ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of RE-SCHEDULED MEETING of the INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 29 January 2013 at 4.00 pm.

Present: Councillors JIM HOUSTON, DONALD MORRISON, LYNNE DEVINE, BILL DUFF, HELEN OSWALD, JEANETTE GAUL, MARTYN GEDDES, ALEX KING, IAN McLAAREN, ROB MURRAY, ROBERT MYLES, RONNIE PROCTOR and ROBERT SPINK.

In the absence of the Convener and the Vice-Convener, Councillor Murray was unanimously appointed as Convener for the meeting, whereupon Councillor Murray took the Chair.

Prior to commencement of the business reference was made to the award of the MBE for services to Local Government to David Valentine who had recently retired from the post of Head of Economic Development and Environmental and Consumer Protection; members expressed congratulations to Mr Valentine on this recognition.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Mairi Evans, Sheila Hands, Iain Gaul and Mark Salmond with Councillors Jim Houston, Donald Morrison, Helen Oswald and Ronnie Proctor, respectively, substituting; apologies were also intimated on behalf of Councillors Bill Bowles and David Fairweather.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Jeanette Gaul declared an interest in item 4 as a member of Forfar Fair Trade Forum. She indicated that she would be taking part in discussion and voting on this item.

Councillor Oswald declared an interest in item 5 as her husband was a member of Carnoustie Community Council. She indicated that she would be taking part in discussion and voting on this item.

3. MINUTES

(a) Previous Meeting

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 20 November 2012 was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

(b) Arbroath Harbour Joint Consultative Committee

The minute of meeting of the Arbroath Harbour Joint Consultative Committee of 23 November 2012, a copy of which is appended hereto, was submitted and noted (APPENDIX I).

4. ANGUS COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME – NEW APPLICATIONS

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 20 November 2012, there was submitted Report No 37/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services advising members of applications for grants of £1,000 or less which had been approved under delegated authority since 20 November 2012.

The Committee agreed:-

(i) to note the contents of the Report; and
(ii) to note the following decisions made in respect of applications for grants of £1,000 or less:-

- Kirriemuir Landward East Community Council - £870
- Forfar Fair Trade Forum - £422
- Angus Toy Appeal - £1,000
- Go Getters Arbroath - £325
- Friockheim and Kinnell Parish Church - £995.74
- Carnoustie Development Group - £629.91.

5. **ANGUS COUNCIL EVENT FUND – NEW APPLICATIONS**

With reference to Article 7 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 20 November 2012, there was submitted Report No 38/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services advising members of decisions made in respect of applications received in terms of the Angus Council Event Fund since 20 November 2012.

The Committee agreed:-

(i) to note the contents of the Report; and

(ii) to note the following awards which had been made in terms of the criteria of the Fund:-

- Carnoustie Community Council - £139
- Kirriemuir Landward East Community Council - £1,150
- Forfar Musical Society - £1,278
- Kirriemuir and District Round Table - £649
- Combined Productions (Brechin) - £1,123.

6. **EAST OF SCOTLAND EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM – TRAVEL BY ANGUS ELECTED MEMBER/CHAIR OF ESEC**

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 28 February 2012, there was submitted Report No 39/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services advising members of the attendance of the Convener in her capacity as Chair of the East of Scotland European Consortium at European events in October and November 2012 and seeking approval for future attendance.

The Report indicated that the Chair of the Consortium played a key role in the UK and abroad and coupled with participation in the European Community Action Scheme for the mobility of the University Students Programme, provided an opportunity to increase awareness of EU institutions and programmes, particularly with the introduction of new programmes for 2014-2020.

