ENTERPRISE AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 2 April 2014 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors J Kellas, J Giacopazzi, M Barnacle, I Campbell, A Cowan, D Doogan, J Flynn, A Gaunt, T Gray, G Laing, A Livingstone, W Robertson and A Younger.

In Attendance: J Valentine, Executive Director (Environment), B Renton, Depute Director (Environment), D Littlejohn, Head of Planning and Regeneration, K Easton, N Malone, P Marshall, E McLaughlin and A Seggie (all the Environment Service); C Flynn and J Frawley (both Chief Executive's Service).

Councillor J Kellas, Convener, Presiding.

The Convener led the discussion for Arts. 218-227 and the Vice-Convener for Arts. 228-234.

218. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

The Convener welcomed all those present to the meeting.

219. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

220. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minute of the Meeting of the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee of 22 January 2014 (Arts. 14-24) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

221. PERTH AND KINROSS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP – ECONOMY AND LIFELONG LEARNING GROUP

(i) Minute of Meeting of 6 December 2013

The Minute of the Meeting of the Community Planning Partnership – Economy and Lifelong Learning Group of 6 December was submitted and noted for information.

(ii) Verbal Update by Executive Lead Officer

The Executive Director (Environment) provided a verbal update on the last meeting of the Group which had taken place on 14 March 2014. In particular he noted the progress made through positive group discussion with partners showed willingness to take the lead on various aspects of work.

222. PERTH CITY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

The Executive Director (Environment) provided the Committee with a verbal update on the meeting of the Perth City Development Board which had taken place on 10 March 2014. Attention was drawn to the good attendance at the meeting noting that members provided a breadth and depth of talent which contributed to positive discussions.

The Executive Director (Environment) noted that the new 'Perth Experience' was an exemplar of the new and innovative direction for the city and that the Perth City Development Board had agreed a sub-group be set up for consideration of the regeneration of the Tay.

223. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE PHASE 2

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (14/147) (1) summarising the comments received on the various pieces of Supplementary Guidance published for consultation in autumn 2013 and (2) seeking approval to finalise and adopt the Supplementary Guidance to support the Local Development Plan (adopted 3 February 2014).

Resolved:

- (i) The following pieces of Supplementary Guidance be approved as key policy documents to support the Local Development Plan:
 - Sustainable Design and Zero Carbon Development;
 - Flood Risk and Flood Risk Assessments;
 - Loch Leven Special Protection Area and Ramsar Site;
 - Employment and Mixed Use Areas;
- (ii) The Executive Director (Environment) be remitted to finalise the Supplementary Guidance and submit it to Scottish Ministers.

224. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN – ACTION PROGRAMME 2012-2024

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (14/148) seeking approval for the final Action Programme to be adopted, published and submitted to Scottish Ministers in support of the Local Development Plan (adopted 3 February 2014).

Resolved:

- (i) Adoption of the Action Programme as set out in Appendix 1 be approved;
- (ii) The Executive Director (Environment) be remitted to publish and submit the Action Programme to the Scottish Ministers; and
- (iii) The Executive Director (Environment) be requested to regularly update and publish the Action Programme and further prepare a bi-annual report to the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee on delivery and implementation of the Action Programme.

225. TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (14/149) recommending modifications to the Supplementary Guidance in response to the consultations and the adoption of the finalised Supplementary Guidance on Transport Infrastructure Developer Contributions.

Resolved:

- (i) The response to the consultation be noted;
- (ii) The proposed terms of the Supplementary Guidance be approved;
- (iii) The interim measure described in paragraph 3.11 of Report 14/149 be approved until the adoption of the Transport Infrastructure Supplementary Guidance;
- (iv) Adoption of the finalised Supplementary Guidance on Transport Infrastructure Developer Contributions for all applications submitted after 2 April 2014 be Approved; and
- (v) Submission of the Supplementary Guidance to Scottish Ministers be approved.

226. DUNDEE, PERTH, ANGUS AND NORTH FIFE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY (SDPA) – TAYPLAN MAIN ISSUES REPORT – SCOTLAND'S SUSTAYNABLE REGION 2016-2036

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (14/150) seeking ratification of the decision of the Joint Committee of the Dundee, Perth, Angus and North Fife Strategic Development Planning Authority to approve the TAYplan Main Issues Report 2016-2036 and related documents as a basis for public consultation.

Resolved:

- Ratification of the SDPA Joint Committee's decision to approve the Main Issues Report (MIR) and draft Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment as a basis for consultation and with regard to the content of the Environment Report be approved, and the SDPA Manager be remitted to publish the MIR and send it to Scottish Ministers;
- (ii) Ratification of the Joint Committee's approval of the Monitoring Statement for submission to Scottish Ministers be approved;
- (iii) It be noted that as the Responsible Authority, Perth and Kinross Council will publish and submit the Environmental Report to the Scottish Ministers and Consultation Authorities;
- (iv) The background Topic Papers be noted;
- (v) Delegation of authority to the SDPA Manager to make minor technical amendments to the MIR prior to its publication be approved; and
- (vi) The Executive Director (Environment) be requested to bring back a further report in June 2014 to the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee.

