

ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL

BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE

BUCHAN HOUSE, PETERHEAD, 25TH JUNE 2019

Present: Councillors N Smith (Chair), D Beagrie (Vice Chair), A Allan, A Buchan (Items 1-9 inclusive only), M Buchan, S Calder, A Fakley, J Ingram, A Simpson, S Smith and I Sutherland

Officers: Chris White, Buchan Area Manager (Business Services); Jill Joss, Senior Solicitor (Business Services); Philip Leiper, Roads and Landscape Service Manager (Infrastructure Services); Stewart Ingram, Principal Roads Engineer (Infrastructure Services); Matt Davis, Waste Team Manager (Infrastructure Services); Darren Fryer, Waste Management Facilities Officer (Infrastructure Services); Ritchie Johnson, Director of Business Services; Alan Wood, Head of Finance (Business Services); Laumon Dougall, Commercial Development Manager/Area Estates Surveyor (Business Services); Craig Clement, Head of Service (Education and Children's Services); Irene Sharp, Quality Improvement Officer (Education and Children's Services); Hilda Creighton, Head Teacher, Crimond (Education and Children's Services); and Theresa Wood, Area Committee Officer (Business Services)

1. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

The Chairman asked Members if they had any interests to declare in terms of the Councillors Code of Conduct –

- (1) Councillor J Ingram declared an interest in Item 9 by virtue of being an observer at the MACBI group meetings. However, Councillor Ingram concluded his interest to be remote and insignificant and advised he would remain and participate in the item,
- (2) Councillor S Smith declared an interest in Item 8 (Recommendation 1.1.b – Dual Peterhead) given he attends the Dual Peterhead Group Meetings, and advised that he would leave the meeting in relation to this particular request within the report,
- (3) Councillor D Beagrie declared an interest in Item 7 (Appendix A – Buchan Harbour) by virtue of having provided a letter of support to the group, and advised that she would leave the meeting in relation to this particular request within the report,
- (4) Councillor D Beagrie declared an interest in Item 8 (Recommendation 1.1.b – Dual Peterhead) given she attends the Dual Peterhead Group Meetings, and advised that she would leave the meeting in relation to this particular request within the report,
- (5) Councillor A Fakley declared an interest in Item 8 (Recommendation 1.1.b – Dual Peterhead) given he attends the Dual Peterhead Group Meetings, and advised that he would leave the meeting in relation to this particular request within the report,
- (6) Councillor A Allan declared an interest in Item 7 (Appendix A – HARA) by virtue of being a member of the HARA Committee, and advised that she would leave the meeting in relation to this particular request,

- (7) Councillor A Allan declared an interest in Item 8 (Recommendation 1.1.b – Dual Peterhead) given she attends the Dual Peterhead Group Meetings, and advised that she would leave the meeting in relation to this particular request within the report,
- (8) Councillor I Sutherland declared an interest in Item 5 by virtue of holding a waste transfer note in his town centre business. However, Councillor Sutherland concluded his interest to be remote and insignificant and advised he would remain and participate in the item,
- (9) Councillor I Sutherland declared an interest in Item 7 (Appendix A – Apex Church) by virtue of being a member of the Church, and advised that he would leave the meeting in relation to this particular request within the report,
- (10) Councillor I Sutherland declared an interest in Item 8 (Recommendation 1.1.b – Dual Peterhead) given he attends the Dual Peterhead Group Meetings, and advised that he would leave the meeting in relation to this particular request within the report,
- (11) Councillor I Sutherland declared an interest in Item 8a by virtue of having a town centre business which is used by teachers and pupils of the Academy. In having a financial conflict, Councillor Sutherland advised that he would leave the meeting for this item and take no part in the discussion of this report, and
- (12) Councillor I Sutherland declared an interest in Item 9 by virtue of his previous employer (BID, Peterhead). However, Councillor Sutherland concluded his interest to be remote and insignificant and advised he would remain and participate in the item,
- (13) Councillor N Smith declared an interest in Item 9 by virtue of being Chairperson for MACBI. In having a clear financial interest, Councillor Smith advised that he would leave the meeting and take no part in the discussion of this report,
- (14) Councillor N Smith declared an interest in Item 10 given that the Director of Northwoods is known to him. However, Councillor Smith concluded his interest to be remote and insignificant and advised he would remain and participate in the item, and
- (15) Councillor A Simpson declared an interest in Item 7 (Appendix A - Aden Community Allotments Association) given she has an allotment. Councillor Simpson concluded her interest to be remote and advised she would remain for the discussion of this item

