

ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Environment and Infrastructure Committee held virtually via Microsoft Teams on 27 October 2021 at 9.30am.

Present: Councillors A Forbes, A Bailey, M Barnacle, S Donaldson, J Duff, T Gray, A Jarvis, G Laing, R McCall, A Parrott, W Robertson, L Simpson, F Smith, C Stewart (substituting for Councillor K Baird) and M Williamson.

In Attendance: B Renton, Interim Chief Executive; C Mailer, Depute Director (Communities); M Butterworth, Head of Environmental and Consumer Services; F Robertson, B Cargill, A Clegg, A Day, H Hope, P Marshall, and D McKeown (Communities); and C Flynn, K Molley, A Brown and M Pasternak, L McGuigan and B Parker (Corporate and Democratic Services).

Apology: Councillor K Baird

Councillor A Forbes, Convener, Presiding.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Councillor A Forbes welcomed everyone to the meeting and an apology was noted above.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. REQUEST FOR A DEPUTATION

In terms of standing order 13, the Committee agreed that Mr S Rimmer, Perth resident, be allowed to address the Committee in relation to item 7 – 20mph Speed Limit Trial.

4. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of the meeting of the Environment and Infrastructure Committee of 18 August 2021 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

5. SERVICE UPDATE

The Depute Director (Communities) gave a verbal update on the activities undertaken by the Communities Service and the challenges faced due to the Covid-19 pandemic, since the last Environment and Infrastructure Committee in August 2021. This included the continued work in activities and areas such as road maintenance, household recycling, cycling, walking and safer Routes (CWSR) project, Road Safety Scheme, HGV service delivery, street lighting, food safety inspections, Comrie flood protection scheme and development of a Strategic Tourism and Infrastructure Development Plan.

C Mailer and M Butterworth answered members questions.

6. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21 – BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2021/22

There was submitted a report by Executive Director (Communities) (21/160) presenting the Communities Annual Performance Report 2019/20 and Business Management Improvement Plan 2021/22.

Resolved:

The first Communities Annual Performance Report 2019/20 and Business Management Improvement Plan 2021/22, be approved.

7. 20MPH SPEED LIMIT TRIAL

Mr S Rimmer, Perth resident, addressed the Committee and answered a number of questions from Members. The Convener thanked Mr Rimmer who then withdrew from the virtual meeting.

There was submitted a report by Head of Environmental and Consumer Services (21/195) (1) presenting the results of the 20mph Speed Limit Trial, which has identified the need for other road safety measures, in certain circumstances, in addition to the introduction of a 20mph speed limit signage to ensure that it is effective; (2) seeking approval for the introduction of a permanent Traffic Regulation Order for the five trial sites and the introduction of additional traffic calming measures where appropriate; and (3) providing a brief update on Spaces for People measures.

Resolved:

- (i) The traffic survey analysis for the five trial sites which as set out in Appendix 1 to 5 of report 21/195, be noted.
- (ii) The introduction of a permanent Traffic Regulation Order for a full-time, mandatory 20mph speed limit for each of the five trial sites, be approved.
- (iii) The outcome of the trials, which will inform future decisions about the appropriate technical solution when considering the introduction of future 20mph zones, be noted.
- (iv) It be requested that a report be produced with recommendations on the temporary Spaces for People lower speed limits or alternatively for their removal and reinstatement of the previous speed limits.

THERE WAS A RECESS AND THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 12.00pm.

8. PERTH AND KINROSS FOOD GROWING STRATEGY

There was submitted a report by Head of Planning and Development (21/196) seeking approval for the Perth and Kinross Food Growing Strategy.

Resolved:

- (i) The Perth and Kinross Food Growing Strategy outlined in Appendix 1 of report 21/196, be approved.

- (ii) The work being progressed to address the resourcing issues outlined within the report, be noted.

9. PERTH AND KINROSS OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM BIENNIAL REPORT 2019-21

There was submitted a report by Head of Environmental and Consumer Services (21/197) (1) summarising the activities and progress of the Perth and Kinross Outdoor Access Forum over the last two years; and (2) recommending the appointment of four new members to the Forum.

The Convener paid tribute to the role and contribution that Councillor M Barnacle had made throughout his time as a member of the Outdoor Access Forum.

Resolved:

- (i) The appointment of four new members and the re-appointment of two members for a period of four years, be confirmed. Also, members are to be retained in their appointments for at least a further year as outlined in Appendix 1 to report 21/197.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Communities) be delegated to fill any casual vacancies arising in this period through recruitment by Forum members as detailed within the Forum's Term of Reference.
- (iii) The activities and progress of the Perth and Kinross Outdoor Access Forum from September 2019 and the ongoing commitment to maximise effective partnership working to make the best of the exceptional landscapes, paths networks and access rights for all within Perth and Kinross, be noted.

10. FREE FESTIVE PARKING 2021

There was submitted a report by Head of Business and Resources (21/198) recommending that the Free Festive Parking initiative operates on each weekend in December, within Council owned car parks, from Saturday 4 December until Saturday 25 December 2021 inclusive to support local business during the Christmas period, as the Covid-19 pandemic continues.

Motion (Councillors A Forbes and C Stewart)

- (i) **agrees to offer free parking on each weekend in December from Saturday 4 December until Saturday 25 December 2021 inclusive in all Council operated car parks across the whole Perth and Kinross area. (Appendix 1).**

Amendment 1(Councillors A Parrott and S Donaldson),

- (i) agrees that free festive parking will not be offered this year and agrees that for future years, due to the imperatives of the climate change agenda, that Council Officers are requested to engage with public transport operators to determine ways of incentivising the increased use of public transport during the festive season.

Amendment 2 (Councillor Bailey)

- (i) The committee notes the previous positive feedback regarding the free festive parking offer but in light of the lack of empirical evidence on the effectiveness of the policy, and the climate emergency, resolves not to offer free festive parking this year and instead redirect the £15,000 towards the provision of improved electric charging infrastructure."

This amendment was subsequently withdrawn

THERE WAS A RECESS AND THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 13.35pm.

In terms of Standing Order 21.6, a roll call vote was taken:

9 votes for the motion – Councillors M Barnacle, J Duff, A Forbes, A Jarvis, R McCall, W Robertson, L Simpson, F Smith and C Stewart.

6 votes for the amendment – Councillors A Bailey, S Donaldson, T Gray, G Laing, A Parrott and M Williamson.

Resolved:

In accordance with the **Motion**.

11. THE ROYAL NATIONAL MÒD 2022

There was submitted a report by Head of Culture and Community Services (21/199) briefing the Committee on planning underway for the Royal National Mòd 2022, the anticipated outcomes of the event and the financial implications of hosting the event.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress made with the preparations of Mòd Pheairt 2022, be noted.
- (ii) It be requested that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee consider allocating the £216,000 for the purpose it was intended, on the event delivery of the Mòd 2022.

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