The Committee agreed:-

(i) to note the update on recent attendance at Consortium events in Brussels by the Convener;

(ii) to retrospectively approve the attendance of the Convener for travel to Brussels in her capacity as the Consortium Chair during October and November 2012, having noted that all costs would be met either by EU funding or by the Consortium; and

(iii) to authorise approval for the Convener to attend future visits in Europe as Chair and as a member of the Consortium’s Policy Board, with any associated costs being met from the Consortium budget.
7. DEVELOPING THE ANGUS ECONOMIC STRATEGY 2013-2020

With reference to Article 41 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 22 April 2008, there was submitted Report No 40/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services advising members of progress being made towards production of the Angus Economic Strategy 2013-2020 on behalf of the Angus Economic Development Partnership and seeking approval for the approach adopted and issue of the current draft Strategy for consultation.

The Committee agreed:-

(i) to approve the process being adopted towards the production of an Angus Economic Strategy 2013-2020, as detailed in the Report;

(ii) to authorise the Senior Service Manager of Economic Development to issue the current draft Strategy for consultation;

(iii) to instruct the Senior Service Manager of Economic Development to submit a revised final draft of the Report as soon as practical, following conclusion of the consultation process; and

(iv) to note that this strategy did not require to undergo a full strategic environmental assessment, as supported by the Environmental Assessment Gateway.

8. PROPOSAL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A LONG DISTANCE WALKING ROUTE

There was submitted Report No 41/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services providing an overview of the work carried out to date by the Council, other local authorities and stakeholder groups in the development of a long distance walking route to run between Aberdeen and Pitlochry, passing through the Angus Glens.

The Report also contained proposals as to how the route might be further developed and marketed in order to become a tourism asset for Angus and sought approval to take these proposals forward.

The Report indicated that walking was fast becoming one of the most popular activities undertaken by holidaymakers in Scotland and, following consideration by a steering group comprising representatives of neighbouring local authorities and other stakeholders, the Group agreed that there was potential for the proposed route to be developed, with the name “The Glens and Deeside Way”, to illustrate that much of the route followed the already established Deeside Way and then covered the Angus Glens.

Having heard Councillor Duff, the Committee agreed:-

(i) to note the work which had been undertaken so far in the development of a new long distance walking route;

(ii) to approve the approach which had been taken;

(iii) to approve the long distance walking route being fully developed into a tourism product which could be marketed as an asset for the area, in partnership with other members of the Steering Group;

(iv) to authorise the long distance walking route being promoted as a “virtual route” in the first instance, with full waymarking being introduced at a later date, subject to funding; and

(v) to instruct the Director of Infrastructure Services to investigate, with the other Local Authorities, the full costs of waymarking, should funds become available.
9. REVIEW AND AWARD OF TENDERED LOCAL BUS SERVICES

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 17 January 2012, there was submitted Report No 42/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services detailing results of the recent re-tendering exercise in respect of local bus service provision and the associated budgetary implications arising from this exercise.

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of this matter, until the conclusion of the budget process for 2013/14 on 14 February 2013.

10. REVIEW OF KIRRIEMUIR CONSERVATION AREA AND DESIGN GUIDANCE

With reference to Article 18 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 21 August 2012, there was submitted Report No 43/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services seeking authority to undertake public consultation on the proposed conservation area analysis and design guide for the Kirriemuir Conservation Area, together with proposed amendments to the conservation area boundary.

Having heard from Councillors Jeanette Gaul and Proctor, the Committee agreed:-

(i) to note the contents of the Report;

(ii) to authorise a six week consultation period with the Kirriemuir community, including Kirriemuir Community Council and other stakeholders, on the conservation area analysis and design guide and proposed amendments to the boundary of the Kirriemuir Conservation Area;

(iii) to note that the consultation would commence on Monday 4 February 2013;

(iv) to instruct that a further Report be submitted to this Committee at the conclusion of the consultation period; and

(v) to note that an announcement had been made today by Historic Scotland confirming that funding in respect of a Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme for Kirriemuir had been approved.

11. CYCLING, WALKING AND SAFER STREETS FUND - UPDATE

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 28 February 2012, there was submitted Report No 44/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services, updating members on progress on delivery of the programme of projects funded during the current financial year through the Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets fund and seeking approval to the amendments to the programme, as detailed in the Report.

