

THE FIFE COUNCIL - KIRKCALDY AREA COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

25th January, 2022

2.05 pm – 4.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Neil Crooks (Convener), Lesley Backhouse, Alistair Cameron, Ian Cameron, Rod Cavanagh, Judy Hamilton, Gordon Langlands, Kathleen Leslie, Carol Lindsay and David Ross.

ATTENDING: Zoe Thomson, Quality Improvement Officer, Lisa Moore, Headteacher, Viewforth High School, Jacqueline Thompson, Headteacher, Dysart Primary School, Education and Children's Services; John Mitchell, Senior Manager, Roads & Transportation Services, Scott Blyth, Lead Consultant, Car Parking Strategy & Operations, Phil Clarke, Lead Consultant, Traffic Management (South Fife), Susan Keenlyside, Lead Consultant, Transport Networks, Neil Watson, Lead Consultant (Roads & Lighting Asset Management), Assets, Transportation and Environment; Peter Corbett, Lead Officer Economy, Hazel Cross, Economic Adviser - Town Centre Development Unit, Economy, Planning & Employability Services; Julie Dickson, Community Manager (Kirkcaldy Area), Izzy Whyte, Team Manager (Community Development), Communities and Neighbourhoods; Lesley Robb, Lead Officer - Committee Services, Legal & Democratic Services

289. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were submitted in terms of Standing Order 7.1.

290. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the meeting of Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 5 October 2021.

Decision

The Committee approved the minute.

291. PUPIL EQUITY FUND REPORT FOR 2020-21

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director - Education and Children's Services outlining the progress of the Pupil Equity Fund and the work of schools in their practice to address the challenge of Closing the Poverty Related Attainment Gap. The report presented an overview of the rationale, implementation and impact to date of the Pupil Equity Fund within schools across the Kirkcaldy Committee Area.

Decision

The Committee noted:

- (1) the contents of the report;

- (2) the aim of the interventions;
- (3) the work of schools in developing their practice to address the challenge of Closing the Poverty Related Attainment Gap; and
- (4) Members could link directly with individual schools for further information as required.

292. UPDATE ON AREA COMMITTEE CAR PARKING AND PLACEMAKING MOTION

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment updating Members on the actions following the Committee Motion on Car Parking and Placemaking, of 24 August 2021 (Previous Minute Reference - paragraph 278 of 2021.KAC.121 - Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 24 August 2021 - refers).

Decision

The Committee:

- (1) agreed to proceed with a 6 month trial of a £2 per day charge in the Thistle multi-storey car park, including promotion of a legal notice to amend charges for a period of 6 months;
- (2) agreed to the continuation of the reduced price season tickets in 2022/23 and review the support following the trial at point 1;
- (3) noted that a feasibility study report on the future of the two multi-storey car parks would be presented to the Kirkcaldy Area Committee late 2022 - early 2023, or sooner if all information was available;
- (4) agreed to support consideration of the proposal for free parking at both Coal Wynd car parks, subject to available financial support being identified;
- (5) noted that a review of timings for on-street charges and parking restrictions cannot progress without additional staff resources, which require financial support to be identified;
- (6) noted that a separate report to this Committee (paragraph 293.) provided a proposed approach on a permanent control facility at the entrance to the High Street pedestrian zone; and
- (7) noted that a report on the outcome of a temporary closure of a section of Kirkcaldy High Street (Tolbooth Street to Kirk Wynd) would be presented to the Kirkcaldy Area Committee in March 2022, for consideration.

293. CHANGES TO VEHICULAR ACCESS, HIGH STREET PEDESTRIAN ZONE, KIRKCALDY

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment allowing Members to consider proposals for changes to the times vehicles are prohibited from entering the Kirkcaldy High Street pedestrian zone and to inform the Committee of options available to prevent vehicle access to the pedestrian zone during prohibited times.

Decision

The Committee, in the interests of road safety:

- (1) agreed to the promotion of a permanent Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) amendment to change the times vehicles can access the High Street pedestrian zone to the same as was currently operating by means of a

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Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO), and to permit Fife Council Demand Responsive Transport vehicles to enter the pedestrian zone out with the closure times, as detailed in drawing numbers TRO/21/45/PZ and TRO/21/45/OPR, with all ancillary procedures;

- (2) authorised Officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period, unless there were objections;
- (3) noted the options considered for barriers to prevent vehicular access to the pedestrian zone during restricted times and agreed for Officers to develop the option for automatic rising bollards; and
- (4) agreed for Officers to consult with businesses and users on further restrictions on the times vehicles access the pedestrian zone between Tolbooth Street and Kirk Wynd.

294. AREA ROADS PROGRAMME 2022-2023

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment identifying the projects which were proposed for inclusion in the 2022-23 Area Roads Programme, for the Kirkcaldy Committee area.

Decision

The Committee:

- (1) approved the report and associated appendices 1-3 of the report;
- (2) delegated authority to the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment to manage the lists of category 1 and 2 projects, in line with the available resources/funding as the programme develops, in consultation with the Area Convener; and
- (3) noted appendices 4 and 5 of the report.

295. SUPPORTING THE PLAN 4 KIRKCALDY - KIRKCALDY YMCA GALLATOWN HUB - LANDSCAPING

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods seeking agreement from the Area Committee for an allocation of funding from Neighbourhood Development monies totalling £14,500, towards landscaping costs at the new YMCA Hub in Gallatown, Kirkcaldy.

Decision

The Committee agreed to an allocation of £14,500 towards the landscaping costs at the new YMCA Hub in the Gallatown, Kirkcaldy.

296. LOCAL AREA ECONOMIC PROFILES (DECEMBER 2021)

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Business and Employability providing Members with an annual overview of the local economic profile for each of the seven local committee areas, using the latest available data.

The information presented was intended to provide background and context to council activity within each locality and help inform area committee discussion and decision making.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee:

- (1) considered and commented on the issues raised from the analysis of the latest available data; and
- (2) recognised the ongoing economic impact and uncertainty resulting from the global Covid-19 pandemic and recent UK exit from the European Union.

297. SETTLEMENT TRUST FUNDS ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods advising Members of the Settlement Trusts in the area and fund activities over the financial year 2020-2021.

Decision

The Committee considered and commented on the information detailed in the report for the Kirkcaldy Area Settlement Trust Funds.