

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Environment Committee held in the Gannochy Suite, Dewar's Centre, Glover Street, Perth on Wednesday 3 June 2015 at 11.00am.

Present: Councillors A Grant, M Williamson, D Cuthbert (substituting for M Barnacle), B Ellis, J Giacomazzi (substituting for E Maclachlan), C Gillies, G Laing, M Lyle, D Melloy, M Roberts, W Robertson and A Younger.

In Attendance: Councillor C Shiers, B Renton, Depute Director (Environment); A Clegg, S King, D Paterson, B Reekie, R Stewart, and W Young (all The Environment Service); L Carson, C Flynn and H Rheinallt (all Chief Executive's Service);.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors M Barnacle, R Brock and E Maclachlan.

Councillor A Grant, Convener, Presiding.

364. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

The Convener welcomed all those present to the meeting. Apologies and substitutes were noted as above.

365. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, Councillor B Ellis declared a non-financial interest in Article 375 in respect of the Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust (Report 15/244).

In terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, Councillor M Roberts declared a non-financial interest in Article 375 in respect of the Tay Landscape Partnership Steering Group (Report 15/244).

366. MINUTE

The minute of meeting of the Environment Committee of 25 March 2015 (Arts 198-205) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

367. PERTH AND KINROSS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP – COMMUNITY SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT GROUP

(i) Minute of meeting of the Community Safety and Environment Group of 21 November 2014

The minute of meeting of 21 November 2014 was submitted and noted.

(ii) Update from the Community Safety and Environment Group

There was submitted and noted an update report by the Executive Director (Environment) (15/238), informing Committee of the recent Reports presented to the Community Safety and Environment Group.

368. THE ENVIRONMENT SERVICE JOINT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2015/16 AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2014/15

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (15/198) (Revised), presenting the Joint Business Management and Improvement Plan 2015/16 and Annual Performance Report 2014/15 for the Environment Service.

Resolved:

- (i) The minor revisions to Report 15/198 (Revised), be noted.
- (ii) The Joint Business Management and Improvement Plan 2015/16 and Annual Performance Report 2014/15 for the Environment Service pertaining to the Environment Committee's specific area of interest, as appended to Report 15/198, be approved.
- (iii) It be noted that Report 15/198 had been submitted to the Community Safety Committee on 20 May 2015, and that Report 15/198 (Revised) would be considered by the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee on 3 June 2015, and would be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee on 17 June 2015 for scrutiny and comment as appropriate.

369. RESERVOIRS ACT 1975 – BIENNIAL REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (15/239) containing the biennial report to the Scottish Ministers summarising the current status of the reservoirs in the Perth and Kinross area, and giving details of measures taken in carrying out the Council's responsibilities, both as enforcement authority and reservoir undertaker over the last two years.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of the report, and the Reservoirs Act 1975, Biennial Report 2015 to Scottish Ministers as attached as Appendix 1 to Report 15/239, be noted.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Environment) be remitted to make the necessary arrangements to comply with the Reservoirs (Scotland) Act 2011 as outlined in paragraph 1.14.
- (iii) It be agreed that this is the last biennial report as the role of the Enforcement Authority will transfer to SEPA in 2016 as outlined in paragraph 1.15.

370. THE ENVIRONMENT SERVICE SCHEME OF CHARGES 2015/16

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (15/229) providing details of the charges in place for services provided by the Environment Service for financial year 2015/16, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 15/229.

Resolved:

- (i) Details of the charges in place for services provided by the Environment Service for financial year 2015/16, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 15/229, be noted.
- (ii) It be noted that Report 15/229 had also been considered by the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee on 3 June 2015.

371. COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT CHALLENGE FUND UPDATE

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (15/240) providing an update on the award of Community Environment Challenge Funding to Community Groups between April 2014 and March 2015.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 15/240 be noted.
- (ii) The Depute Director (Environment) be instructed to report the outcomes of the Community Environment Challenge Fund for 2015/16 to the Committee in 12 months' time.

372. UPDATE ON OAKBANK ROAD LANDSLIP, BLAIRGOWRIE

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (15/241) giving an update on the condition of the leased Oakbank Road and associated embankments in Blairgowrie.

Resolved:

- (i) Further detailed design work be undertaken to develop a scheme which allows the road to be re-opened to pedestrian traffic as soon as practically possible.
- (ii) Subject to final costs being confirmed, resources in the region of £100,000 be sought from the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Environment) be delegated to determine the most appropriate method of ensuring the site is regularly monitored for further landslips and that resources are identified to put this in place.

373. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE MODERN APPRENTICE SQUAD - UPDATE

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (15/242) updating the Committee on progress with the Grounds Maintenance Modern Apprentice Squad which was formed in May 2014.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress of the Modern Apprentice squad in building capacity within the Grounds Maintenance provision and continuing to support the Council's employability agenda, be noted.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Environment) be requested to bring back a further report in a year's time.

374. EVALUATION REPORT OF THE IMPROVED RECYCLING SERVICE TRIAL

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (15/243) evaluating the Improved Recycling Service Trial which was introduced following approval by the Environment Committee on 4 June 2014.

Resolved:

- (i) 140 litre wheeled bins for the collection of general waste in 8 phases to all householders in Perth and Kinross currently on the 3 bin kerbside recycling service be introduced over a 23 month period.
- (ii) Collection of unauthorised second general waste bins cease to take place. Only householders meeting the set criteria be entitled to additional capacity and no charge be made for its provision.
- (iii) The trial area bin policy be reviewed and the amended version be implemented as part of the Service Change.
- (iv) The potential to collect bagged recyclates in the event of missed uplifts be investigated, and if feasible the Severe Weather Procedure be reviewed.

IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS SHOULD BE EXCLUDED DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM IN ORDER TO AVOID THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION WHICH IS EXEMPT IN TERMS OF SCHEDULE 7A TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1973

375. PERTH AND KINROSS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT REVIEW 2014/15 AND PROPOSAL 2015/16

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (15/244) outlining the achievements of the Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust over the last year and recommending the approval of a new Service Level Agreement with the Trust for 2015/16. Members heard a presentation by Morag Watson, Trust Manager, Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust.

Resolved:

- (i) It be agreed that Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust has substantially delivered the Service Level Agreement for 2014/15.
- (ii) A new Service Level Agreement with Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust for 2015/16, to deliver the 2015/16 work plan for a contribution of £30,000 towards core costs, as detailed in Appendix 3 to Report 15/244, be agreed.
- (iii) The sum of £40,000 to cover the Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust's contribution for the Tay Landscape Partnership, be agreed.
- (iv) The contents of the Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust Strategic Plan 2015-2018 and the changes made to governance and management arrangements, be noted.

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