

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 10 March 2005 at 4.00 pm.

Present: Councillors DAVID SELFRIDGE, KITTY RITCHIE, IAN ANGUS, IAIN GAUL (substitute for JACK GIBB), ALEX KING, IAN MACKINTOSH, STEWART McGLYNN, JOY MOWATT, ROBERT MYLES, PETER NIELD, HELEN OSWALD (substitute for RON SCRIMGEOUR), MARK SALMOND, RICHARD SPEIRS and ROBERT SPINK.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors JACK GIBB and RON SCRIMGEOUR.

Councillor SELFRIDGE, Convener, in the Chair.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Angus declared an interest in item 22 as an ordinary member of the Arbroath Abbey Pageant Society.

Councillor King declared an interest in item 22 as a life member of the Arbroath Abbey Pageant Society.

Councillor Mackintosh declared an interest in item 23 as a farmer.

Councillor Mowatt declared an interest in item 7 as a member of the Brechin Eco Team.

Councillor Myles declared an interest in item 19 as a member of the Edzell Village Improvement Society and item 23 as a farmer.

2. MINUTES

(a) Previous Meeting

The [minute of meeting of this Committee of 27 January 2005](#) was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

(i) Angus Local Plan Review/Scottish Water

With reference to Article 8 of the minute, and having heard from the Director of Planning and Transport, the Committee agreed that a Sub-Committee should be established to consider, if required, issues arising with Scottish Water at Kirriemuir and the potential bearing this had on the Angus Local Plan Review.

It was further agreed that the membership of the Sub-Committee would comprise the Convener and Vice-Convener of this Committee, the Convener and Vice-Convener of the Development Control Committee and the two local members (being Councillors Mackintosh and Henderson).

(b) Executive Sub-Committee

The [minutes of meetings of the Executive Sub-Committee of 17 and 24 February 2005](#), copies of which are appended hereto, were submitted and noted (**APPENDICES I AND II** respectively).

The following matter was, on the determination of the Convener, dealt with as a matter of urgency, in order that a timeous decision could be taken.

3. MONIFIETH TO CARNOUSTIE CYCLE TRACK

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of this Committee of 22 December 2004, the Director of Roads advised members that Sustrans had now confirmed that they were willing to make a contribution of £100,000 towards the cost of the Monifieth to Carnoustie Cycle Track Project, subject to the additional external funding being spent by 30 June 2005.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) that the enhancements to the specification as reported, be ordered without delay to ensure that the required level of spend is achieved by 30 June 2005 to safeguard the £100,000 additional external funding; and
- (ii) to note that in line with the recommendations contained in Report No 1511/04 it was intended that a further report would be brought forward to provide full details of the work programme and the updated funding package in light of the additional £100,000 external funding programme from Sustrans. Meanwhile, the Capital Budget would be revised to inform the budget monitoring process.

4. TOWARDS CITY REGION PLANS

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 27 January 2005, there was submitted [Report No 310/05](#) by the Director of Planning and Transport advising members of the current position in taking forward proposals for the removal of Structure Plans and their replacement with City Region Plans for the four largest city regions, including Dundee City Region.

The Report indicated that the removal of Structure Plans and their replacement with City Region Plans would have significant implications for the manner in which development planning was undertaken and delivered in Angus. Further progress towards implementation of the proposed new arrangements was anticipated over the next few months, including publication of a White Paper on planning by the Scottish Executive in Spring 2005, followed by a Planning Bill later in the year. This would be the subject of further reports to Committee in due course.

Having heard various members express their concerns at the possible implications for local government contained within the proposals, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report and the position which had currently been reached in taking forward proposals for the introduction of City Region Plans; and
- (ii) to instruct the Director of Planning and Transport to arrange, in due course, an informal seminar to brief elected members on developments in this area.

5. NATURE CONSERVATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2004

With reference to Article 14 of the minute of meeting of the Strategic Policy Committee of 24 June 2003, there was submitted [Report No 311/05](#) by the Director of Planning and Transport asking the Committee to note the new duty to further the conservation of bio-diversity in exercising any functions.