227. PERTH AND KINROSS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018-2028 -DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (14/151) seeking approval for the publication of a Development Plan Scheme as a key stage in the preparation of the next Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 2018-2028.

Resolved:

- (i) The proposed Perth & Kinross Council Development Plan Scheme be approved;
- (ii) The Executive Director (Environment) be authorised to submit the Scheme to Scottish Ministers be approved; and
- (iii) The Executive Director (Environment) be requested to submit an annual progress report to the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee detailing any changes to the Development Plan Scheme.

228. "THE PERTH EXPERIENCE" – A VISITOR INFORMATION AND ORIENTATION INITIATIVE FOR PERTH

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (14/152) outlining the proposal for the development of a visitor information, orientation initiative for Perth that encompasses the relocation of the Information Centre to 45 High Street and the fit out as a contemporary visitor hub. This also includes the implementation of a complementary signposting and interpretation scheme for attractions and visitor facilities in Perth.

Resolved:

- The budget provision from 2014/15 in relation to the development of a new Information Centre facility and the investment in new tourism signage, support officer, interpretation materials, and an additional economic development support officer be noted;
- (ii) The anticipated outcomes from the investment in the initiative be noted; and
- (iii) The project which encompasses the relocation of the Information Centre from Lower City Mills to 45 High Street and the investment in signage and interpretation as the basis of an integrated visitor information and orientation "Perth Experience" initiative be approved.

229. IMPROVING DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY ACROSS PERTH AND KINROSS – PROGRESS REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (14/153) providing an update on the progress of activities to improve digital connectivity in Perth & Kinross as well as considering the use of additional funding for rural communities.

Resolved:

- (i) The positive progress made to improve digital connectivity across Perth & Kinross be noted;
- (ii) The use of £200,000 in 2015/16 to assist those rural communities poorly served by the network to improve broadband access as described in Report 14/153 be approved; and
- (iii) It be requested that a further progress report be submitted in the Autumn of 2014.

230. PLANNING PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (14/154) presenting the Minister's response to the Planning Performance Framework Annual Report for 2012/13. The report also identifies the improvement measures to be delivered in 2013/14.

Resolved:

- (i) The content of Report 14/154 be noted;
- (ii) The Executive Director (Environment) be requested to provide a further report on the implementation of the improvement plan, along with feedback from the next Planning Performance Framework in a year's time; and
- (iii) It be noted that the above report would also be submitted to the meeting of the Scrutiny Committee on 23 April 2014.

231. UPDATE ON BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (14/155) summarising a review of the activities of the Business Growth Team and the Business Gateway in 2013, proposing a re-focus of activities for the Business Growth Team going forward in 2014/15 and highlighting that changes in the Business Gateway contract at a national level have led to the need to review the activities of the Council's Business Advisory Team.

Resolved:

- The Council's business development support be refocused as detailed in Report 14/155;
- (ii) The existing Environment Service budget be utilised for the above purpose, including the creation of a Smart Cities and Communities Project Officer; and
- (iii) The creation of an Inward Investment and Marketing Support Officer post as outlined in the approved 2014/15 budget be approved.

232. ROAD MAINTENANCE STRATEGY

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (14/156) seeking approval to implement a Road Maintenance Strategy aimed at arresting the continued deterioration of the road condition.

Resolved:

- (i) The Road Maintenance Strategy as detailed in Report 14/156 be approved;
- (ii) The Depute Director (Environment) be remitted to produce an Annual Status Report.

COUNCILLOR W ROBERTSON LEFT THE MEETING DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM.

233. HIGH HEDGES SCOTLAND (ACT) 2013

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (14/157) summarising the main guiding principles of the Act; requesting that the Executive Director (Environment) be empowered to carry out the statutory functions of the Act; and requesting that an application fee be set, together with circumstances under which a refund would be payable.

Resolved:

- (i) The terms of the Act together with the statutory obligations and powers conferred on the Council be noted;
- (ii) The delegation of the responsibility for carrying out the statutory functions empowered by the High Hedges (Scotland) Act 2013 to the Executive Director (Environment) be approved and the Council's Scheme of Administration be amended accordingly;
- (iii) The high hedge application fee, be set at £270 as recommended by the Vice Convener and the circumstances under which a refund would be payable be Approved; and
- (iv) The Executive Director (Environment) be remitted to review the High Hedges procedures and report back to Committee in 12 months.

234. AMENDMENTS TO THE LIST OF PUBLIC ROADS

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (14/158) recommending additions to the List of Public Roads.

Resolved:

The additions to the List of Public Roads, as detailed in the Schedule appended to Report 14/158 be approved.

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