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THE FIFE COUNCIL - SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE – INVERKEITHING – BLENDED MEETING

6 September, 2023

9.30 am – 11.45 am

PRESENT: Councillors David Barratt (Convener), Patrick Browne, Dave Dempsey, Brian Goodall, Andy Jackson, Sarah Neal, Sam Steele, Andrew Verrecchia and Conner Young.

ATTENDING: Paul Hocking, Co-ordinator - Asset Management & Programme Development and Ian Jones, Lead Consultant, Network Management, Roads and Transportation Services; David Thomson, Customer Experience Lead Officer, Customer and Online Services; Stephen Adamson, Project Manager, Communities and Neighbourhoods Service; and Michelle Hyslop, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services, Finance and Corporate Services.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Jeremy Harris, Chief Executive Officer, Fife Coast and Countryside Trust (for para. 86 only).

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Graeme Downie.

83. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Goodall declared, as a matter of transparency and with reference to para.86 – Fife Coast and Countryside Trust Overview - that he was a council appointed director of Fife Coast and Countryside Trust. However, as this was not considered a connection under the Councillors' Code of Conduct for the purposes of this report, he remained and participated in the meeting.

84. MINUTE

The committee considered the minute of the meeting of the South and West Fife Area Committee of 21 June 2023.

Decision

The committee agreed to approve the minute.

Arising from the minute:-

- in relation to para.73 - requested an update with regard to the workshop that was to be organised by the Education Service to analyse the attainment figures within secondary schools;
- in relation to para. 73 - requested an update be provided to members in relation to the bus mobility hub on the A985;
- in relation to para. 80 – the playpark session had taken place in the Civic Centre, Inverkeithing and members noted that a report on the Playpark Strategy would be brought back to a future meeting of the committee;

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- in relation to para. 81 – requested an update on a report being submitted to the next area committee in relation to the pros and cons of various degrees of decentralisation to help determine what (if any) comments and recommendations South and West Fife Area Committee might wish to submit to full Council; and
- in relation to para. 82 – requested an update on the digging up of newly resurfaced pieces of road following the recommendation that the Environment, Transportation and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee investigate this further.

85. APPOINTMENT TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATION - CARNEGIE DUNFERMLINE AND HERO FUND TRUST

The committee considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services seeking to appoint a replacement member on the Carnegie Dunfermline and Hero Fund Trust following the resignation of Councillor Sam Steele.

Decision

The Committee unanimously agreed to appoint Councillor Conner Young from Ward 1 as the council's representative on the Carnegie Dunfermline Hero Fund Trust.

86. FIFE COAST AND COUNTRYSIDE TRUST - OVERVIEW

The committee considered a report by the Chief Executive of Fife Coast and Countryside Trust providing information on the activities of the Fife Coast and Countryside Trust particularly in the South and West Fife Area.

Decision

The committee noted the terms of the report.

87. AREA ROADS PROGRAMME 2022-23 - FINAL REPORT

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation advising on the delivery of the 2022-23 Area Roads Programme (ARP).

Decision

The committee agreed: -

- (1) to note the contents of the report and Appendices;
- (2) that future reports on the Area Roads Programme would include additional information on road scoring assessment figures; and
- (3) that an Area Roads Programme Progress Report for 2023/24 would be brought back for consideration at the next meeting of the committee and this should include detailed information with regard to the full costings and options for road resurfacing works at Sherbrooke Road, Rosyth.

88. THE CAIRNS, CHARLESTOWN - VERBAL UPDATE ON PROJECT

Ian Jones, Lead Consultant, Roads and Transportation Services provided an update on the parking project at The Cairns, Charleston advising that it was proposed to remove the grassed area to produce sixteen parking spaces. It was noted that works on site had been postponed due to resource implications but that works would commence on 12th February, 2024 and would take approximately three to four weeks to complete, subject to there being no adverse weather conditions.

Decision

The committee welcomed and noted the update.

89. COMPLAINTS UPDATE

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Communities) providing an overview of complaints received relating to the South and West Fife Area for the year from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

90. WELFARE SUPPORT AND ANTI-POVERTY ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service updating members on achievements and outcomes of the welfare support and anti-poverty activities taking place in South and West Fife (S&WF) taking cognisance of the wider Local Community Plan and the Tackling Poverty and Preventing Crisis work.

Decision

The committee noted: -

- (1) the contents of the report and the outcomes and achievements of the 2022-23 South and West Fife Welfare Support and Anti-Poverty projects; and
- (2) the preventative measures designed to tackle poverty and inequality in South and West Fife.

91. SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2023-24

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) relating to the Forward Work Programme for future meetings of the committee.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) reviewed and noted the South and West Fife Area Committee Forward Work Programme 2023/24;

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- (2) noted that a report be submitted to the next meeting of the area committee on the advantages and disadvantages of decentralisation; and
- (3) that an Area Roads Programme Progress Report for 2023/24 would be brought back for consideration at the next meeting of the area committee which should include detailed information with regard to the full costings and options for road resurfacing works at Sherbrooke Road, Rosyth.