The Report indicated that the passing of the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004, which came into force on 29 November 2004, placed a statutory duty on the Council and office holders to further the conservation of bio-diversity. Whilst much was already being done in this regard, the Council was now required to further the conservation of bio-diversity in carrying out all its functions and decision making. The limited availability of bio-diversity information for policy and decision makers and the potential need for staff training required to be investigated and would be the subject of further reports.

The Committee agreed to note the requirement to further the conservation of bio-diversity in decision making and carrying out the Council's functions.

6. TAY ESTUARY FORUM

With reference to Article 7 of the minute of meeting of the Planning and Transport Policy Committee of 13 June 2002, there was submitted [Report No 312/05](#) by the Director of Planning and Transport outlining the work of the Tay Estuary Forum and suggesting that the Council should continue to give support to the Forum for the next three years.

The Report concluded that an integrated approach to the management of the coastal area required the co-operation of a range of agencies and individuals and could not be taken forward by one body alone. The Tay Estuary Forum provided a mechanism for achieving this and had made considerable progress in furthering understanding between the partners of the issues faced. It was proposed that the Council support the Forum in both staff time and financial terms, by agreeing to continue to be an active partner in the Forum and to contribute £2,000 per annum for the next three years.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) that Angus Council should continue to play an active part in the Tay Estuary Forum, including officer representation on the Steering Group; and
- (ii) to support the work of the Forum by contributing £6,000 from the Planning and Transport Revenue Budget over the three year period 2005/2006 to 2007/2008.

7. ANGUS ECO TEAMS PROJECT

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 2 September 2004, there was submitted [Report No 313/05](#) by the Director of Planning and Transport asking the Committee to note the success in recruiting households to take part in the Angus Eco Teams Project and to approve funding for a trip for the participants to visit the Earthship at Craigenalt Ecology Centre.

The Report indicated that the Angus Eco Teams Project had involved the Council in recruiting approximately eight Eco Teams derived from 50 households throughout the county. Participants were required to meet once a month over a period of three months and collect and measure data relating to their energy and water use, as well as the amount of household waste they produced and recycled. As an incentive to complete the programme and as a method of getting all the Eco Teams together, participants were to be invited to attend a trip to the Earth Ship at Craigenalt Ecology Centre in Fife, where they could learn more about saving resources in the home and other environmental issues.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the success in recruiting households to join the Angus Eco Teams Project; and
- (ii) to approve funding for a trip for the participants to visit the Earth Ship at Craigenalt Ecology Centre in Fife in recognition of their sustained efforts in completing the programme and to further their knowledge of environmental issues.

8. PUBLIC TRANSPORT UPDATE

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 27 January 2005, there was submitted [Report No 314/05](#) by the Director of Planning and Transport informing members of proposed local bus changes in Angus, rail concessionary travel arrangements, progress on expenditure in relation to Scottish Executive Capital Funding awards and arrangements for updating local bus service publicity for 1 April 2005.

The Report detailed the changes to be introduced by Strathtay Scottish Ltd to commercial local bus services within Montrose and arrangements which had been put in place to cater for road closures on the Dundee to Newtyle road and Alyth to Kirriemuir road. Details were also given of further capital funding from the Scottish Executive for public transport projects this financial year and members were also advised of public transport publicity updates for April 2005 and asked to approve the extension of the current travel concession arrangements for rail travel to 31 March 2006.

The Report concluded that public transport services were kept under review and when necessary, as with road closures, efforts were made to maintain service provision for the residents and users affected. The additional capital funding from the Scottish Executive was welcomed and would be spent to benefit public transport users throughout Angus, through the provision of higher quality infrastructure and facilities.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the proposed local bus service changes to be introduced by Strathtay Scottish Ltd on services in the Montrose area from 11 April 2005;
- (ii) to approve the extension of the rail concessionary travel arrangements with First ScotRail until 31 March 2006;
- (iii) to note and welcome the award of a further £230,000 capital grant from the Scottish Executive for public transport related expenditure this financial year;
- (iv) to homologate the decision by the Director of Planning and Transport to secure emergency transport arrangements during the closure of the Dundee to Newtyle road, in order to maintain public transport provision on this corridor;
- (v) to approve the payment of up to £590 to Meffans Coaches for additional operating costs during the closure of the A926 Alyth to Kirriemuir road;
- (vi) to note the publication of the 2005 editions of the Angus Public Transport Map and Guide, 'Days out by Bus and Train' leaflets and 'Guide to Community and Public Transport in Angus', together with the introduction of a timetable subscription service; and
- (vii) to welcome the announcement by the Convener that Angus Council, in partnership with Strathtay Scottish Omnibuses Ltd, had been awarded £360,000 for the development of the Forfar Town Local Bus Services under the Bus Route Development Grant Scheme.

