

## ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **RESOURCES AND CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 20 October 2005 at 4.00 pm.

**Present:** Councillors ALEX KING, RON SCRIMGEOUR, JACK GIBB, IAN MACKINTOSH, GLENNIS MIDDLETON, ROB MURRAY, PETER MURPHY, ROBERT MYLES, PETER NIELD, GEORGE NORRIE MBE, HELEN OSWALD, BILL ROBERTON, DAVID SELFRIDGE and TERRY WOOD (substitute for MARK SALMOND).

**Apologies:** Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Provost BILL MIDDLETON and Councillor MARK SALMOND.

Councillor KING, Convener in the Chair.

### 1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Convener declared an interest in item 43 as a member of the Arbroath Pageant Society.

Councillor Scrimgeour declared an interest in item 36 as the husband of a volunteer counsellor for Angus Mental Health Association.

Councillor Robertson declared an interest in item 41 as a member of the Angus Access Panel.

Councillors Norrie and Wood declared an interest in item 9 as Trustees of Montrose Golf Links Trust.

### 2. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The [minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 September 2005](#) was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

### 3. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

With reference to Article 13 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 September 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1196/05](#) by the Director of Property Services advising of the outcome of negotiations for various new leases, lease renewals, rent reviews, open market disposals and negotiated disposals.

The Committee agreed to note and approve the conclusion of negotiations for the transactions, as detailed in Appendices 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Report.

### 4. SURPLUS PROPERTY - TIMMERGREENS SCHOOL HOUSE

With reference to Article 12 of the minute of meeting of the Social Work and Health Committee of 4 October 2005, there was submitted [Joint Report No 1150/05](#) by the Director of Social Work and Health and the Director of Property Services advising members that the school house at Timmergreens Primary School, Arbroath was now surplus to the requirements of the Social Work and Health Department.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Property Services to seek alternative use of Timmergreens School House by other Council Departments, or arrange for its disposal.

## 5. REFURBISHMENT OF WEBSTER THEATRE, ARBROATH - TENDER LIST

With reference to Article 38 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 September 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1213/05](#) by the Director of Property Services containing details of the contractors whom it was proposed be invited to tender for refurbishment of the Webster Theatre, Arbroath.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to invite the following five contractors to tender, subject to satisfactory financial assessments deemed to be necessary by the Acting Director of Finance, in consultation with the Director of Property Services;

W H Brown Construction (Dundee) Ltd, Dundee  
Clachan Construction Ltd, Perth  
Mansell, Aberdeen  
Muirfield (Contracts) Ltd, Dundee  
Torith Ltd, Dundee; and

- (ii) to instruct the Director of Property Services to arrange a meeting with the Arbroath members to enable them to view the finalised plans in detail.

## 6. ALTERATIONS TO EXISTING BUILDING AND NEW EXTENSION AT SOUTHESK PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONTROSE - TENDER REPORT

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 3 May 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1214/05](#) by the Director of Property Services containing details of tenders received for the alterations to the existing building and a new extension at Southesk Primary School, Montrose.

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of this item.

*Prior to consideration of the following item and having heard the Director of Law and Administration, Councillors Oswald and Selfridge declared an interest as members of the Development Control Committee and left the meeting for this item.*

## 7. PROPOSED SALE OF ST JAMES HOUSE, FORFAR

With reference to Article 2(k) of the minute of meeting of the Council of 30 June 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1215/05](#) by the Director of Property Services detailing offers received for the purchase of Broadcroft Car Park and St James House, Forfar and seeking approval to the sale of these subjects.

The Report indicated that with one exception, all the offers which had been received for St James House contained major conditions, some of which were stringent.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to approve the sale of Broadcroft Car Park, Forfar to the Brechin Property Company on the provisional terms and conditions contained in the Report, for the sum of £102,000;
- (iii) to approve the sale of St James House, Forfar to Deanway/AWG on the provisional terms and conditions detailed in the Report, for the sum of £1,810,000; and
- (iv) to note that the current contract with the Council's external valuation consultants was being reviewed.