The Report indicated that the proposed amendments to the programme of works would ensure that the total cost was contained within the Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets allocation for the current financial year.

The Committee agreed:-

(i) to note the contents of the Report;

(ii) to note the current position with regard to the delivery of the programme of projects during financial year 2012/2013; and

(iii) to approve the amendments to the programme of works, as detailed in the Report.

12. TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS - UPDATE

With reference to Article 24 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 21 August 2012, there was submitted and noted Report No 45/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services detailing the current state of progress with regard to pending Traffic Regulation Orders.
13. **ANGUS COUNCIL (VARIATION OF WAITING RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2013**

With reference to Article 19 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 28 February 2012, there was submitted Report No 46/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services relating to the making of an Order for the purpose of varying the provisions of current Traffic Orders in respect of waiting restrictions at various locations throughout Angus.

The Report indicated that, having taken into consideration the views expressed by those objecting to the proposals in respect of Airlie Street, Brechin; Queen Street, Carnoustie and Dawson Crescent, Monifieth, the Head of Roads considered that the terms of the draft Order was reasonable and appropriate, that objections as lodged be noted and that the Order be proceeded with as currently drafted.

Having heard from Councillor Myles and Houston in relation to the proposals for Airlie Street and Councillor Oswald in relation to the proposals for Queen Street, the Committee agreed:-

(i) to note the objections received during the consultation process;

(ii) to approve the making of the appropriate Order for changes to be made to current waiting restrictions as detailed in the Report with the following exceptions;

(iii) to defer consideration of the proposed Order in respect of Airlie Street, Brechin to a subsequent meeting of this Committee pending further information, including the views of all local members; and

(iv) to take no further action with regard to the proposal to vary the Traffic Order at Queen Street, Carnoustie.

14. **VARIATION OF WAITING RESTRICTIONS**

There was submitted Report No 47/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services proposing amendments to current waiting restrictions to take account of changing circumstances at Rosemount Road, Arbroath; Montrose Street, Brechin; Barry Road, Carnoustie; Camus Street and Kinloch Street, Carnoustie; Grange Road, Monifieth and Castle Street and Shore Wynd, Monifieth.

The Report indicated that, in the interests of pedestrian and traffic safety and free traffic flow and in order to maintain access to premises, alterations to waiting restrictions were considered appropriate.

The Committee agreed:-

(i) to note the contents of the Report; and

(ii) to promote appropriate Traffic Regulation Variation Orders for changes to be made to current waiting restrictions in Arbroath, Brechin, Carnoustie, Monifieth and Montrose, as detailed in the Report.

15. **THE ANGUS COUNCIL (CONVERSION OF FOOTWAYS TO CYCLE TRACKS) A935 MONTROSE-BRECHIN ROAD ORDER 2013**

With reference to Article 33 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 14 June 2007, there was submitted Report No 48/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services with regard to the proposed conversion of sections of footway to cycle tracks adjacent to the A935 Montrose-Brechin Road.

The Report indicated that, in order to provide improved off-road cycling facilities around Montrose, existing sections of footway required to be converted to cycle track, which required a formal Order.

The Committee, having noted that one objection had been made to the proposal which required to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for determination, agreed:-
(i) to support the making of a formal Order to convert existing sections of footway around Montrose to cycle tracks; and

(ii) to refer the matter to Scottish Ministers for determination, having regard to the objection received.

16. KIRRIEMUIR TOWN CENTRE – TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT REVIEW

There was submitted Report No 49/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services advising members of the findings of a review of road traffic management in Kirriemuir and seeking approval to proceed with traffic measures recommended from the outcomes of that review. A full Technical Report was attached to Report No 49/13.

The Report indicated that the need to undertake a review of road traffic management in burgh towns, including Kirriemuir town centre, was a key action in the Corporate Plan. The review had examined traffic movement within the town centre, considered the parking requirements and assessed the suitability of the existing pedestrian, cycle and public transport infrastructure in the town centre and summarised the main outcomes of the study.