9. LOCAL BUS SERVICE TENDER RESULTS

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 27 January 2005, there was submitted [Report No 315/05](#) by the Director of Planning and Transport advising members of the outcome of the recent local bus service re-tendering exercise and recommending the award of contracts.

The Report indicated that the local bus service network was subject to rigorous review and services were revised when necessary to meet passenger demand. Where practicable, contracts were awarded for operation with vehicles which had higher accessibility specifications, thereby meeting the needs of mobility impaired passengers.

The Committee agreed to approve the award of contracts as recommended in Appendix 1 to the Report.

10. THE CATERAN TRAIL

There was submitted [Report No 316/05](#) by the Director of Planning and Transport advising the Committee on the establishment of the Cateran Trail and the role that the Council could play in supporting the Trail.

The Report indicated that, whilst the Cateran Trail was mainly a Perth based initiative, it did benefit Angus by bringing walkers into Glen Isla and encouraging them to stay overnight at the accommodation available in the Glen. It was also proposed that a link from the Cateran Trail to Glen Prosen be established through the Eastern Cairngorms Access Project thus widening the benefit to the Angus Glens.

The Report concluded that the improvement of the Angus section of the Trail and its ongoing management and promotion by the Perth & Kinross Countryside Trust should therefore be supported and encouraged.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the establishment of the Cateran Trail;
- (ii) to enter into agreements with the relevant landowners and the Perth & Kinross Countryside Trust, as outlined in the Report; and
- (iii) to note that, should the Trust cease to exist, the obligations of the Trust, in terms of the agreements, would be met by the Council.

11. UTILISATION OF ROADS AND TRANSPORT RENEWAL AND REPAIRS FUND - FURTHER COMMITMENT FOR 2004/2005

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 14 October 2004, there was submitted [Report No 317/05](#) by the Director of Roads proposing finalisation of the allocation of the Roads and Transport Renewal and Repairs Fund in the current financial year.

Following discussion, the Committee agreed that the Roads and Transport Renewal and Repairs Fund be utilised to the extent of £275,000 to allow the works listed below to be carried out:-

- (i) carriageway surfacing works to the value of £165,000;
- (ii) street lighting upgrade/replacement works to the value of £50,000; and
- (iii) bridgeworks to the value of £60,000.

12. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

With reference to Article 20 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 29 April 2004, there was submitted [Report No 318/05](#) by the Director of Roads detailing the updated situation in respect of the funding for Christmas lighting and proposing changes to the current management arrangements.

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

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to instruct the Director of Roads to undertake appropriate consultation and to submit a further Report in due course.

13. ADDITIONS TO THE STANDING LIST OF CONTRACTORS FOR CONSTRUCTION, CIVIL ENGINEERING AND ROAD MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS UNDER £200,000

With reference to Article 23 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 27 January 2005, there was submitted [Report No 319/05](#) by the Director of Roads recommending the approval of an additional contractor for the Ground Investigation category of work up to a maximum of £200,000, who had initially been excluded from the current Standing Lists as a result of not submitting his application in time for consideration at the meeting of this Committee on 25 November 2004.

The Report concluded that this would increase the number of contractors on the Standing Lists, provide more scope for competitive tendering and would therefore provide better value for money from future works contracts.

The Committee agreed to approve the additional contractor listed in Appendix 1 for inclusion on the Standing Lists of Contractors for the Ground Investigation category of work up to a maximum contract value of £200,000 in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations

14. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE LIST OF PUBLIC ROADS

With reference to Article 27 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 4 March 2004, there was submitted [Report No 320/05](#) by the Director of Roads informing the Committee of additions/deletions of roads to/from the List of Public Roads.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the additions to the List of Public Roads listed in Appendices 1 and 3 to the Report; and
- (ii) to note the deletions from the List of Public Roads listed in Appendices 2 and 4 to the Report.