## 8. REQUEST TO PURCHASE BRUCE HOUSE - BETT PROPERTIES LIMITED

With reference to Article 23 of the minute of meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee of 18 March 2003, there was submitted [Report No 1216/05](#) by the Director of Property Services asking members to consider an option for the replacement of the Bruce House offices at Stobcross, Arbroath.

The Report indicated that Bett Properties Ltd had made an approach for the possible purchase of the site which offered the Council the opportunity to redevelop its office provision in Arbroath should it approve the request.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note that Bett Properties Ltd had requested the Director of Property Services to open discussions regarding the possible purchase of the Bruce House site;
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Property Services to initiate a feasibility study into the replacement and rationalisation of offices in Arbroath and to establish the likely costs;
- (iii) to authorise the Director of Property Services to establish the terms of a possible sale of the Bruce House site to Bett Properties Ltd without commitment;
- (iv) to note that the outcome of the feasibility study would be reported back to this Committee for consideration; and
- (v) to instruct the Director of Law and Administration to arrange a search of the records to confirm the Council's ownership of all the land.

## 9. PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF LAND AT "MANSFIELD" BROOMFIELD ROAD, MONTROSE

There was submitted [Report No 1217/05](#) by the Director of Property Services advising that the grazing land at "Mansfield", Broomfield Road, Montrose was surplus to the requirements of the Council and recommending that the land be marketed for sale.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to declare 0.87 hectares, or thereby, of grazing land at "Mansfield", Broomfield Road, Montrose as surplus to the requirements of the Council; and
- (iii) to authorise the Director of Property Services to arrange for disposal of this ground on the open market.

## 10. PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF LOCK-UP GARAGE AND SITE AT MILNAMAIR, WESTERN ROAD/MILL ROAD, MONTROSE

There was submitted [Report No 1219/05](#) by the Director of Property Services advising members that the lock-up garage and adjoining site at Milnamair, Western Road/Mill Road, Montrose was surplus to the requirements of the Council and recommending that the subjects be marketed for sale.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to declare the lock-up garage and adjoining site extending to 0.03 hectares or thereby at "Milnamair", Western Road/Mill Road, Montrose as surplus to the requirements of the Council; and
- (iii) to authorise the Director of Property Services to arrange for the disposal of these subjects on the open market.

**11. PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF LAND AT COMMERCE STREET, BRECHIN**

There was submitted [Report No 1222/05](#) by the Director of Property Services advising that a small area of ground forming part of the Cadet Centre at Commerce Street, Brechin was surplus to the requirements of the Council and recommending that it be sold to the existing tenant, the Highland and Territorial Auxiliary & Volunteer Reserve Association.

The Report indicated that disposal of this ground would result in a capital receipt to the Brechin Common Good Account.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to declare the area of ground extending to 0.008 hectares at Commerce Street, Brechin as surplus to the requirements of the Council; and
- (iii) to authorise the Director of Property Services to dispose of the land to the Highland and Territorial Auxiliary & Volunteer Reserve Association, on the terms and conditions detailed in the Report.

**12. PROPERTY RENEWAL AND REPAIR FUND - UPDATE OF FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS AND PLANNED PROGRAMME OF URGENT REPAIRS**

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 21 October 2004, there was submitted [Report No 1223/05](#) by the Director of Property Services advising of additional urgent repairs required to be undertaken utilising the Property Renewal and Repair Fund.

The Report indicated that the programme of urgent repairs, as detailed in the Report, should be undertaken timeously to ensure that the properties concerned were quickly brought up to standard.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to approve the provision of £33,000 from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund in financial year 2005/2006, for the execution of the additional urgent repairs, as detailed in the Report.

**13. SUPPLY AND SERVICING OF FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT (APRIL 2004-MARCH 2007)**

There was submitted [Report No 1224/05](#) by the Director of Property Services recommending termination of the employment of Chubb Fire Ltd for the supply and servicing of fire fighting equipment in the Council's non-housing properties and that the Council seek to recover any additional costs to the Council.

