

# 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 18 October 2006 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors Livingstone, Hulbert, Cowan, Doig, Ellis, Jack, Lumsden, Mair, McDonald, McEwen, Robertson, Simpson and Telfer.

In Attendance: Councillor Barnacle (for Article 664); R Bean, J Valentine, C Haggart, G Lindsay and G Esson (all The Environment Service); K MacDonald, P Kyle, A Seggie, A M Sinclair and J Austen (all Chief Executive's); T Cornet, M Kay and Y Oliver (all Corporate Services); I Martin, Tayside Police.

Councillor Livingstone, Convener, Presiding.

## **653. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, Councillor Simpson declared a financial interest in Article 669, Councillor Ellis declared a non-financial interest in Article 657 and Councillor Cowan declared a non-financial interest in Article 657.

## **654. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minute of Meeting of the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee of 23 August 2006 (Articles 541-562) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

## **655. FINAL TOURISM STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN (Art. 314/05)**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Economic Development (06/694) outlining the final Tourism Strategy and Action Plan for Perth and Kinross, which had been developed by the Perthshire Tourism Partnership.

### **Resolved:**

The final version of the Tourism Strategy and Action Plan for Perth and Kinross, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 06/694, be approved.

## **656. VISITSCOTLAND INFORMATION AND SALES REVIEW - UPDATE**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Economic Development (06/695) providing (1) an update on the review of Scotland's Tourist Information Centres and (2) the implications for Perth and Kinross.

### **Resolved:**

- (i) Progress against the VisitScotland Partnership Agreement with the implementation of new projects following the first phases of VisitScotland's Information and Sales Review, be acknowledged.
- (ii) Developments at the Blairgowrie and Perth Tourist Information Centres (TICs) be welcomed.
- (iii) The provision of tourist information services in Kinross be monitored.
- (iv) The closure of Auchterarder TIC be noted with regret.
- (v) Discussions with a potential information provider at Auchterarder be noted.
- (vi) The Head of Economic Development, in conjunction with the Convener, be authorised to write to Phillip Riddell, Chief Executive of VisitScotland and to Patricia Ferguson, MSP, the appropriate Minister, to express Perth and Kinross Council's deep disappointment and regret being excluded from the consultation process to request an explanation of this and to affirm the Council's belief that they should be involved in any further review or consultation process.

COUNCILLOR COWAN AND COUNCILLOR ELLIS DECLARED A NON-FINANCIAL INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM.

## **657. SUPPORTING THE SIROLI PROJECT IN EASTERN PERTSHIRE (Art. 324)**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Economic Development (06/696) on a proposal to establish a business start up grant in the Eastern Perthshire area.

**Resolved:**

- (i) A pilot business start up grant scheme in the Eastern Perthshire area, to be implemented through the Business Gateway, be established.
- (ii) The criteria for the pilot scheme, as set out in Appendix 1 to Report 06/696, be approved.
- (iii) Subject to resources being available, funding of £20,000 in 2006/07, and similar sums for 2007/08 and 2008/09, be approved, noting that Strathmore and the Glens would pursue match private sector funding.

**658. SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE RELOCATIONS**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Economic Development (06/697) (1) providing an update on the Scottish Executive's Relocation Policy and (2) advising of the recent findings from Audit Scotland's study.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The Council's commitment to work with partner organisations and Perth and Kinross MP's and MSP's to secure civil service jobs for Perth and Kinross be reaffirmed.
- (ii) The need for greater transparency and clarity in the process, as identified in the Audit Commission's study, be welcomed.

**659. COUNTRYSIDE RANGER SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2005/2006**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/698) presenting the Annual Report 2005/2006 for the Countryside Ranger Service for submission to Scottish Natural Heritage.

**Resolved:**

The Countryside Ranger Services Annual Report for 2005/2006 be approved for submission to Scottish Natural Heritage.

**660. PROPOSED DIVERSION OF TAY AND ALMOND RIVERSIDE WALK PEDESTRIAN RIGHT OF WAY AT ST COLUMBA'S SECONDARY SCHOOL**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/699) advising of a proposed diversion of a right of way at St Columba's Secondary School, required to facilitate the redevelopment of the school campus.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The diversion of the Tay and Almond Riverside Walk (a pedestrian right of way) at St Columba's Secondary School, as shown on drawing number 2/2/2B attached to Report 06/699, under the terms of Section 207 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, be agreed.
- (ii) The Head of Legal Services be instructed to make the appropriate diversion order.
- (iii) The developer (Axiom Education) meet any costs associated with the Order, including (i) legal costs associated with making and advertising the Diversion Order, (ii) the cost of obtaining Road Construction Consent and (iii) the cost of building the new road to adoptable standards.

