ANGUS COUNCIL

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE 14 OCTOBER 2004

SUBJECT: REEKIE LINN & PIRNER'S BRIG, CAR PARKS AND PICNIC SITES - UPGRADING

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORT

Abstract: This report advises the Committee of proposals to upgrade the car parks and picnic sites at Reekie Linn and Pirner's Brig.

1 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee agrees to the upgrading of the car parks and picnic sites at Reekie Linn and Pirner's Brig at a total estimated cost of £24,500, this expenditure to be met from the Planning & Transport Capital Plan for 2004/05.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 In 1987, Angus District Council constructed a car park and picnic site adjacent to the River Isla at Reekie Linn. The site provides access to the river and to the nearby waterfall from which the site takes its name. Although the car park and picnic sites are well maintained by the Council, some of the facilities are in need of replacement and the area generally is in need of upgrading. There is also felt to be a need to improve the signage warning visitors of the potential hazard of the Reekie Linn waterfall and gorge.

2.2 Pirner's Brig is a small car park and picnic site approximately 2.5 km west of Edzell. The site originally consisted of a small informal roadside car park from which visitors could access the West Water and the bridge (Pirner's Brig). Angus District Council further developed and formalised the site in 1981 but, again, the area is in need of upgrading.

3 PROPOSED WORKS

3.1 The works proposed for both sites comprise general upgrading works and repair or replacement of facilities as necessary, including:-

- New entrance signs and replacement/new information signs;
- Provision of disabled access to the picnic sites;
- Repairs to riverside steps;
- Replacement of damaged vehicle barriers;
- Localised repair of the car park surfaces;
- Repair/replacement of boundary fencing as necessary.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The estimated cost of the upgrading works including fees are:-
Reekie Linn  £16,300
Pirner's Brig  £8,200

Total  £24,500

4.2 This expenditure can be met from the Planning & Transport Capital Plan, Rural Initiatives for 2004/05.

4.3 Both sites will continue to be maintained by Leisure Services.

5 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

6 CONSULTATION

6.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Law & Administration, Director of Roads and Director of Leisure Services have been consulted during the preparation of this report.

7 CONCLUSION

7.1 The car parks and picnic sites at Reekie Linn and Pirner’s Brig are valuable natural assets and are important elements in the Council’s provision of countryside recreational facilities. The investment in upgrading both sites will enhance their appearance and help reduce maintenance costs in the longer term.

NOTE

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.

AA/RM/KW
5 October 2004

Alex Anderson
Director of Planning and Transport