15. ROADS DEPARTMENT SERVICE PLAN 2003/2007 - PROGRESS REPORT

With reference to Article 3 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 2 September 2004, there was submitted [Report No 321/05](#) by the Director of Roads outlining the progress being made on the Roads Department's Service Plan for 2003/2007 as at December 2004.

The Report gave details of key achievements, projects undertaken at a national level and project slippage, with progress broken down by service areas as follows:-

- Corporate Objectives
- Engineering and Design Services
- Finance and Operational Systems Support
- Lighting
- Roads Maintenance
- Traffic Management

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to note the progress being made on the Roads Department's Service Plan for 2003/2007 as at December 2004.

16. TRAFFIC ORDERS

(a) TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ORDERS

There was submitted and noted [Report No 322/05](#) by the Director of Law and Administration advising that, at the request of the Director of Roads, ten Temporary Traffic Orders had been made, as detailed in the Report.

(b) Angus Council (Kirriemuir Traffic Management) Order 2005

There was submitted [Report No 323/05](#) by the Director of Law and Administration relating to the making of an Order for the purpose of replacing the existing Tayside Regional Council Traffic Order with a new Angus Council Order and proposing to introduce various amendments to the current traffic management provisions in Kirriemuir.

Having heard Councillor Mackintosh, a local member, on the Report and having considered the outstanding objection and observations, the Committee agreed to approve the making of the Order.

(c) Traffic Regulation Orders - Update

With reference to Article 12(a) of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 25 November 2004, there was submitted and noted [Report No 324/05](#) by the Director of Roads providing an update of Traffic Regulation Orders currently being processed and their stage of progress as at 31 January 2005.

(d) A92 Dundee - Arbroath Road Upgrading Project - Additional Traffic Regulation Orders

There was submitted [Report No 325/05](#) by the Director of Roads dealing with proposals to make additional Traffic Regulation Orders in relation to the A92 Dundee - Arbroath Upgrading Project.

The Committee agreed to the promotion of the necessary Traffic Regulation Orders for the following purposes:-

- (i) to effect changes to current speed limits and introduce new speed limits at Carnoustie, Barry and Monifieth associated with the construction of new roads and reclassification of existing roads;
- (ii) to introduce restrictions relating to the direction of travel on the dual carriageway section of the A92 between Elliot, Arbroath and West Grange Road, Monifieth; and
- (iii) to introduce Prohibition of Driving and Prohibition of Entry restrictions at certain junctions on the dual carriageway section of the A92 between Elliot, Arbroath and West Grange Road, Monifieth.

17. UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

With reference to Article 20 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 27 January 2005, there was submitted Report No 326/05 by the Director of Planning and Transport providing various statistics, graphs and charts showing unemployment rates by travel to work, numbers and ages of unemployed persons, duration of unemployment and the number of vacancies in Angus and neighbouring authorities for the month of December 2004.

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the Report.

18. HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS - 28 JANUARY - 10 MARCH 2005

With reference to Article 21 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 27 January 2005, there was submitted [Report No 327/05](#) by the Chief Executive identifying the highlights and achievements of the work within the Economic Development Unit for the period 28 January - 10 March 2005.

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the Report.

19. SCOTLAND IN BLOOM 2005 - ANGUS

With reference to Articles 19 and 20 of the minute of meeting of the Environmental and Leisure Services Committee of 25 January 2005, there was submitted [Report No 328/05](#) by the Chief Executive referring to a request for financial assistance by the Edzell Village Improvement Society's Garden Group to host the 2005 "Scotland in Bloom" competition in September 2005.

The Report indicated that the Edzell Garden Group, a sub-group of the Edzell Village Improvement Scheme (EVIS), had been provisionally selected to host the 2005 "Scotland in Bloom" competition in September 2005. The Edzell Garden Group had achieved great success over many decades in the "Scotland in Bloom" competition and were keen to host the 2005 event. Edzell would be the smallest and first rural community to host the "Scotland in Bloom" event, a project generally reserved for a city or local authority area.