Having heard Councillor Proctor, the Committee agreed:

(i) to note the contents of the traffic management review for Kirriemuir town centre;

(ii) to the retention of the current traffic system in Kirriemuir town centre;

(iii) to instruct the Head of Roads to commence procedures to amend the Angus Council (Off-Street Car Parks) Order 1998 to change Glengate car park from short stay to long stay;

(iv) to instruct the Head of Roads to install cycle stands at the four town centre car parks;

(v) to instruct the Head of Roads to provide/upgrade dropped kerbs at the sites indicated in the Technical Report; and

(vi) to instruct the Head of Roads to review the pedestrian signing to Barrie’s birthplace and to the toilet facilities in Reform Street car park

17. SPEED LIMIT REVIEW – C CLASS LOCAL ROADS

With reference to Article 17 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 24 November 2009, there was submitted Report No 51/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services, outlining the process used and the progress made in the review of speed limits on C class roads throughout Angus, in accordance with the Scottish Government Guidance on the setting of local speed limits and the Council’s established speed limit strategy.

The Report indicated that all new speed limit requests in Angus would continue to be assessed using the speed limit strategy for Angus 2008 and it was recommended that changes to existing speed limits on C class roads should be implemented in accordance with the speed limit strategy.

The Committee agreed:

(i) to note the proposals arising from the review of speed limits on C class roads;

(ii) to authorise approval of the proposals detailed in Appendix 2 of the Report; and

(iii) to authorise promotion of the necessary Speed Limit Orders to enable implementation of the proposals.
18. **CASTLE STREET, FORFAR – CONSULTATION REPORT**

With reference to Article 22 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 June 2010, there was submitted Report No 52/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services, detailing the outcome of consultation and traffic surveys relating to the operation of the one-way traffic system in Castle Street, Forfar during a one year trial period.

The Report indicated that results of the consultation and traffic surveys overall favoured the retention of the current one-way system and the provision of additional on-street parking/servicing areas and/or possible future footway widening would benefit shoppers and pedestrians, which options would be further investigated.

The Committee agreed:-

(i) to approve retention of the current one-way southwards traffic system in Castle Street, Forfar between Canmore Street and Myre Road;

(ii) to instruct the Head of Roads to investigate options to increase parking/servicing provision and/or consider future widening of footways in Castle Street;

(iii) to instruct the Head of Roads to investigate options to review control of through traffic movement in Canmore Street; and

(iv) to note that a further Report on the foregoing actions would be submitted to this Committee prior to their implementation.

19. **ARBROATH HARBOUR – CHARGING REGIME APRIL 2013 ONWARDS**

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 18 January 2011, there was submitted Report No 53/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services, advising members of the proposed level of charges for services at Arbroath Harbour which had been considered at the meeting of the Arbroath Harbour Joint Consultative Committee on 23 November 2012 and recommending the introduction of charges to be levied at the Harbour from April 2013.

The Report detailed comments made by the various user groups on the Joint Consultative Committee to the suggested schedule of charges, as proposed in the Report.

The Committee agreed:-

(i) to note the contents of the Report;

(ii) to note the proposed charges which were submitted to the meeting of the Arbroath Harbour Consultative Committee on 23 November 2012; and

(iii) to approve the proposed schedule of charges, as detailed in the Report, to apply for financial years 2013/2014 and 2014/2015.

20. **ARBROATH HARBOUR JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE – PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION AND REPRESENTATION OF ANGUS COUNCIL**

With reference to Article 23 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 21 August 2012, there was submitted Report No 54/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services, requesting that consideration be given to proposed amendments to the constitution of Arbroath Harbour Joint Consultative Committee to reflect proposals raised at the most recent meeting of that Committee.

The Committee agreed:-

(i) to note the contents of the Report;
to approve the proposed amendment to the non-Council representation on the Arbroath Harbour Joint Consultative Committee, as detailed in the revised constitution attached to the Report, to reflect changes in the organisations representing active Harbour users; and

(iii) to approve the proposed change, as detailed in the Report, to reflect a proposal by the Joint Consultative Committee to meet three times per year, rather than twice as at present.