2(a) STATEMENT ON EQUALITIES

In making decisions on the following items of business, the Committee **noted** the requirement, in terms of Section 149 of the Equality Act, 2010 –

- (1) to have due regard to the need to:-
 - (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
 - (b) advance equality of opportunity between those who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
 - (c) foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
- (2) where an Equality Impact Assessment was provided, to consider its contents and take those into account when reaching their decision

2(b) RESOLUTION

The Committee **agreed** in terms of Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the items specified below so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the undernoted paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Item No	Paragraph No of Schedule 7A
9	6 & 9
10	9

The Committee further **agreed** to request that the Area Manager issue a press release in relation to Item 9, soon after the Committee meeting, to provide some transparency to the general public in respect of the financial implications related to this item.

2(c) URGENT ITEM OF BUSINESS

In terms of Standing Order 4.1.2(c), the Chairman advised that he had **agreed** to take an Urgent of Item of Business – Peterhead Community Campus to be taken as Item 8(a) – so as to ensure there is no financial delay in the delivery of this project.

3. MINUTE OF MEETING OF 4TH JUNE 2019

The Minute of the Meeting of 4th June 2019 had been circulated and was **approved**.

4. KINMUNDY ROAD, PETERHEAD – TRAFFIC CALMING INVESTIGATORY WORKS

A report by the Director of Infrastructure Services had been circulated providing the Committee with the results following further investigatory works to look to introducing traffic calming to Kinmundy Road in Peterhead.

Having considered the detail within the report, and the results from the speed counts as attached to the report, the Committee **agreed**:-

- (1) to approve the proposal that Kinmundy Road be part of a speed indicator device rotation in Buchan following Aberdeenshire Council's Policy on Variable and Vehicle Activated Signage, and
- (2) to review the current arrangements within 2 years to see if speeds are reducing at this location with the introduction of these devices, and that the findings be reported back to the Buchan Area Committee

In terms of Standing Order 5.2.6, Councillor A Buchan entered his dissent.

5. RECYCLING CENTRE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

A report by the Director of Infrastructure Services had been circulated asking that the Committee consider and comment on the draft Recycling Centre Policy and Procedures and make recommendations to the Infrastructure Services Committee.

Having considered the content of the report and attached appendices, the Buchan Area Committee **agreed** to make the following recommendations to the Infrastructure Services Committee:-

- (1) there was a general concern that the number of permits to be issued to householders will be insufficient to meet the needs of the average household, and to request that consideration be given to doubling the number of permits to be issued per household,
- (2) that a car with a trailer (<6x8ft) should have unlimited access to recycling centres,
- (3) having noted that pick-ups may be the main vehicle used in a household, that they too should have unlimited access to recycling centres,
- (4) having been advised that an application for a permit will take approximately 10 working days to process, that allowances must be made for emergency situations, for example the clearance of a house following the death of the occupant, whereby the family are required to clear the furniture and personal belongings from the house within a short period of time,
- (5) to request that it be noted that not all users of Aberdeenshire's recycling centres are Aberdeenshire residents, for example the clearance of a house following the death of the occupant, whereby the family members who clear the house may not reside in Aberdeenshire, and therefore the wording within the policy requires to be amended accordingly, and
- (6) to request that following implementation that the new policy and procedures be monitored and where there is an issue that this be revisited, in particular if there is a reduction in the amount of waste being recycled and/or an increase in fly-tipping

6. EDUCATION SCOTLAND INSPECTION OF CRIMOND SCHOOL AND NURSERY

A report by the Director of Education and Children's Services had been circulated providing the Committee with the key strengths and areas requiring improvement as identified by the Education Scotland inspection team during their visit of Crimond School and Nursery.