The Report concluded that a contribution from the Council would demonstrate its willingness to support the community of Edzell, attracting visitors to the area and increasing general interest in north and rural Angus. Furthermore, a contribution from the Tayside Rural Development Facilitators Project would not only assist the newly formed Edzell Garden Group to finance the "Beautiful Scotland in Bloom" (BSiB) event, but would also enable the Edzell

Garden Group to attain the skills and experience necessary to host future events. It was envisaged that the BSiB awards ceremony in September 2005 and the possibility of future events would lead to the regeneration of Edzell and the local area to the benefit of both the community and visitors.

Having heard Councillor Myles welcome the Report, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the decision of the Environmental and Leisure Services Committee to underwrite the balance of funding required to host the event from the 2005/2006 Miscellaneous Services budget; and
- (ii) to note that the contribution would be matched by a European Regional Development Fund contribution of £4,563 under the Tayside Rural Development Facilitators Project, bringing the total contribution facilitated through the Council to £10,000.

20. ATTENDANCE AT OFFSHORE EUROPE 2005 OIL & GAS EXHIBITION, ABERDEEN - 6 - 9 SEPTEMBER 2005

With reference to Article 15 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 4 March 2004, there was submitted [Report No 329/05](#) by the Chief Executive seeking approval to acquire stand space on the Scottish Pavilion at Offshore Europe 2005 Oil & Gas Exhibition, Aberdeen and for participation at this major event.

The Report concluded that Offshore Europe was recognised as the premier oil and gas exhibition in Europe and that the opportunity still existed to build on the success of 2003 and to support Angus oil and gas companies by negotiating stand space in a prestige location offered by Scottish Development International. A presence at this major event would also have the added benefit of creating awareness of Angus for potential inward investment opportunities within the area.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the acquisition of stand space on the Scottish Pavilion at Offshore Europe 2005 Oil & Gas Exhibition and associated costs estimated at a total of £6,780; and
- (ii) to note that the costs involved would be met from the Economic Development Revenue budget 2005/2006.

21. OVERSEAS TRADE PROMOTION ACTIVITIES FOR 2005/2006

With reference to Article 23 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 27 January 2005, there was submitted [Report No 330/05](#) by the Chief Executive seeking approval for the Overseas Trade Promotion Schedule for 2005/2006 including a Trade Mission to (Tallinn) Estonia and (Riga/Sigulda) Latvia in May 2005.

The Report concluded that the proposed Schedule of Overseas Trade Promotion for 2005/2006 would contribute significantly to the realisation of the Council's Economic Development strategy in terms of helping existing firms and promoting inward investment. The submission of the proposed schedule was a legal requirement and, while it would be possible to amend it at a later date, it had to be submitted now for approval by SDI or the Council would be unable to participate in any overseas activities in 2005/2006.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to authorise the implementation of the Overseas Trade Promotion Schedule for 2005/2006, as outlined in the Report, subject to the £7,200 costs being met from the Economic Development Revenue budget for 2005/2006;
- (ii) to note that a formal invitation had been received by the Provost from the Chairman of Sigulda Town Council, Latvia for Angus companies and the Council to participate in an international entrepreneurs seminar in Sigulda, Latvia in May 2005;

- (iii) to authorise the Chief Executive to approve attendance of two officers to participate in the Council's employer-led trade mission to Estonia and Latvia at the end of May 2005; and
- (iv) to note that a separate report would be submitted to the Strategic Policy Committee, dealing with twinning links between Angus and Sigulda, Latvia, including a response to the expected invitation for the Provost to attend the entrepreneurs seminar and other festival events organised by the Sigulda Town Council.

22. ARBROATH PAGEANT SOCIETY - FUNDING FOR ACTIVITIES IN 2005

With reference to Article 35 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 8 June 2004, there was submitted [Report No 331/05](#) by the Chief Executive advising the Committee that the Arbroath Pageant Society was seeking external funding to support its planned programme of activities in 2005 and that support from the Council would be crucial in achieving this. The Report also outlined the situation and sought approval for financial and in-kind support from the Council.

