

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **ROADS COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 28 November 2002 at 4.20pm.

Present: Councillors SANDY WEST, KITTY RITCHIE, JOHN HENDERSON, ALEX KING, IAN MACKINTOSH, PETER MURPHY, ROBERT MYLES, HELEN OSWALD, RON SCRIMGEOUR, DAVID SELFRIDGE and RICHARD SPEIRS.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Provost Mrs FRANCES E DUNCAN OBE and Councillor STEWART McGLYNN.

Councillor WEST, Convener, in the Chair.

1. MINUTES

(a) Previous Meeting

The [minute of meeting of this Committee of 17 October 2002](#) was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

Councillor West declared an interest in the following item. Councillor Ritchie took the Chair.

(b) Arbroath Harbour Joint Consultative Committee

The minute of meeting of the [Arbroath Harbour Joint Consultative Committee of Friday 8 November 2002](#), a copy of which is appended hereto, was submitted (**APPENDIX I**).

Having heard Councillor King refer to item 3(A)(i) of the above minute in relation to the control of pollution/testing for Tri-Butyl-Tins (TBTs) or Tri-Phenyl-Tins (TPTs), the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the changes to the Rules and Regulations for the use of the slipway at Arbroath Harbour as referred to at items 3(A)(i) (1) and (2) of the above minute (specifically relating to paragraphs 3.1 to 3.3 of the said Rules and Regulations attached to the minute);
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Law and Administration to write to both SEPA and the Scottish Executive expressing the Council's concern at the apparent practical difficulties being caused to boat owners and boatyard operators due to the absence of clear guidance on treatment of *de minimis* levels of Organotin compounds found in the hull, paint/washdown water samples, and seeking clarification on uniform and consistent application of the Pollution Prevention and Control (Scotland) Regulations 2000 throughout Scotland; and
- (iii) to otherwise note the minute.

2. 2003/2004 REVENUE BUDGET

There was submitted [Report No 1404/02](#) by the Director of Finance advising the Committee of the latest position with regard to the preparation of the Roads department 2003/2004 revenue budget and associated issues. Appended to the Report was a summary of the departmental provisional base budget for 2003/2004 as submitted to, and subsequently reviewed by, the Director of Finance.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report for its interest at this stage in the budget process; and
- (ii) to note that more detailed Reports with specific recommendations would be brought forward later in the revenue budget cycle.

3. 2002/2006 FINANCIAL PLAN AND 2003/2004 CAPITAL BUDGET

There was submitted [Report No 1405/02](#) by the Director of Finance advising the Committee of the latest position with regard to the preparation of the 2002/2006 Financial Plan (incorporating the 2003/2004 capital budget) for the Roads department, together with the departmental Financial Plan submissions for 2002/2006 as returned to the Director of Finance and subsequently reviewed by the Capital Budget Sub-Group.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report for its interest at this stage in the Financial Plan process; and
- (ii) to note that more detailed Reports with specific recommendations would be brought forward later in the Financial Plan cycle.

4. HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 25 January 2001, there was submitted [Report No 1406/02](#) by the Director of Roads giving an appraisal of the management of health and safety within the Roads department.

The Report indicated that, following the introduction of the Roads department Safe Working Practices Manual, various monitoring exercises had been carried out on working practices within, and relating to, the work of the Roads department. As a result, 18 of the existing safe working practices had been revised and a further two added to the list in relation to lone working and the use of the "Hilti" nail gun, as set out in Appendix 1 to the Report. The Health and Safety Policy had also been revised to reflect changes in personnel within the department, as set out in Appendix 2 to the Report. In addition, procedures had been reviewed in relation to contractors' performance and Public Liability claims against the Council in respect of road related incidents.

The Report concluded that the Roads department had adopted a very proactive approach to health and safety with various monitoring and control procedures in place to promote continuous improvement in safe working practices.

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the Report.

5. EUROPEAN BLUE BADGE SCHEME OF PARKING CONCESSIONS FOR DISABLED PEOPLE

There was submitted [Report No 1407/02](#) by the Director of Roads explaining the situation with regard to the use of the new European Blue Badges for disabled people, which would fully replace the previous Orange Badge Scheme by March 2003.

The Report indicated that legislation had been put in place to allow for the phased replacement of the Orange Badge for Disabled Drivers with the new Blue European Badge. Further Regulations had been introduced on 8 November 2002 to allow the Blue Badges to be mutually recognised throughout Europe. The Report detailed how the Blue Badge Scheme would be operated and highlighted, in particular, the restrictions to the use of the Blue Badges. The Report also drew attention to the availability of a Scottish Executive Development Department publication on the Blue Badge Scheme and an Angus Council fact sheet on the use of the Blue Badge.

The Committee agreed to note the situation with regard to the use of the new European Blue Badge for disabled people.

6. A90 FORFAR BY-PASS JUNCTION IMPROVEMENTS - ROAD CLASSIFICATIONS

There was submitted [Report No 1426/02](#) by the Director of Roads informing the Committee of proposals to reclassify certain roads as a result of the junction improvements on the A90 Forfar By-pass which were currently under construction.

