

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 7 June 2006 at 3.45pm.

Present: Councillors Livingstone, Cowan, Doig, Ellis, A Grant (substituting for Councillor Telfer), Hulbert, Jack, Lumsden, Mair, McDonald, McEwen, Robertson and Simpson.

In Attendance: Councillor Barnacle (for Articles 420 and 424); J Irons, Executive Director (Environment) (until Article 415), R Bean, J Valentine, I Sleith (until Article 421), B Clough, C Haggart, P Marshall, J McCrone and A Olejnik (all The Environment Service); K Macdonald, J Deponio, A M Sinclair and A Seggie (all Chief Executive's); L Brown and A Wilson (both Corporate Services) and D Gibson, Harbourmaster.

Apology for Absence: Councillor Telfer.

Councillor Livingstone, Convener, Presiding.

406. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, Councillor Simpson declared a non-financial interest in Article 411, Councillor Ellis declared a non-financial interest in Articles 414 and 425, Councillor A Grant declared a non-financial interest in Articles 422 and 423, Councillor Cowan declared a non-financial interest in Article 425 and Councillor Lumsden declared a non-financial interest in Article 424.

407. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- (a) The minute of meeting of the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee of 26 April 2006 (Arts. 283-300) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.
- (b) The minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of 23 February 2006 was submitted and noted. (**Appendix I**)
- (c) The minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of 10 May 2006 was submitted and noted. (**Appendix II**)

408. FINAL REVISED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

There was submitted a report by the Head of Economic Development (06/413) (1) outlining the final revised Economic Development Strategy agreed by the Community Planning Economic Partnership on 8 May 2006; and (2) seeking support from Perth and Kinross Council in adopting the joint strategy and a commitment to commence implementation of the joint Economic Development Action Plan 2006-2010.

Resolved:

- (i) The broad and extensive consultation process involved in bringing together the revised Strategy document, be acknowledged.
- (ii) The final version of the Perth and Kinross Economic Development Strategy, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 06/413, be approved.
- (iii) The Head of Economic Development be instructed, in consultation with partner agencies, to take forward the development and implementation of the associated Action Plan, and bring forward annual reports to the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee.

409. MAXIMISING FUTURE EVENT OPPORTUNITIES

There was submitted a report by the Head of Economic Development (06/414) (1) recommending the approach Perth and Kinross Council should take to maximise future event opportunities, and in turn, the benefits they could bring to Perth and Kinross; and (2) seeking approval

for the adoption of the Perth and Kinross Events Strategy and Action Plan and new Council Events Policy.

Motion – (Councillors Livingstone and Ellis):-

- (i) **The event opportunities for Perth and Kinross over the next eight years be acknowledged.**
- (ii) **The final copy of the Perth and Kinross Events Strategy and Action Plan, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 06/414, be approved.**
- *(iii) **The new Council Events Policy, as detailed in Appendix 2 to Report 06/414, be approved.**

Amendment – (Councillors McEwen and Mair) – To agree the recommendations in Report 06/414 subject to the inclusion of an additional recommendation (iv) that an information report be submitted to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee clarifying the whole events budget across Perth and Kinross Council.

Amendment – 2 Votes

Motion – 8 Votes

No Vote – 3

Resolved:

In accordance with the Motion.

410. PERTH AND KINROSS BUSINESS AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME

There was submitted a report by the Head of Economic Development (06/415) detailing proposals for the establishment of a Perth and Kinross Business Ambassador Programme.

Resolved:

- (i) The establishment of a pilot Business Ambassador Programme for Perth and Kinross, as detailed in Report 06/415, be approved.
- (ii) The emphasis on promoting Perth and Kinross, both at home and overseas, be noted.
- (iii) The Head of Economic Development, in conjunction with the Convener of the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee, be instructed to secure the Business Ambassadors for the programme.
- (iv) It be noted that an update report would be presented to the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee in March 2007.

IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 6, COUNCILLOR SIMPSON DECLARED A NON-FINANCIAL INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM.

411. VISITSCOTLAND PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

There was submitted a report by the Head of Economic Development (06/416) (1) appending the annual performance report on VisitScotland Perthshire's activities in 2005/06; and (2) proposing the terms of the Partnership Agreement between Perth and Kinross Council and VisitScotland for 2006/07.