The Report concluded that the Arbroath Pageant Society was a local community group who worked hard to promote Arbroath through their acclaimed Pageants re-enacting the signing of the Declaration of Arbroath. The next full Pageant, in 2005, was an important element not only of the Angus Ahead campaign but also of the Society's plans to celebrate the 700th anniversary of the signing in 2020. Council support was essential to lever in further grant aid from EventScotland.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed:-

- (i) to note the decision of the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Convener of the Infrastructure Services Committee and the Director of Finance:-
 - (a) to approve a grant of £4,500 and £1,350 to the Arbroath Pageant Society in 2005/2006 and 2006/2007 respectively under the Towns Engagement Programme;
 - (b) to note that this expenditure would receive 44% match funding from the European Regional Development Fund resulting in net expenditure of £2,520 and £810 in 2005/2006 and 2006/2007 to be met from the Economic Development Revenue budget;
 - (c) to authorise additional "in-kind" marketing support by Economic Development Unit staff valued at £4,000 to be considered as part of the Arbroath Pageant Society's application for EventScotland funding; and
- (ii) to approve the award of a grant of £240 to be made directly from the Economic Development budget for 2005/2006 which, together with the £4,000 in-kind contribution, the £4,000 Common Good funding, and match funding expected from ERDF of £1,760, would be used to lever a contribution of £10,000 from EventScotland.

23. ANGUS FARMING CONFERENCE

With reference to Article 38 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 4 March 2004, there was submitted [Report No 332/05](#) by the Chief Executive advising the Committee that, following the success of this year's Angus Farming Conference, the co-sponsors and organisers (EQ chartered accountants and the Royal Bank of Scotland) were proposing to proceed with an event in February 2006. The Report also asked the Committee to note the success of this year's event and to confirm Council support towards the third event.

The Report concluded that the event was important in the context of the Angus Ahead campaign and had assisted in promoting the agricultural produce and reputation of Angus locally, nationally and internationally.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the success of the second Angus Farming Conference;
- (ii) to confirm Council support for a third conference to be held in Carnoustie in February 2006 by underwriting the cost of the event by up to £2,500 from the Economic Development Revenue Budget for 2005/2006; and
- (iii) to instruct the Chief Executive to submit a further Report in due course, addressing the comments made by some members on the Angus Farming Conference.

24. FORMER CANNERY OFFICE BLOCK, COMMERCE STREET, BRECHIN - PROPOSED SALE

There was submitted [Joint Report No 333/05](#) by the Chief Executive and the Director of Property Services seeking approval to sell the former HL Foods Canteen/Office Block at Commerce Street, Brechin to an expanding local business. The Report indicated that, should the Committee approve the sale, the proposed expansion would represent a significant investment by the firm in its Brechin facility, reflecting confidence in the town's ability to serve a supra-regional market.

The Committee agreed to approve the sale of the former HL Foods Canteen/Office Block in Commerce Street, Brechin for the sum of £10,000, subject to the conditions outlined in the Report.

25. SECURITY UPGRADE, ADVANCE FACTORY, FORTIES ROAD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, MONTROSE - ACCEPTANCE OF TENDER

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of this Committee of 15 July 2004, there was submitted amended [Report No 334/05](#) by the Chief Executive informing members of the acceptance of a tender for upgrading security at Angus Council's advance factory on Forties Road Industrial Estate, Montrose, which had been agreed under delegated powers.

The Report indicated that the works would be an important addition to the Council's advance factory and would help improve the security and operations of Vetco International, the Council's largest business tenant. The speed with which negotiations for the works had been concluded, meanwhile, was a testimony to the continuing good relations between the firm and the Council.

The Committee agreed to note the acceptance of the tender from Muirfield Contracts Limited, Dundee, to upgrade security at the Council's advance unit on Forties Road Industrial Estate, Montrose, in the amount of £70,459.32 (excluding fees and contingencies).

***26. ANGUS AHEAD CAMPAIGN - ADOPTION OF STRAPLINE**

With reference to Article 31 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 12 June 2003, there was submitted [Report No 336/05](#) by the Chief Executive seeking the Committee's approval to adopt a Strapline for Angus, to be used to clearly locate and identify the County through a variety of promotional and marketing channels and to give the Angus Ahead Campaign the focus of a "unique selling proposition".