The Report proposed the reclassification of the A Class Glamis Road, Forfar (currently classified as the A929) as the A94 and also classification of the sections of new road created by the construction of grade separated junctions on the Forfar By-pass. The proposals were detailed in the Classification Schedule appended to the Report, which had been submitted to the Scottish Executive in order to progress, timeously, the A90 Forfar By-pass improvements.

The Committee agreed to homologate the action taken by the Director of Roads in proposing to the Scottish Executive:-

- (i) the reclassification as the A94 of that section of the A929 Glamis Road, Forfar from its junction with the A926 Craig O' Loch Road/A926 Dundee Loan and West High Street, Forfar to the new grade separated junction on the A90(T) Edinburgh-Perth-Aberdeen Trunk Road; and
- (ii) the classification of the new sections of road presently under construction at the new grade separated junctions on the A90(T) Edinburgh-Perth-Aberdeen Trunk Road.

7. VISIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS AT VARIOUS ROAD JUNCTIONS

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 29 August 2002, there was submitted [Report No 1409/02](#) by the Director of Roads updating the Committee on progress with regard to various junction improvement schemes already approved by the Committee and seeking approval for the investigation of further potential schemes, in the interest of traffic safety, as detailed in the plans attached to the Report.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note that the investigation of the various junction improvements previously agreed by the Committee was progressing;
- (ii) to authorise the realisation of improvements at:-
 - (a) the junction of the B9127/U360(3) at Mains of Kinnettles;
 - (b) the junction of Hume Street/Western Road, Montrose;
 - (c) the junction of the A926/B9128 at Zoar, Forfar;
- (iii) to approve the investigation of further junction improvements at:-
 - (a) the C29/U399 North of East Bog;
 - (b) the B961/C50/U467(2) near Knockhill;
 - (c) the C6/U314 Murroes Primary School; and
- (iv) to authorise the Director of Property Services to negotiate with the relevant owners regarding the acquisition of the land required for the improvements referred to in (iii) above.

8. TRAFFIC ORDERS

(a) Update

With reference to Article 8(a) of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 29 August 2002, there was submitted and noted [Report No 1410/02](#) by the Director of Roads providing, in the Appendices to the Report, an update of Traffic Regulation Orders currently being processed and their stage of progress as at 1 November 2002.

(b) Temporary Traffic Orders

With reference to Article 8 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 17 October 2002, there was submitted and noted [Report No 1395/02](#) by the Director of Law and Administration advising that, at the request of the Director of Roads, Temporary Traffic Orders had been made, as detailed in the Report.

At this point in the meeting Councillors Myles and Ritchie, local members, expressed appreciation of the staff of the Roads Department who had provided sterling help in response to recent flooding incidents in their respective areas.

9. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Committee resolved, in terms of Standing Order 27(2), that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items so as to avoid the disclosure of information which was exempt in terms of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, paragraphs 6, 8 and 9.

10. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

There was submitted [Joint Report No 1412/02](#) by the Director of Roads and the Director of Property Services outlining new joint working arrangements between the Property Services department and the Roads department for the provision of the Christmas lighting service for Angus. The Report also sought homologation of urgent testing/renewal work to the Christmas lighting support systems in the various Burghs, which had been financed from supplementary funding from the Property Renewal and Repairs Fund at a cost of £30,000.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Director of Roads was now working jointly with the Director of Property Services to provide the Christmas Lighting Service for Angus;
- (ii) to note that the bolts used to support catenary (suspended) Christmas Lighting features required to be subjected to an anchor point pull test to comply with British Standard 7883: 1999 (issue 2);
- (iii) to note that all such bolts in Angus had been tested/renewed as required to allow their use in the current year;
- (iv) to homologate the decision to carry out this anchor point pull testing/renewal programme as a matter of urgency;
- (v) to note that the Personnel and Property Services Committee and the Finance and Information Technology Committee were being asked to homologate the additional costs incurred in carrying out these bolt tests to be met from the Property Renewal and Repairs Fund;
- (vi) to note that the Director of Roads would present a further report to a future Roads Committee recommending a policy and procedure for carrying out future anchor point pull tests;

- (vii) to note that the Director of Roads would present a further report to a future Roads Committee detailing works required to be carried out on the existing Christmas Lighting apparatus as a result of comprehensive electrical tests and visual inspection; and
- (viii) to note that the Director of Roads would present a further report to a future Roads Committee recommending the best value arrangements for the future procurement of the Christmas Lighting service provision.

Councillor Helen Oswald declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussion thereof.

11. ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS

(a) B9113 Westerton Crossroads Eastwards – Carriageway Works

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 17 October 2002, there was submitted [Report No 1413/02](#) by the Director of Roads giving details of the tenders received for carriageway works at the B9113 Westerton Crossroads Eastwards. The basic elements of the project comprised overlaying, with bituminous surfacing materials, 1000m of existing carriageway; the installation of kerbing and a positive drainage system; and the replacement of road markings and reflective road studs.

The Committee agreed to approve the acceptance of the lowest tender submitted for the carriageway works on the B9113 Forfar-Kinnell Road at C44 Westerton Crossroads, being that submitted by Ennstone Thistle Ltd in the amount of £142,988.59.

(b) A92 Montrose Bridge Replacement – Provisional Contract Award

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of [Report No 1414/02](#) by the Director of Roads.