

## ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of SPECIAL MEETING of the **INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 29 July 2010 at 4.00 pm.

**Present:** Councillors DAVID MAY, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, IAIN GAUL, ALEX KING, JEAN LEE, IAN MACKINTOSH, JIM MILLAR, PETER MURPHY, ROBERT MYLES, HELEN OSWALD, RALPH PALMER, MARK SALMOND, ROBERT SPINK, ROB MURRAY and JOHN WHYTE.

Councillor MAY, Convener, in the Chair.

### 1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Sandy West with Councillor Rob Murray substituting.

### 2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Oswald declared an interest in item 3 as the wife of a member of Carnoustie Community Council who also participated in the consultation group. She indicated that she would be taking part in discussion and voting.

### 3. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

With reference to Article 23 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 June 2010, there was submitted [Report No 507/10](#) by the Director of Infrastructure Services detailing the conclusion of the consultation process which had been conducted on proposals for festive illuminations in the burgh towns and recommending approval of the recorded outcomes.

The Report indicated that the Head of Roads had contacted all Community Councils, Business Associations and Local Community Partnerships as established to seek views on the proposed display areas and had offered to meet them in conjunction with local elected members. The Roads Division had also been represented at a number of meetings with organisations, where requested, to discuss the issues which had been raised at the meeting of this Committee on 1 June 2010 and particularly the extent of the proposed displays.

The suggestions made during the consultations had been mixed, including funding of replacement equipment and the extension of the areas already considered and should this be agreed, and Common Good funding approved, it was essential that clear timescales were agreed for future year approvals, as several of the proposals had implications for future years.

The Report further indicated that, subject to the initial funding being confirmed from Common Good funds by the Corporate Services Committee for 2010/2011, the following practices be agreed for future years:-

- Any Common Good funding required for replacement/additional equipment or to fund any ongoing revenue costs, to be raised as part of the annual revenue budget setting process and approved at meetings of the Special Service Committees held at the setting of the Council Tax each year, in order to facilitate purchasing in February/March.
- Any community funding to be provided for replacement/additional equipment to be paid to the Council by 31 January each year.
- Any community funding to be utilised for running costs to be paid to the Council by 30 June each year.

The foregoing would ensure that contracts could be organised in a timely manner for the delivery of the service during the annual festive period.

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

- (i) to note the outcome of the consultations on Christmas lighting;
- (ii) to note the suggestions made during the consultations to supplement the core Council funding, as detailed in Report No 419/10 considered by this Committee on 1 June 2010;
- (iii) to approve the proposals set out in Appendix 3 of Report No 507/10 for the 2010/2011 period Christmas displays, subject to approval of Common Good funding by the Corporate Services Committee;
- (iv) to instruct the Head of Roads to proceed with these displays and implementation of the policy as detailed in Report No 419/10;
- (v) to approve the additional areas of lighting in Montrose being provided in 2010 only if the required funding was received from Montrose Community Council by 30 September 2010;
- (vi) to approve the deadlines for approval and receipt of additional funding as set out in section 2.7 of Report No 507/10 to be applied for future years; and
- (vii) to note that so far as Carnoustie was concerned, the consultative group had agreed that for this year only, the display would extend out to North Burnside Street and that the Community Council would, over the coming months, discuss the possibility of raising funds to purchase new features in February/March, during the sales period.