The Report indicated that this company had given unsatisfactory service with more than two default notices having been issued under the contract.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to authorise determination of the contract with Chubb Fire Ltd, Corporate Accounts Division, PO Box 16, Manchester, for the reasons detailed in the Report;
- (iii) to authorise the Director of Property Services and the Director of Law and Administration to take appropriate action to seek to recover additional costs to the Council; and

- (iv) to authorise the Director of Property Services to accept the offer from Assured Fire Protection, Padanaram, Forfar in the appropriate proportion of £3,397.65 to undertake the completion of the outstanding works for the current three year term, ending 31 March 2007.

#### **14. ACCESS FOR THE DISABLED ADAPTATIONS PROGRAMME - BALANCE OF PHASE 4**

With reference to Article 26 of the minute of meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee of 8 May 2001, there was submitted [Report No 1225/05](#) by the Director of Property Services seeking approval to the provision of supplementary funding from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund to enable the remainder of the fourth phase of an extensive programme of accessibility adaptations in non-housing properties to be undertaken, at an estimated cost of £48,000.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the de-commitment of £40,000 from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund in financial year 2005/2006 and its redeployment for other urgent accessibility works;
- (ii) to approve a bid for supplementary funding in the sum of £48,000 from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund, 2005/2006, for the balance of phase 4 of an Access for the Disabled Adaptations Programme; and
- (iii) to instruct the Director of Property Service to progress these adaptations and submit further Reports detailing later phases of the programme.

#### **15. ENERGY PERFORMANCE OF BUILDINGS - RESOURCES**

With reference to Article 12 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 3 February 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1226/05](#) by the Director of Property Services advising on the resource implications of the European Union Directive on the energy performance of buildings which would introduce new energy management obligations in January 2006, when the legislation was enacted.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to note that the Director of Property Services would continue to monitor developments and establish appropriate management arrangements to ensure compliance with the Directive.

#### **16. PROPERTY MAINTENANCE END OF YEAR REPORT 2004/2005**

With reference to Article 7(b) of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 September 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1227/05](#) by the Director of Property Services presenting the 2004/2005 end of year status of expenditure on the maintenance of non-housing properties.

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the Report.

#### **17. EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT FUND - TAYSIDE PROCUREMENT CONSORTIUM**

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of the Strategic Policy Committee of 22 June 2004, there was submitted [Report No 1228/05](#) by the Director of Property Services recommending the commissioning of Capgemini UK plc to undertake a scope and readiness assessment of procurement practices in the Council, as detailed in the paper appended to the Report.

The Report indicated that the commissioning would deliver recommendations on the further development of the Council's procurement strategy, including corporate and electronic procurement.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to note the progress of the Efficient Government Fund bid made by the three Tayside local authorities for funding from the Scottish Executive to assess the benefits of shared procurement practice within the Tayside area;
- (iii) to approve the commissioning of Capgemini UK plc to undertake a scope and readiness assessment of procurement practices within the Council, as detailed in the paper appended to the Report;
- (iv) to note and approve the resource implications, as detailed in the Report; and
- (v) to note that the outcome of the scope and readiness assessment by Capgemini would be reported to this Committee for consideration early in 2006.

#### **18. PROCUREMENT OF A LEISURE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM REPLACEMENT**

With reference to Article 27 of the minute of meeting of the Environmental and Leisure Services Committee of 23 August 2005, there was submitted [Joint Report No 1229/05](#) by the Director of Information Technology and the Director of Leisure Services seeking approval to proceed with the procurement of a Leisure Management system from Torexretail Systems Ltd.

The Report indicated that, following a thorough assessment of all tenders, only Torexretail met and exceeded the defined technical and service evaluation threshold.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to approve the procurement of a Leisure Management system from Torexretail Systems Ltd at a cost of £91,700; and
- (iii) to approve the allocation of £91,700 from the Information Technology Renewal and Repair Fund for this project.

#### **19. HOME COMPUTER INITIATIVE SCHEME**

There was submitted [Report No 1231/05](#) by the Chief Executive proposing the introduction of a Home Computer Initiative scheme for employees.

The Report indicated that this scheme would enable eligible employees to lease new computers through the Council, with the added benefit of savings in their National Insurance and Income Tax. Operating this scheme would also attract a saving to the Council in terms of reduced employers' National Insurance contributions which could only be quantified when uptake had been confirmed.