The Committee **agreed** to welcome the report, and congratulate the Head Teacher, staff and pupils on a good report.

7. AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET: AREA COMMITTEE GRANT SCHEME

A report by the Director of Business Services had been circulated advising that the Buchan Development Partnership had publicised and developed the £61,500 that was available under the Area Committee Grant Scheme. The Committee was asked to approve the allocation of the Grant Scheme as recommended within the appendix attached to the report.

The Committee **agreed** to approve the allocation of the Area Committee Grant Scheme as detailed in Appendix A attached to this Minute.

8. COMMUNITY COUNCIL PROJECT GRANT APPLICATIONS – BUCHAN EAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL – ST COMBS FOOTPATH PETERHEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL – DUAL PETERHEAD CAMPAIGN AND DEFIBRILLATOR INSTALLATION COSTS BODDAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL – HIRE OF EQUIPMENT TO CARRY OUT EARTHWORKS FOR NEW PARKING AREA AT BODDAM PITCHES

A report by the Director of Business Services had been circulated asking that the Committee consider four awards from the Community Council Project Grant Scheme Fund.

The report explained that the Buchan Area Committee, on 13th November 2018 (Item 8), agreed an award of £1,000 to Buchan East Community Council towards the formation of a path with information panels at St Combs Beach. Although Officers did work with the group, due to difficulties encountered whilst establishing ownership of the site and related planning delays, this project failed to meet the deadline and therefore the allocation of £1,000 was not released and has gone back to central funds. The project is, however, now in a position to progress and it was proposed to allocate the £1,000 previously awarded from this year's allocation.

On 9th October 2018 (Item 10) the Buchan Area Committee agreed an award of £200 towards the installation of a defibrillator at Buchan House, Peterhead, and on 5th February 2019 (Item 8) agreed an award of £400 towards the purchase of promotional materials for the 'Dual Peterhead' campaign to Peterhead Community Council.

In previous years, unpaid grants for projects that have been initiated but not completed have been allowed to be carried forward. Unfortunately this has not been permitted this time, and the Committee was requested to award the £600 to Peterhead Community Council, who have now completed both projects, from this year's budget.

The final application was a new application from Boddam Community Council, on behalf of Boddam Recreation Trust, who are developing the Boddam Pitches Project. As part of that development, a new parking area is to be created within the site to relieve traffic congestion on surrounding streets.

The Committee **agreed**:-

- (1) to award £1,000 to Buchan East Community Council towards the creation of a path with information lecterns at St Combs Beach,
- (2) to award £200 to Peterhead Community Council towards the installation of a defibrillator at Buchan House, Peterhead,
- (3) in relation to the application from Peterhead Community Council for funding towards their 'Dual Peterhead' Campaign, that Officers confirm –
 - (a) that the Council's Legal Service are satisfied that it is appropriate for the Council to make an award to such a campaign, and
 - (b) as to why the Community Council did not draw-down the money from last year's allocation

and feedback the detail to Members before seeking final approval of the award of £400, and

- (4) to award £396 to Boddam Community Council towards the cost of hiring equipment to carry out earthworks relating to the formation of the new parking area at Boddam Pitches, subject to confirming that Boddam Recreation Trust are sufficiently insured to undertake this type of work

8(a) PETERHEAD COMMUNITY CAMPUS

In terms of Standing Order 4.1.2(c), the Chairman had **agreed** to hear this report so as to ensure that there are no financial delays in the delivery of this project.

