation Services and Wendy MacGregor, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

**APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:** Councillor Bailey-Lee Robb.

**154. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were submitted in terms of Standing Order No. 22.

**155. MINUTE**

The committee considered the minute of the meeting of Cowdenbeath Area Committee of 4 September 2024.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) in relation to para. 147.(2)(b), noted an update from the Committee officer, following advice from the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in terms of the list of Committee Powers the Complaints Policy/Procedure would be considered by the Standards, Audit and Risk Committee rather than the People and Communities Scrutiny Committee and that an update on progress would be provided in due course; and
- (2) otherwise, approved the minute.

**156. REVIEW OF MOSSMORRAN AND BRAEFOOT BAY COMMUNITY AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – GENERAL ANNUAL REPORT 2023**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Protective Services outlining the findings of the latest 2023 general annual report for the operations at the Mossmorran and Braefoot Bay facilities.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) noted the contents of the general report (as detailed in Appendices A-D of the report) and the continued large reduction in complaints following investment in improvement technologies at the complex;
- (2) noted that noise and air quality monitoring arrangements had been introduced around the complex; and
- (3) provided suggestions on additional information to be considered and included in future annual general reports.

**157. SCHOOL EXCLUSION ZONE (SCHOOL STREET) TRIAL - DENEND PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL, CARDENDEN**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services outlining the results of the School Exclusion Zone (SEZ) Trial Project for the pilot site at Denend Primary and Nursery School, Cardenden.

**Decision**

The committee noted the contents of the report and appendix.

**158. COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND (CRF) UPDATE**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking approval to redirect funding from the Community Recovery Fund, following project developments, investigations and consultation.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) agreed to approve funding for projects as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, as follows:-
  - (a) Playground Grants - £95,000 from the Community Recovery Fund;
  - (b) Welfare Support Resource - £90,000 from the Community Recovery Fund;
  - (c) Community Education Resource - £85,000 from the Community Recovery Fund; and
  - (d) the overspend of £1,140 which would be allocated from the Anti-Poverty Budget.
- (2) requested consideration for additional permanent Welfare Support posts to support poverty work within the Cowdenbeath Area and across Fife.

**159. COWDENBEATH AREA LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN 2023-2026 END OF YEAR ONE ANNUAL REPORT**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service providing an update on progress in the delivery of the priorities set out in the Cowdenbeath Area Local Community Plan 2023-2026 (LCP).

**Decision**

The committee noted the annual report covering year one of the plan, September 2023 - September 2024 and the efforts, achievements and ongoing progress of projects under the three priority themes within the Local Community Plan - Tackling Poverty, Raising Aspirations and Community Engagement.

*Councillor Mary Lockhart left the meeting during consideration of the above item at 3.07 pm and returned to the meeting at 3.09 pm.*

**160. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS**

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

**Decision**

The committee noted the contents of the report.

**161. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

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

**Decision**

The committee:

- (1) noted the contents of the Forward Work Programme;
- (2) requested that the Lochore Meadows Development Plan be submitted to the next meeting on 11 December 2024 rather than the meeting on 5 February 2025;
- (3) requested an update from Roads and Transportation Services on when the Pelican Crossing lights on the B920 near Hillside Avenue (Road to Knowhere), in Benarty would become operational. Members noted the lights had been installed for some time but were not connected and requested this was done as a matter of urgency to provide a safe walking route to school for local children; and
- (4) agreed that the Community Learning and Development Holiday Programme – Summer and Autumn 2024 report scheduled for 11 December 2024, would be postponed and submitted to the committee meeting on 5 February 2025.