The Scheme would be introduced using the Scottish Executive Framework contract for eligible employees and would be administered by Personnel Services, with operational support from the Finance Department.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to approve the introduction of a Home Computer Initiative scheme for Council employees;
- (iii) to approve the use of the Home Computer Initiative Framework contract already agreed between the Scottish Executive and British Telecom, Fujitsu Siemens and Club IT;

- (iv) to approve award of the contract for delivery of the Home Computer Initiative for a three year period to the preferred supplier under the Scottish Executive Framework Contract; and
- (v) to approve a Salary Sacrifice Scheme as the method of payment by those employees who were eligible to participate in the Home Computer Initiative.

## **20. IT INFRASTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME - PHASE 2**

With reference to Article 17 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 September 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1232/05](#) by the Director of Information Technology recommending the allocation of £60,000 from the IT Renewal and Repair Fund to enable the provision of hardware and software to complete the planned replacement of older equipment currently in use throughout the Council.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to approve the allocation of £60,000 from the IT Renewal and Repair Fund to complete the planned replacement programme, as detailed in the Report.

## **21. TENDER EVALUATION FOR SCHOOLS ICT HARDWARE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT**

With reference to Article 21 of the minute of meeting of the Finance & Information Technology Committee of 7 May 2002, there was submitted [Report No 1233/05](#) by the Director of Information Technology summarising the evaluation of tenders received for the Schools ICT Hardware Maintenance contract and recommending the award of a contract to Computer Network Services 2000 Ltd as the most commercially advantageous to the Council.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the evaluation process undertaken; and
- (ii) to authorise acceptance of the tender submitted by Computer Network Services 2000 Ltd as the most commercially advantageous to the Council, for a further two year period, to 2007.

## **22. ADMINISTRATION OF CHARITABLE TRUSTS**

There was submitted [Joint Report No 1234/05](#) by the Director of Law and Administration and the Acting Director of Finance advising members of an application by Messrs Scott Alexander, Solicitors, Montrose to have the administration of the charitable Trusts currently administered by them for the benefit of Montrose residents, taken over by the Council.

The Report indicated that the firm currently administered nineteen Trusts at a loss, of which Montrose Councillors were the Trustees and it was considered appropriate that the Council agree to take over the administration of these Trusts.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to take over the administration of nineteen small Trusts currently administered by Messrs Scott Alexander, Solicitors, Montrose; and
- (iii) to authorise the Director of Law and Administration and the Acting Director of Finance to take the necessary steps to assume the administration of these Trusts.

## **23. SICKNESS ABSENCE: APRIL-JUNE 2005**

With reference to Article 26 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 16 June 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1235/05](#) by the Chief Executive advising of the level of sickness absence within the Council for the period 1 April-30 June 2005.

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the Report.

#### **24. STATUTORY GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

There was submitted [Report No 1236/05](#) by the Chief Executive advising members of the Statutory Grievance Procedure and proposing a mechanism by which the Council could respond to such grievances, leaving all other grievances to be considered in accordance with the Council's existing procedure.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to confirm that a grievance raised under the Statutory Grievance Procedure should:-
  - in the first instance be heard by the appropriate head of department, advised by a representative from Personnel Services
  - any subsequent appeal should be heard by the Chief Executive, advised by the Personnel Services Manager; and
- (iii) to note that the Council's existing grievance procedure would be used for all other grievances.

#### **25. ESTABLISHMENT OF A MANAGEMENT SAFETY FORUM**

There was submitted [Report No 1237/05](#) by the Chief Executive advising members of the establishment of a Management Safety Forum which had been set up to help further promote an active safety culture within the Council.

The Report indicated that the Forum, attended by a senior officer from each Department and chaired by the Head of Employee Development, Training and Safety or the Safety Manager, met quarterly and considered a range of issues, including:-

- occupational road risk
- the outcomes of an Internal Audit Systems Audit of Corporate Health and Safety
- lone working
- the safe disposal of discarded needles and syringes
- working at heights.