21. BRECHIN FLOOD PREVENTION SCHEME – UPDATE

With reference to Article 15 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 20 November 2012, there was submitted Report No 55/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services updating members on the progression of the Brechin Flood Prevention Scheme through the statutory process under the Flood Prevention (Scotland) Act 1961 and seeking approval for the preparation of an application for capital grant funding from the Scottish Government in support of the delivery of the scheme.

The Report indicated that the Brechin Flood Prevention Scheme 2010 continued to be advanced to seek to deliver protection works in 2014/2015, subject to successful funding application. The Scottish Government had been advised that as the single objection received to the Scheme had been withdrawn, the public local enquiry scheduled to take place in November 2012 had subsequently been cancelled.

The Committee agreed:-

(i) to note the further information on the cancellation of the Public Local Inquiry for the Brechin Flood Prevention Scheme;

(ii) to note that planning permission for the Brechin Flood Prevention Scheme had been granted by the Development Standards Committee at its meeting on 8 January 2013, subject to a number of conditions;

(iii) to note that a request has been forwarded to the Scottish Government asking Scottish Ministers to confirm the Scheme under the Flood Prevention (Scotland) Act 1961;

(iv) to note the progress being made for land agreements with affected owners and occupiers;

(v) to note the latest position on Scottish Government capital grant funding for large capital flood prevention projects and the implications for the Brechin Flood Prevention Scheme;

(vi) to note the revised programme for delivery of the Brechin Flood Prevention Scheme subject to securing remaining approvals required and the necessary capital funding;

(vii) to note the latest position on the flood protection works, short-term measures for the River South Esk at Brechin;

(viii) to note the overall financial implications for the project as detailed in the Report;

(ix) to authorise an application for capital grant for the Brechin Flood Prevention Scheme to be prepared and submitted in accordance with the current distribution methodology for capital funding from the Scottish Government in anticipation of receipt of confirmation of the Scheme by Scottish Ministers; and

(x) to note that as soon as such confirmation was received an application be duly submitted for the next round of funding applications not anticipated to be before March/April 2013, and subject to the Council’s funding commitment being confirmed as part of the 2013/14 budget setting decisions.
22. FLOOD EVENTS IN THE ANGUS AREA, FRIDAY 12 OCTOBER 2012 – UPDATE

With reference to Article 15 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 20 November 2012, there was submitted Report No 56/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services updating members on the development of action taken to address the findings of investigations into the flooding events which had occurred across Angus on Friday 12 October 2012 and outlining the flooding events which had occurred during December 2012.

The Report indicated that development of an action plan continued to address the findings of the investigations into the flooding events which occurred across Angus on 12 October and during the period 14 – 24 December 2012 where a series of short term actions had been identified and were now being addressed.

A wider review of opportunities for further improvements to the Council’s response to flood events and community resilience which might involve and require longer term investment, continued to take place.

Having heard from a number of members, the Committee agreed:

(i) to note the contents of the Report and the actions being taken; and

(ii) to express thanks and appreciation to all staff concerned who had responded so effectively to all the incidents of flooding.

23. AMENDMENT TO APPROVED LISTS OF CONTRACTORS FOR CONSTRUCTION, CIVIL ENGINEERING AND ROAD MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS TO A MAXIMUM VALUE OF £500,000

With reference to Article 30 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 21 August 2012, there was submitted Report No 57/13 by the Director of Infrastructure Services, updating members on the use of approved lists of contractors in line with the revised Financial Regulations and recommending the omission of contractors from the approved list of contractors for various categories of work, up to a maximum value of £500,000.

The Committee agreed:

(i) to note the contents of the Report; and

(ii) to approve the removal from the approved lists of contractors of T Robertson & Son Ltd; McKean & Company (Glasgow) Ltd and Harte Lighting, as these firms had now ceased trading.