Resolved:

- (i) VisitScotland's annual report on activity undertaken over the last 12 months, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 06/416, which was a requirement of the 2005/06 Partnership Agreement between Perth and Kinross Council and VisitScotland, be acknowledged.
- (ii) The proposed content and financial plan for the 2006/07 Partnership Agreement between Perth and Kinross Council and VisitScotland, as outlined in Appendix 2 to Report 06/416, be approved.
- (iii) The Head of Economic Development be instructed to submit a six month performance report on VisitScotland Perthshire's performance against the service delivery detailed in the 2006/07 Partnership Agreement to the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee.

412. BUSINESS GATEWAY PERTH AND KINROSS – SUPPORT FOR 2006/07

There was submitted a report by the Head of Economic Development (06/417) setting out the performance of the Business Gateway Perth and Kinross for the period from April 2005 to March 2006 and seeking support for activities for 2006/07.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress made by the Business Gateway in meeting its targets for 2005/06 be noted.
- (ii) The local targets for 2006/07, as detailed in Report 06/417, be approved.
- (iii) The release of funding in quarterly payments; the first immediately following this Committee meeting, the second in July 2006, the third in October 2006 and the final payment in January 2007, be agreed, subject to progress against the targets outlined and continuing support from the Council's partners in the Tayside Business Gateway (Angus, Dundee City Council and Scottish Enterprise Tayside).
- (iv) The Head of Economic Development be instructed to submit an update report to the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee in the Autumn of 2006 outlining progress against targets, and updating the Committee on proposed changes at a national level to the Business Gateway.

413. RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE BUSINESS SUPPORT

There was submitted a report by the Head of Economic Development (06/418) detailing a Marketing Strategy and Action Plan for the development of a Rural Infrastructure Business Support Scheme for Perth and Kinross.

Resolved:

- (i) A Rural Infrastructure Business Scheme in Perth and Kinross, as detailed in Report 06/418, be established.
- (ii) The scheme and criteria for implementing a Rural Infrastructure Business Support Scheme, as detailed in Report 06/418, be approved.
- (iii) The Head of Economic Development be instructed to provide an update report to this Committee in March 2007.

IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 6, COUNCILLOR ELLIS DECLARED A NON-FINANCIAL INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM.

COUNCILLOR ELLIS LEFT THE MEETING DURING DISCUSSION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM.

414. SECTORAL UPDATE ON FOOD AND DRINK INITIATIVES

There was submitted a report by the Head of Economic Development (06/419) detailing a proposed programme for Berryfest 2006 and advising of Perth and Kinross Council's involvement in the 2006 Royal Highland Show.

Resolved:

- (i) The programme for Berryfest 2006, as detailed in Report 06/419, be approved.
- (ii) The local support of Perth and Kinross businesses involved in the Royal Highland Show, and the partnership working with Fife Council, be noted.

415. PERTH HARBOUR ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2005 TO MARCH 2006

There was submitted a report by the Head of Economic Development (06/420) reviewing the twelve month trading position at Perth Harbour up to 31 March 2006 and outlining ongoing development and operational activities. The Convener, on behalf of the Committee, expressed his thanks to the Harbourmaster and his team for all their efforts over the previous twelve month period.

Resolved:

- (i) The Scottish Executive decision to approve Competent Harbour status for Perth Harbour, as defined under the Pilotage Act, be welcomed.
- (ii) The submission of a Harbour Revision Order to the Scottish Executive to extend the Port Limits to Balmerino/Invergowrie, be approved.
- (iii) The concept of developing Perth Harbour as a distribution hub integrating sea, road and rail business, be endorsed.

416. EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT BID BY SCOTS FOR A NATIONAL ROADS ASSET MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/421) seeking authorisation for Perth and Kinross Council to participate in the Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland (SCOTS) Efficient Government Bid for a National Roads Asset Management Framework.

Resolved:

- (i) Participation in the SCOTS bid be approved.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Environment) be instructed to report back to the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee when the financial implications of a successful Stage 2 bid to the Scottish Executive became clearer.

417. DESIGN GUIDANCE

The Convener reported that Report 06/422 by the Executive Director (Environment), seeking the adoption of a design guidance to be used in determining planning applications, had been withdrawn from the agenda in order that arrangements might be put in place to hold a seminar for members of the Committee on the proposed guidance.