The Forum, which had initially been established as a pilot in April 2004, had now been established on a permanent basis.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to instruct the Chief Executive to make the advice given to staff in respect of lone working available to all elected members.

#### **26. ESTABLISHMENT CHANGES**

With reference to Article 29 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 September 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1238/05](#) by the Chief Executive summarising changes to the Chief Executive's, Environmental and Consumer Protection, Law and Administration, Leisure Services, Property Services and Social Work & Health Departments during the period 8 August to 23 September 2005.

The Committee agreed to note the changes to the establishment of these departments, as detailed in the Report.

**27. REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM ARBROATH COMMON GOOD FUND - CLIFFBURN ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENTS**

There was submitted [Report No 1239/05](#) by the Chief Executive detailing an application from the Clifftburn Association of Residents for financial assistance from the Arbroath Common Good Fund for the purchase of a single piece of play equipment for the proposed playpark development at Abbotsford Road, Arbroath at a cost of £20,133.

The Report indicated that the application was only one of a number of applications from the Association in pursuance of the funding of the redevelopment of the whole park area and that all Arbroath elected members had been consulted, with the majority agreeing that this be refused.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to reject the request from Clifftburn Association of Residents.

**28. FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR FUEL BUYERS CLUB**

With reference to Article 11 of the minute of meeting of the Housing Committee of 6 October 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1129/05](#) by the Director of Housing proposing to undertake a feasibility study to develop a fuel buyers' club in Angus.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to authorise the cost of the feasibility study, estimated at £10,000, being met from the 2005/2006 Miscellaneous Other Services Revenue Budget.

**29. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP COMMUNITY WARDENS - POLICING INITIATIVE**

With reference to Article 15 of the minute of meeting of the Housing Committee of 6 October 2005, there was submitted [Joint Report No 1134/05](#) by the Acting Director of Finance and the Director of Housing clarifying the funding position with regard to the introduction of a peripatetic Community Warden Scheme for Angus to work in close partnership with Tayside Police, based at Letham Police Office.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed to note and approve the contents of the Report.

**30. HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME - HRA BLOCK - 2005/2006**

With reference to Article 3 of the minute of meeting of the Housing Committee of 6 October 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1120/05](#) by the Acting Director of Finance setting out the latest capital estimate for the year and the capital spend figures to the end of August 2005, in respect of the HRA Housing Capital Programme and the HRA Planned Maintenance Programme 2005/2006.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed to note the figures presented for the HRA Housing Capital Programme.

**31. CAPITAL MONITORING - COMPOSITE CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 2005/2006**

With reference to Article 35 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 September 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1241/05](#) by the Acting Director of Finance advising members of the capital expenditure incurred for the period 1 April to 31 August 2005 and measuring projected capital expenditure for the year against budgeted provision.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed:-

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

- (ii) to note the position on the Composite Capital Programme as at 31 August 2005, as detailed in the Monitoring Statement which accompanied the Report;
- (iii) to note that the Capital Budget Sub-Group had met on 16 August 2005 to review the position on the Composite Capital Programme for 2005/2006 and future years;
- (iv) to note that as part of the budget process for 2006/2007, it was expected that the Capital Budget Sub-Group, in conjunction with the Capital Projects Monitoring Group, would continue to review the position on the Composite Capital Programme and address issues relating to the projected spend position, possible slippage on projects and resources potentially available for 2005/2006; and
- (v) to note that projections of the year-end position on the Composite Capital Programme would be ongoing and submitted on a regular basis to future meetings of this Committee.

### **32. REVENUE MONITORING STATEMENT**

With reference to Article 36 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 September 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1242/05](#) by the Acting Director of Finance advising members of the actual revenue expenditure incurred and income received in respect of the Council's Departments for the period 1 April to 31 August 2005.

The Report indicated that, under some of the cost heads, the actual expenditure of individual departments was still currently ahead of the phased budget and while there were no particular concerns arising from these, the position would continue to be monitored closely to ensure that overall net expenditure did not exceed departmental cash limited budgets.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed to note the contents of the Report.