**661. DRAFT SPP6 RENEWABLE ENERGY**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/709) (1) advising on the Scottish Executive's draft Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) on Renewable Energy, (2) identifying issues of potential concern to Perth and Kinross Council; (3) suggesting a number of changes to the draft SPP and (4) requesting the homologation of comments to the Scottish Executive as the Council's formal response.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The response submitted by the Executive Director (Environment) to the Scottish Executive, as the Council's response to the consultation on SPP6, be homologated.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Environment) be asked to consider, in the light of recent appeal decisions and the emerging SPP, if any changes were needed to the Council's Development Plan or Supplementary Planning Guidance.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Environment) be asked to update further the Scottish Executive stressing (a) the role and importance of micro renewables including Hydro Power; (b) the role

and importance of community ownership; (c) the need for more adequate and specific landscape guidance; (d) Community Trust Funds should be mandatory and agreed by the developer and Council; (e) Community Trust Funds were justified as compensation for loss of a community asset; (f) Environmental sustainability as a priority of the highest order for Perth and Kinross Council; and (g) renewable energy generation be required in all new developments.

#### **662. BUILDING STANDARDS – ADOPTION OF CUSTOMER SERVICE CHARTER**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Development Standards (06/701) seeking approval of the introduction of a Customer Service Charter for the Council's Building Standards service.

**Resolved:**

The contents of the Customer Service Charter for the Council's Building Standards Service, as appended to Report 06/701, be approved for adoption.

#### **663. ROUTE UTILISATION STRATEGY FOR SCOTLAND (RUS) – DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/702) advising on the key issues arising from the Route Utilisation Strategy consultation for rail travel in the Perth and Kinross Council area.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The development of the draft RUS for consultation be noted.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Environment) be instructed to respond to the draft document, in the terms outlined in Report 06/702.

#### **664. NEW KINCARDINE BRIDGE – IMPACT ON A977 (Art. 224)**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/703) (i) advising on the various mitigation measures on the A977 considered necessary to counter the detrimental impact from additional traffic caused by the proposed new Kincardine Bridge; (ii) recommending acceptance of the limited offer of financial support from the Scottish Executive towards mitigation measures; (iii) recommending the implementation of measures from the prioritisation list agreed with local communities and (iv) recommending that the funding shortfall be pursued from the Scottish Executive and via TACTRAN.

In terms of Standing Order 53, the local member, Councillor Barnacle, spoke broadly in support of the terms of Report 06/703.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The limited offer of £250,000 from the Scottish Executive towards mitigation measures be accepted.
- (ii) The Head of Public Space Management be instructed to undertake the necessary works to implement those prioritised measures which the funding would permit.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Environment) be instructed (i) to pursue the funding shortfall with the Scottish Executive and via TACTRAN and (ii) in conjunction with the Convener, to write to Tavish Scott, MSP the Minister for Transport, on the funding shortfall and requesting a meeting with him on the matter.

#### **665. THE REMOVAL OF PARTS OF A LOADING PROHIBITION FROM SCOTT STREET AND PRINCES STREET, PERTH**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/704) recommending that the lengths of peak hour loading bans in Scott Street and Princes Street, Perth be reduced.

**Resolved:**

The promotion of a variation to the relevant Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to remove the peak hour loading ban from the sections of Scott Street and Princes Street, Perth, identified in Report 06/704, be approved.

#### **666. PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS, VIEWFIELD PLACE, PERTH**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/705) advising of parking problems being experienced by residents of Viewfield Place, Perth and recommending that No Waiting at Any Time parking restrictions be introduced.

**Resolved:**

The promotion of a variation to the Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) to introduce No Waiting at Any Time restrictions on Viewfield Place, Perth, be approved.

COUNCILLOR BARNACLE LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

#### **667. BRIDGE OF EARN TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/706) (1) advising of the current Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) for Bridge of Earn and (2) recommending that a new TRO be promoted, altering the waiting restrictions in the village.

**Resolved:**

The promotion of a new TRO to introduce No Waiting at Any Time restrictions on sections of Back Street, Dunning Street, Main Street, Manse Road, Side Street and Station Road, and to include One Way traffic on Dunning Street and Side Street in Bridge of Earn, as set out in Report 06/706, be approved.

#### **668. 30MPH SPEED LIMIT ON THE C484 AT HAWKSTANE/CHAPELHILL**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/707) recommending that a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) be promoted to introduce a 30mph speed limit on the C484 through the hamlets of Hawkstane and Chapelhill to the east of St Madoes.

**Resolved:**

The promotion of a TRO to introduce a 30mph speed limit on the C484 through Hawkstane and Chapelhill to the east of St Madoes, be approved.

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

#### **669. REGULATION OF "A" FRAME SIGNING**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (06/708) outlining (1) the consultation carried out with regard to "A" frame and similar advertising in the public road; (2) the issues surrounding this practice; and (3) recommending that, in light of the problems posed by such signing, a total ban be introduced across the Council area.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The Executive Director (Environment) be authorised to publish a leaflet, by 31 December 2006, for distribution to or, downloading by, businesses and/or organisations: (a) encouraging them to cease on a voluntary basis from using and displaying "A" frame signs and (b) listing the types of advertising signs acceptable to the Planning Authority.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Environment) be instructed to report to the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee in October 2007 on any perceived need for statutory legislation to control or ban "A" frame signs.
- (iii) To adopt formally the existing informal system of guidance as Policy.