418. DEVELOPMENT CONTROL – ADOPTION OF WORKING PRACTICES

The Convener reported that Report 06/423 by the Executive Director (Environment), seeking approval of a number of long established working practices applied by officers in the determination of planning applications, had been withdrawn from the agenda to enable further consultation to take place.

419. DUCHLAGE FARM, CRIEFF – SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE DECISIONS (Art. 293)

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/424) summarising decisions previously taken by the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee to agree the principle of a new supermarket in Crieff and identifying the Duchlage Farm area as the preferred location. Appended to the report was Report 06/296, consideration of which had been deferred by the Committee on 26 April 2006 to enable officers to obtain further detailed information.

Motion – (Councillors Livingstone and Jack):-

- (i) **The decisions already taken in respect of a new supermarket in Crieff be noted.**
- (ii) **The Development Brief, as appended to Report 06/424, be approved.**
- (iii) **It be recommended to the Development Control Committee that the approved Development Brief is used as supplementary planning guidance as a basis for determination of future planning applications for this area.**

Amendment – (Councillors Cowan and McDonald) – The recommendations in Report 06/424 be not approved on the basis that there has been no clear agreement by the Council that there be a supermarket in Crieff.

Amendment – 3 Votes

Motion – 8 Votes

No Vote – 1

Resolved:

In accordance with the Motion.

420. RUMBLING BRIDGE, KINROSS-SHIRE – RESULTS OF CONSULTATION AND FINALISED DESIGN BRIEF

There was submitted a report by the Head of Sustainable Development Planning (06/425) summarising the comments received on the draft Design Brief and proposing a finalised Brief for approval.

In terms of Standing Order 55, the local member, Councillor Barnacle spoke in support of Report 06/425.

Resolved:

- (i) The Design Brief, as appended to Report 06/425, be approved.

- (ii) It be recommended to the Development Control Committee that the approved Design Brief is used as Supplementary Planning Guidance as a basis for the determination of future planning applications for the area.

COUNCILLOR SIMPSON LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

421. FUTURE OF MEAL VENNEL, PERTH

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/426) recommending agreement in principle to proposals to infill the remaining southern end of Meal Vennel, Perth as a means of dealing with community safety issues in this area.

Motion – (Councillors Livingstone and Hulbert):-

- (i) **The principle of infill retail development at the South Street end of Meal Vennel be agreed, subject to the developer assisting in the improvement of public space in King Edward Street, Perth.**
- (ii) **It be noted that planning applications for the erection of the retail unit and the closure of the pedestrian route along the line of Meal Vennel be formally considered by the Development Control Committee in due course.**
- (iii) **It be noted that the increase in anti-social behaviour and difficulties in letting Council flats in the area had been of concern to neighbouring retailers and residents. The Council as landlord, and the police, and had been subject to representation from the local ward Councillor, Joan McEwen, for seven years.**
- (iv) **The Executive Director (Environment) and the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) be encouraged to continue to work together on the proposed improvements to the housing above Meal Vennel, Perth.**

Amendment – (Councillors Lumsden and Doig) – Defer consideration of Report 06/426 to a future meeting of the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee to allow further consultation with the developer.

Motion – 7 Votes

Amendment – 3 Votes

No Vote – 1

Resolved:

In accordance with the Motion.

IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 6, COUNCILLOR A GRANT DECLARED A NON-FINANCIAL INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM.

422. CONSERVATION OF BUILT HERITAGE: PRIORITIES

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/427) outlining priorities for action for the new Conservation and Regeneration Section within the Environment Service.

Resolved:

- (i) The Executive Director (Environment) be instructed to prepare and submit to a future meeting of the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee, a joint Conservation Strategy as the basis for securing participation and joint funding in partnership with national and local bodies.
- (ii) Priorities for action in the short term be focussed on the need to progress listed building notification and maintenance records; and the designation and amendment of the Conservation Areas, as detailed in Report 06/427.
- (iii) Priority for investment be focussed on the provision of resources to support the Coupar Angus Townscape Heritage Initiative until the development of further schemes.

IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 6, COUNCILLOR A GRANT DECLARED A NON-FINANCIAL INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM.

423. COUPAR ANGUS TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE INITIATIVE

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/428) advising on progress regarding the submission of a Stage 2 Townscape Heritage Initiative Bid to the Heritage Lottery for investment in the historic built environment of Coupar Angus.