A report by the Director of Education and Children's Services had been tabled in relation to the report 'Peterhead Community Campus' to be considered by Full Council on Thursday, 27th June 2019.

The report to Full Council detailed various recommendations in relation to the proposed Campus including the preferred site and the need for further engagement. The Buchan Area Committee was asked to make comment to allow Full Council to consider their comments in the determination of the report.

Following a very full discussion, the Committee **agreed** to make the following comments to Full Council:-

- (1) to welcome the report and support the need to push forward with this hugely important project for Peterhead and Buchan as a whole,
- (2) having noted that the 'scope' of the project covers the Academy, Primary Schools, Theatre, Swimming Pool etc, to highlight the importance of the need for a fully costed Business Case to be provided to establish what will be included in Phase 1 of the project, and the detail of the phased programme thereafter,
- (3) to highlight the need to establish what facilities will remain within the town centre to allow a Town Centre Impact Assessment to be undertaken so as to determine how any negative impacts can be mitigated against,
- (4) that should Kinmundy be the preferred site that Officers fully consider transportation issues as a whole, including consideration of the 'Safer Routes to School' Policy, and
- (5) to highlight the importance of involving and fully consulting with the Buchan Area Committee throughout the process of this project

9. MINTLAW AND CENTRAL BUCHAN INITIATIVE (MACBI) – EXTENSION PROJECT

A report by the Director of Business Services had been circulated advising that the Mintlaw and Central Buchan Initiative (MACBI) has been granted permission for a proposed extension including an additional sports hall, Men's Shed and multi-purpose rooms. The Committee was asked to consider a request to approve upfront funding towards the extension to MACBI.

The Committee **agreed**:-

- (1) to approve the upfront funding towards the delivery of the MACBI extension project as detailed in the report,
- (2) to note that the funding is conditional on MACBI obtaining a grant from Sport Scotland in accordance with the detail in the report,
- (3) to note that the Area Manager will issue a press release in relation to this item as a priority following determination by the Committee, and
- (4) to request that periodic updates in relation to recouping the upfront funding be provided to Buchan Area Committee Members

10. PROPOSED PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT SITE AT NORTHWOODS

A report by the Director of Business Services had been circulated reminding the Committee that the Policy and Resources Committee on 13th June 2013 approved the proposal for a new Key Depot in Mintlaw for use by Housing and Waste Management. No alternative suitable land, within the ownership of Aberdeenshire Council, exists in Mintlaw, therefore Officers have identified suitable available development land in private ownership at Northwoods. The Committee was asked to approve the purchase of the land on the 'Heads of Terms' as detailed within the report.

The Committee **agreed** to request that Officers conclude the purchase of a development site at Northwoods, Mintlaw, on the terms set out within the report and subject to approval of business cases for the Key Depot and Starter Units.

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APPENDIX A

ITEM 7 – AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET: AREA COMMITTEE GRANT SCHEME

Group Name	Grant Awarded
Aden Community Allotments Association	£5,280.00
Trustees of Lonmay Hall	£2,000.00
Stuartfield and District Community Association	£1,000.00
Auchnagatt Village Hall Management Committee	£3,000.00
Boddam Harbour Trustees	£1,980.00
Buchanhaven Heritage Society	£1,896.00
Aberdeenshire Sailing Trust	£5,435.00
HARA	£5,000.00
Crimond Community Centre	£3,500.00
Friends of Maud Railway Museum	£5,439.24
Strichen Bowling Club	£1,300.00
Maud Pleasure Park Committee	£1,319.09
St Fergus Village Hall	£1,250.00
Peterhead Sea Cadets	£5,000.00
Modo – Circus with Purpose	£2,100.00
Buchanhaven Harbour SCIO	£2,500.00
Mintlaw Men's Shed	£5,570.67
Strichen Town House Working Group	£4,930.00
Buchan East CC	£3,000.00