

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **KIRRIEMUIR CONSERVATION AREA SCHEME (CARS) STEERING GROUP** held in the Lesser Hall, Kirriemuir on Tuesday 21 January 2014 at 9.15 am.

Present: Councillors IAIN GAUL, JEANETTE GAUL and RONNIE PROCTOR.

Non Councillor Members of the Group: CATHY STEPHENSON and PAUL FRETWELL.

Officers in Attendance: ROY MADDEN (Natural and Built Environment Manager), KAREN WEST (CARS Project Officer), GRAEME HODGE (Community Learning and Development Officer) and SARAH FORSYTH (Committee Officer).

1. CHAIR OF THE MEETING

In accordance with the constitution of the Steering Group, the chair rotating between elected members, Councillor Iain Gaul chaired the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Derek Marshall (non Councillor member of the Group) and Kirsty Macari (Conservation Officer).

3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of the Steering Group of 9 December 2013 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. THE SQUARE: PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL ENHACEMENTS

Mr Mike Loftus, Landscape Services Officer presented the Steering Group with the preliminary concept design proposals for the enhancement of the Square.

The Steering Group noted that the proposal to reinvigorate the Square included new curved timber benches, replacement bedding planting, a new bus shelter, paving banding to include text etched into it, together with pictures relating to Kirriemuir's historical past.

Following a full discussion, the Steering Group agreed:-

- (i) to approve the general concept design at this stage; and
- (ii) that the proposals be subject to public consultation prior to final consideration by the Steering Group.

5. APPROVED SCHEME – FORMER AIRLIE ARMS HOTEL

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of previous meeting, Roy Madden, Natural and Built Environment Manager provided an updated in relation to the former Airlie Arms Hotel. He confirmed that a verbal offer had been made and accepted for the property however, the purchase had not be concluded due to uncertainty over whether the project would remain a priority project and grant funding therefore available.

In view of this, legal advice had been sought and it was noted that an offer to purchase could be made subject to the application for grant funding being approved and similarly, an offer of grant could be made by this Steering Group subject to conclusion of the sale.

The Steering Group agreed:-

- (i) to note the current position with regard to the sale of the property; and
- (ii) to confirm that the project would remain as a priority project.

6. CARS PROJECT OFFICER'S REPORT

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of previous meeting, there was submitted a Report by the CARS Project Officer summarising progress in relation to priority projects, being:

- Glengate Hall
- 1-3 Roods
- Warehouse/Store Ogilvy's Close
- 4 St Malcolm's Wynd

In relation to the Glengate Hall, the Project Officer indicated that the works were progressing well with the external works expected to be completed by the end of the financial year.

In relation to 1-3 the Roods, the Project Officer indicated that a planning application was expected to be submitted in the very near future.

The Report also gave details of the Small Grants Scheme and of Public Realm Works.

Thereafter, the Project Officer indicated that two further grant applications had been received and were currently being processed. It was expected that these would be considered by the Steering Group at their next meeting on 25 February 2014.

The Steering Group noted the terms of the Report and the updated positions.

7. GRANT APPLICATIONS

It was noted that there were no grant applications that required to be considered at this meeting.

8. EDUCATION AND AWARENESS – BAT CONSERVATION WORKSHOP

There was submitted a Report by the Natural and Built Environment Manager seeking the Steering Group's agreement to fund the Bats and Development Workshop as part of the CARS Education and Awareness Programme.

The Report indicated that it was proposed that the workshop be held in Kirriemuir on 25 February 2014.

The workshop would be a follow-on to the swift conservation workshop and would be aimed at agents, contractors and interested householders.

The workshop would be run by Anne Youngman of the Bat Conservation Trust who had extensive experience in working with agents and developers and had a close association with the Tayside Biodiversity Partnership. The total estimated cost of the workshop was £150.00, as detailed in paragraph 4 to the Report.

The Steering Group agreed to approve the funding of the Bats and Development Workshop, as detailed in the Report.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Steering Group noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 25 February 2014 at 9.00 am in the Lesser Hall, Kirriemuir.