

ANGUS COUNCIL**ROADS COMMITTEE****11 JUNE 1998****THE DITCHES, CARNOUSTIE****PUBLIC CONSULTATION****REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ROADS****ABSTRACT**

This report proposes that a public consultation exercise be arranged to assist in trying to ensure that the scheme prepared for the upgrading of the footpath network and the provision of new street lighting at The Ditches, Carnoustie satisfies as far as possible the requirements of the local community and the frontagers.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee agree to a public consultation exercise being carried out to take into account the views of the local community and the affected frontagers in the design of the agreed improvements to the footpath network and street lighting provision at The Ditches, Carnoustie.

2 INTRODUCTION

The Roads Committee of 29 January 1998 approved upgrading of the footpaths and the provision of street lighting at The Ditches, Carnoustie. This work is to be funded from the Roads Renewal and Repair Fund. A preliminary design has now been drawn up and it is considered prudent to consult with the local community and affected frontagers prior to implementing these proposals.

3 **DETAILS**

The Ditches, Carnoustie is a network of footpaths linking the housing in the area and the local primary school (Carlogie PS). These footpaths are not on the list of public roads. Responsibility for their maintenance is unclear and (possibly for this reason) they have fallen into a state of disrepair. Also there is no street lighting on The Ditches at present.

A scheme has now been drafted for the upgrading of the footpaths and the provision of Street Lighting. However early discussions with local residents indicated a potential conflict of interest between the affected frontages who were concerned regarding light spillage into their windows and the wider community who were anxious to have lighting provided in the interests of public safety. Also in upgrading the footpaths a balance has to be struck in catering for the separate needs of pedestrians and cyclists.

It is therefore proposed to conduct a public consultation exercise to assist in reconciling these differing requirements if possible. This would take the form of a public meeting prior to the school holidays at which a presentation of the proposals would be given by officers from the Roads Department and the views of those attending the meeting would be sought. Direct invitations to the meeting would be sent to affected frontagers the School Board and the local Community Council. Otherwise the meeting would be advertised by public notice. The actual date and time of the meeting would be subject to availability of a suitable venue and mutual suitability for the officers and elected members involved. However an evening meeting towards the end of June should be practicable.

4 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Any costs associated with the proposed public consultation exercise can be contained within the allocation of £152,000 from the Roads Renewal and Repair Fund already approved for this scheme.

5 CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, the Director of Law and Administration and the Director of Finance and the Director of Education have been consulted in the preparation of this Report.

6 CONCLUSION

Public Consultation is deemed desirable prior to finalising the detailed design of the proposed footpath and lighting improvement at The Ditches, Carnoustie.

Dr Bob McLellan
DIRECTOR OF ROADS

NOTE

The following background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (and not containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above Report:-

Angus Council Roads Committee - 29 January 1998 Report No 123/98 - Footways, Lighting and Road Reconstruction Projects - Utilisation of Roads Renewal and Repair Fund.

RWM/PP
REPORTS/ditches
27/05/98