The Report indicated that, following a branding workshop in December 2003, the Angus Ahead Champions had felt that the concept of Angus as the birthplace of a modern Scotland should be further investigated as a potential strapline. After considerable background investigation into validation of the claim that Angus could be regarded as the birthplace of Scotland, the nation as it is today, the Angus Ahead Champions had recommended that Angus Council adopt either Angus: Scotland's Birthplace or Angus: Birthplace of a Nation as the strapline for the county to be used across a range of marketing and promotional material across the tourism, business and community strands of the Angus Ahead Campaign.

In view of the concerns previously voiced by Councillors, it had been felt that clear evidence was required to validate any strapline claiming the concept of Angus as Scotland's Birthplace.

It had been subsequently agreed that expert opinion be sought and Professor Ted Cowan, of Glasgow University's History Department, had been approached to consider the matter. Professor Cowan had produced a summary report to champion the use of the strapline for Angus and was prepared to act as its authenticator, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the Report.

The Report concluded by recommending the adoption of "Scotland's Birthplace" as the preferred strapline which, it was felt, would provide the most powerful from a marketing viewpoint. Whilst this might be considered controversial in some quarters, it was to be noted that with Professor Cowan's validation, there was strong evidence that the claim was unique for Angus. Adoption of the strapline would provide the Angus Ahead Campaign with a distinct and powerful promotional tool that would attract attention to further marketing efforts.

The Economic Development Manager referred members to paragraph 6.2 of the Report and advised that the new strapline would be incorporated in the new "Welcome" signs as part of a tourism programme which had been previously agreed by this Committee (Report No 1216/04 refers). It was further noted that an allowance of £210,000, over 4 years, had been made available to finance the programme and that £13,500 had been set aside for the replacement of two "Welcome" signs on the A92 and a further two on the A90. The balance of £196,000 had been allocated to provide "brown" tourism signs, none of which would carry the strapline.

THE CONVENER, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR ANGUS, MOVED THE APPROVAL OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS, AS DETAILED IN THE REPORT.

Councillor Myles, seconded by Councillor Nield, moved as an amendment, not to adopt "Scotland's Birthplace" as a strapline.

On a vote being taken, members voted:-

For the motion:-

Councillors Selfridge, Ritchie, Angus, Ellis, Gaul, King, McGlynn, Mowatt and Oswald (9).

For the amendment:-

Councillors Mackintosh, Myles, Nield, Salmond, Speirs and Spink (6).

The motion was thereupon declared carried and the Committee agreed accordingly.

27. WASTE STRATEGY - ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY

With reference to Article 22 of the minute of meeting of the Environmental and Leisure Services Committee of 8 March 2005, there was submitted [Joint Report No 309/05](#) by the Director of Environmental and Consumer Protection, the Director of Property Services and the Chief Executive advising the Committee of the outcome of negotiations for the acquisition of property in Arbroath in relation to the Angus Waste Strategy Implementation Plan. The acquisition included obtaining control of the road that would enable access to land for the future expansion of Elliot Industrial Estate, Arbroath and was detailed in the Plan attached to the Report.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to approve the acquisition of a site and building at Elliot Industrial Estate at Arbroath on the provisional terms and conditions contained in the Report.

28. 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 item 29 below, 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.

29. ARBROATH HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT - UPDATE

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of this Committee of 22 December 2004, there was submitted [Report No 337/05](#) by the Director of Planning and Transport updating the Committee on the efforts to secure a joint public/private sector development at Arbroath Harbour.

The Report indicated that negotiations were ongoing with the developer and that the main contractors, who had expressed interest in tendering for the project, had been assessed and that a select list had been prepared. It was intended that the tender documents would be issued during the week commencing 21 March 2005 with a tendering period of 4 weeks.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed:-

- (i) to note the current position regarding the proposed development at Arbroath Harbour as outlined in the Report;
- (ii) to approve a contribution of £200,000 from the 2004/2005 Planning and Transport Revenue budget to the Local Capital Fund for Arbroath Harbour; and
- (iii) to await a further Report once tenders had been returned.