Resolved:

- (i) The Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee take a lead role in the establishment of the proposed management arrangements with external partners, as detailed in Report 06/428, and the Stage 2 Bid Document.
- (ii) The conservation management identified within Report 06/428 and the Stage 2 Bid Document be agreed.
- (iii) Subject to the approval of partnership funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and other funding partners, the proposed expenditure, as set out in Report 06/428 and the Stage 2 Bid Document, be noted.
- (iv) It be noted that further reports would be submitted on funding as necessary.

IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 6, COUNCILLOR LUMSDEN DECLARED A NON-FINANCIAL INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM, LEFT THE CHAMBERS AND TOOK NO PART IN THE DECISION THEREON.

424. SCOTTISH WATER – UPDATE ON AVAILABLE CAPACITY AND PRIORITIES FOR RELEASING CAPACITY

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/429) providing an update on the position with regard to available water and drainage capacities within Perth and Kinross and proposing supplementary planning guidance on releasing drainage capacity to be used as a basis for the determination of future planning applications.

Resolved:

- (i) The position on drainage and water supply capacity within Perth and Kinross be noted.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Environment) be instructed to continue to seek additional investment from Scottish Water to resolve drainage capacity issues, particularly in the Kinross-shire and Eastern areas in order to deliver the Development Plan strategy.
- (iii) It be recommended to the Development Control Committee that the Supplementary Planning Guidance on releasing drainage capacity, as appended to Report 06/429, be used as a basis for the determination of future planning applications in affected settlements.

IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 6, COUNCILLORS COWAN AND ELLIS DECLARED A NON-FINANCIAL INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM.

425. PERTH AND KINROSS OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/430) summarising the activities and progress to date of the Perth and Kinross Outdoor Access Forum and recommending the appointment of four new members.

Resolved:

- (i) The activities and progress of the Perth and Kinross Outdoor Access Forum from June 2005 to date be noted.
- (ii) The four new members, as recommended in Appendix 1 to Report 06/430, be appointed to the Forum for an initial period of two years.
- (iii) It be noted that members be retained in their appointment for at least a further year, as detailed in Appendix 2 to Report 06/430.
- (iv) The Executive Director (Environment) be instructed to fill any casual vacancies arising in this period from the names of the reserve candidates, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 06/430.

426. ALTERATIONS TO SPEED LIMITS IN MURTHLY, POWMILL, GRANDTULLY, ABERFELDY AND BANKFOOT

There was submitted a report by the Head of Public Space Management (06/431) recommending the promotion of Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) to alter the speed limits in Murthly, Powmill, Grandtully, Aberfeldy and Bankfoot.

In terms of Standing Order 55, Councillor Barnacle, the local member, spoke in support of the proposals recommended for Powmill.

Resolved:

- (i) The promotion of TROs to introduce a 40mph speed limit on the south side of Murthly and convert part of the existing 40mph speed limit through the village to a 30mph limit, be approved.
- (ii) The promotion of a TRO to introduce a 40mph speed limit on the A977 to the west of Powmill be approved.
- (iii) The promotion of a TRO to extend the 30mph speed limit on the A827 to the west of Grandtully be approved.
- (iv) The promotion of a TRO to introduce a 40mph speed limit on the A827 to the east of Aberfeldy be approved.
- (v) The promotion of a TRO to introduce a 40mph speed limit on the B867 to the south of Bankfoot be approved.

427. ALTERATION OF WAITING RESTRICTIONS IN CRIEFF

There was submitted a report by the Head of Public Space Management (06/432) outlining objections received to proposals to alter waiting restrictions at various locations in Crieff and recommending that the objections be set aside and the Traffic Regulation Order be made as advertised.

Resolved:

The objections to the proposals for the alteration to the waiting restrictions in Crieff be set aside and the Traffic Regulation Order be made as advertised.

428. TENDERS ACCEPTED AND WORKS AWARDED UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/433) detailing the tenders accepted and works awarded for Roads and Forward Planning related schemes by the Executive Director (Environment) under delegated powers during the period 1 January 2006 to 31 March 2006, and detailing tenders accepted and contracts awarded for Public, Education and Community Care Transport under similar powers for the same period.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 06/433 and the contract awards as detailed in Appendices 1-4 of Report 06/433 in respect of Roads and Forward Planning related schemes, and Appendix 5 in respect of Public, Education and Community Care Transport, be noted.
- (ii) The publication of tender information for transport contracts be authorised.