### **33. REVENUE BUDGET OUT-TURN 2005/2006**

With reference to Article 37 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 September 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1243/05](#) by the Acting Director of Finance giving an indication of the likely revenue out-turn for the financial year 2005/2006.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed to note the contents of the Report.

### **34. TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT - 2004/2005**

With reference to Article 15 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 21 October 2004, there was submitted [Report No 1249/05](#) by the Acting Director of Finance advising members of the Treasury Management activities in respect of the Council for the financial year 2004/2005.

The Report indicated that production of a Treasury Management Annual Report was a requirement of the Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to approve the Annual Report on Treasury Management activities for the Council during 2004/2005, as appended to the Report;
- (iii) to note the requirements of the Treasury Management Policy Statement and Section 15 of the Council's Financial Regulations pertaining to Treasury Management; and
- (iv) to note the availability of the Treasury Management practices document which set out the manner whereby the Treasury Management policies and objectives might be achieved, managed and controlled.

**35. RENEWAL AND REPAIRS FUNDS FOR PROPERTY, ROADS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, EQUIPMENT AND PRINTING AT 31 AUGUST 2005**

With reference to Article 41 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 September 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1244/05](#) by the Acting Director of Finance reporting on the actual financial position of the Renewal and Repairs Funds for Property, Roads, Information Technology, Equipment and Printing at 31 August 2005, which showed a total balance available of approximately £3,588,436.

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the Report.

**36. REMISSION OF RATES**

With reference to Article 39 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 September 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1245/05](#) by the Acting Director of Finance advising members of applications for Remission of Rates and recommending that these be granted, which would result in an annual cost to the Council of £469.75.

The Committee agreed to approve the applications for Remission of Rates, as detailed in the Report.

**37. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS - MONTROSE GOLF LINKS LTD - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2005**

With reference to Article 45 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 4 September 2003, there was submitted [Report No 1246/05](#) by the Acting Director of Finance detailing the annual audited accounts of Montrose Golf Links Ltd for the year ended 31 March 2005.

The Report indicated that the Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet provided a reasonable financial base from which to continue operations. The annual accounts showed a profit after tax of £21,149 compared with a deficit of £19,349 in 2003/2004.

The Committee agreed to note the 2004/2005 annual accounts of Montrose Golf Links Ltd, a copy of which was appended to the Report.

**38. GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET - VIREMENT FLEXIBILITY BETWEEN 2004/2005 AND 2005/2006**

With reference to Article 32 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 9 September 2004, there was submitted [Report No 1247/05](#) by the Acting Director of Finance detailing the amounts to be carried forward in departmental budgets from 2004/2005 to 2005/2006 in terms of the Budget Virement Flexibility Scheme.

The Report indicated that the total budget carry forward of £2.136 million would provide the departments concerned with additional flexibility to meet budget pressures in the financial year 2005/2006 and permit the provision of ring-fenced resources for specific initiatives.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to approve the ring-fenced underspends for 2004/2005 totalling £1.833 million as set out in section 4 of the Report to be carried forward in full to 2005/2006;
- (iii) to note that a further £0.303 million, excluding the £1.833 million of ring-fenced sums, would be carried forward by departments from 2004/2005 to 2005/2006 under the terms of the Budget Virement Flexibility Scheme; and
- (iv) to authorise a refund of £61,000 to be made in 2005/2006 from the Asset Replacement Reserve to the General Fund, as detailed in the Report.

**39. LOCAL CAPITAL FUND - POSITION STATEMENT**

There was submitted [Report No 1248/05](#) by the Acting Director of Finance advising members of the updated position on the Council's Local Capital Fund, with particular regard to the transfer of previous years' departmental Revenue Budget underspends into the fund and the utilisation of these monies on projects within the ongoing Capital Programme. An estimated uncommitted balance as at 31 March 2006 was also detailed.

The Report indicated that a total of £4.607 million had been transferred into the Local Capital Fund as a result of Revenue Budget underspends by the Education, Planning and Transport and Social Work & Health Departments which would be used as a source of funding for projects within the Council's Capital Programme. The uncommitted balance on the fund as at 31 March 2006 was estimated to be £765,000.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to note contributions from departmental Revenue Budget underspends which had been transferred into the Local Capital Fund since 2002/2003 to 2004/2005;
- (iii) to note the various capital projects which would be funded, either in full or in part, by these contributions; and
- (iv) to note the estimated uncommitted balance on the local Capital Fund as at 31 March 2006, of £765,000.

**40. SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS - 2004/2005**

With reference to Article 18 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 21 October 2004, there was submitted [Report No 1250/05](#) by the Acting Director of Finance proposing publication of a summarised edition of the 2004/2005 Accounts.

The Report indicated that it was hoped that the summarised version would encourage people to take more interest in the finances and affairs of the Council.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to approve publication of the summarised version of the Accounts for 2004/2005, as detailed in Appendix A of the Report, to be widely circulated throughout Angus.

**41. ANGUS COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME**

With reference to Article 30 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 September 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1251/05](#) by the Chief Executive recommending payments of over £500 in respect of applications received in terms of the Council's Community Grant Scheme and advising members of applications which had been approved for £500 or less.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to make the following decisions in respect of applications for grants over £500:-

Angus ACCESS Panel - award of £4,645  
 Dundee Samaritans - no award  
 Scottish Spina Bifida Association - award of £530  
 Childline Scotland - award of £400  
 Grandparents Apart - no award  
 KWASTRA - award of £745.08  
 Montrose Heritage Trust - defer  
 Brechin Mechanics Institute - defer  
 Angus Toy Appeal - award of £1,000  
 Volunteer Centre, Angus - award of £1,000; and

- (ii) to note the following decisions in respect of applications for £500 or less:-

One Parent Families Scotland - award of £206  
 Deafblind Scotland - no award  
 Scottish Women's Aid - award of £300  
 Saltire Society - award of £150  
 Graham Crescent Residents Association - no award  
 Pathhead Vaulting Group - award of up to £430  
 Physically Disabled United Group - award of £460

**42. HOPE PATON ADJACENT TO WHITE'S PLACE, MONTROSE - ACCESS ROAD - USE OF MONTROSE COMMON GOOD FUND**

There was submitted [Report No 1252/05](#) by the Director of Roads containing details of a drainage problem in Hope Paton which was an unadopted access road on land owned by Montrose Common Good. This road ran alongside the bowling green in Mid-Links, adjacent to White's Place in Montrose and it was proposed that it be repaired utilising the Montrose Common Good Fund.

The Report indicated that the total cost of improved drainage to solve the problem would be £4,000.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to authorise use of the Montrose Common Good Fund to meet the necessary cost of drainage improvement amounting to £4,000 at Hope Paton, Montrose.

**43. ARBROATH OLD PARISH KIRK FURNITURE**

With reference to Article 23 of the minute of meeting of the Environmental and Leisure Services Committee of 11 October 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1173/05](#) by the Director of Leisure Services advising members of the steps taken to preserve certain items of furniture and artefacts in the Arbroath Old Parish Kirk, prior to the re-use of these premises as Arbroath ACCESS Office.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed to approve the proposals in respect of the furniture and artefacts in the Arbroath Old Parish Kirk, as detailed in the Report.

**44. 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 possible disclosure of information which was exempt in terms of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, paragraphs 6, 8 and 9.

**45. ARBROATH HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT - UPDATE**

With reference to Article 20 of the minute of meeting of the Infrastructure Services Committee of 9 June 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1175/05](#) by the Director of Planning and Transport updating members on the efforts to secure a joint public/private sector development at Arbroath Harbour and recommending the way in which the project might be taken forward.

The Report indicated that the Council taking on the role of developer in respect of this project, was now the only realistic way of taking it forward to a conclusion.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed to approve the recommendations, as detailed in the Report.

**46. SALES OF LAND, ORCHARDBANK BUSINESS PARK, FORFAR**

With reference to Article 36 of the minute of meeting of the Infrastructure Services Committee of 13 October 2005, there was submitted [Report No 1211/05](#) by the Chief Executive seeking approval to negotiate the sales of two plots on Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed to authorise the Director of Property Services to commence negotiation for sales of land on Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar in respect of a proposed children's nursery and a development for speculative offices, as detailed in the Report.