

THE MORAY COUNCIL

**MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

TUESDAY 24 JANUARY 2012

COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillor J Russell (Chairman), G Coull, S Cree, J Divers, J Hamilton, G Leadbitter, G McDonald, G McIntyre, I Ogilvie, P Paul, R Shepherd and A Wright.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors L Bell and Councillor G McIntyre (Ex-Officio)

ALSO PRESENT

Councillors J Mackay, A McKay and M Shand.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Corporate Director (Environmental Services), the Head of Direct Services, the Transportation Manager, the Planning & Economic Development Manager, A McEachan, Legal Manager (Property & Contracts), the Estates Manager in respect of Items 23 & 25, the Environmental Protection Manager & the Waste Management Officer in respect of Item 12, the Design Manager (Property) in respect of Item 20, the LEADER Programme Manager in respect of Item 19, R Milburn Principal Officer (Economic Development) & the Libraries & Museums Manager in respect of Items 6 to 11, D Duncan, Principal Planning Officer (Planning & Development) in respect of Item 5, A Duff, Senior Engineer (Traffic), L Paisey, Principal Accountant, and the Senior Committee Services Officer, Clerk to the Meeting.

1. DECLARATION OF GROUP DECISIONS

In terms of Standing Order 20 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct the meeting noted there were no declarations from group leaders or spokespersons in regard to any prior decisions taken on how members will vote on any item on the Agenda.

2. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The meeting resolved that, in terms of Section 50A(4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the public and media representatives be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items of business appearing at the relevant paragraph of this minute as specified below, so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the appropriate paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Para No of Minute**Para No of Schedule 7A**

22
23
24
25

9
1 & 8
6 & 9
6

3. WRITTEN QUESTIONS

There were no written questions.

4. APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Corporate Services) inviting the Committee, in terms of Paragraph 11 of the Minute of the Council dated 9 May 2007, to consider an invitation from the Spey Fishery Board for a representative of Moray Council to attend meetings of the Board.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to defer consideration of nominating a Councillor until after the Local Government elections on 3 May 2012 and in the interim it be delegated to the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) to nominate an officer to attend meetings of the Board until a Councillor is appointed

5. THE MORAY ECONOMIC STRATEGY & ELGIN – CITY FOR THE FUTURE : INTERIM REPORT ON PUBLIC CONSULTATION.

Under reference to Paragraph 6 of the Minute of this Committee dated 28 June 2011 and the Special meeting of the Community Planning Board dated 30 June 2011 there was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) advising the Committee of:-

- (a) the terms of the Scottish Government's response to the public consultation on the 'Elgin – City for the Future' and 'The Moray Economic Strategy', Draft Final Reports, a copy of which was appended to the report;
- (b) arrangements made for the analysis of all responses to the public consultation; and
- (c) the arrangements to be made for reporting of the completed analysis.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note:-

- (i) the terms of the response by the Scottish Government to the Moray Community Planning Partnerships public consultation on the 'Elgin – City For The Future' and 'The Moray Economic Strategy' Draft Final Reports, appended to this report and summarised in Section 3 of the report;

- (ii) the arrangements made for the analysis of all responses to the public consultation on these Draft Final Reports, referred to in Section 3 of the report; and
- (iii) the arrangements to be made for the reporting of the completed analysis, referred to in Section 3 of the report.

6. EUROPEAN FISHERIES FUND : AXIS 5 : BID FOR DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) informing the Committee of the Government Marine Scotland's invitation to bid for Axis 5 technical assistance for a Development Officer post and seeking authority to submit an application on behalf of the Council.

The meeting noted that the Council agreed during 2011 to the development of a European Fisheries Funding (EFF) Axis 4, local strategy, business plan and the set up of a Fisheries Local Action Group (FLAG) for the coastal area from Cullen to Burghead. The setting up of the Moray FLAG with the anticipated EFF Axis 4 grant and the match funding from the Moray Council and other sources, will provide substantial investment into the coastal community, whilst addressing some of the Draft Economic Strategy emerging priorities and also provides much needed support for the business sector. The additional potential funding for a development officer post will provide further assistance in maximising resources and support for the fishing industry, which has been suffering steady decline.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to submit an application for a Development Officer post from the European Fisheries Fund, Axis 5.

7. GRANT LODGE

Under reference to Paragraph 5 (iii) of the Minute of this Committee dated 28 June 2011 there was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) providing the Committee with an update on the Grant Lodge development and seeking approval for the consolidation of all the development and implementation work for the project. The report also invited the Committee to consider, given impact on budget planning beyond the current financial year, referring the recommendations of this Committee to the next meeting of Policy and Resources Committee.

The meeting noted that as part of the Moray Economic strategy and Elgin City of the Future study, Grant Lodge has been identified as a "key transformational site" in contributing to the strand of 'Arts, Culture and Heritage' and 'The Visitor Economy', which is seen as one of the key drivers in Elgin and Moray's recovery. In particular the consultants have identified the "Town Centre – Cooper Park – Cathedral" corridor as key areas for heritage related development. The meeting also noted that the Council's application for ERDF funding application in respect of the Rural Action Plan II has been successful and one of the elements of this overarching plan includes the provision of 5 studio spaces for the creative industries within historic Grant Lodge attic floors.

During discussion officers responded to Members questions and it was noted that the majority of issues raised in regard to funding, ongoing revenue maintenance costs and potential usage would be covered in a detailed Business Plan which would be submitted to Committee towards the end of 2012. Concern was also expressed in regard to the funding arrangements relating to repairs to the Fishermans Hall, Buckie and Grant Lodge, Elgin, both of which are held in Common Good Accounts. It was noted that when repairs were required to the Fishermans Hall there was no Council funding available and the total cost was met from the Buckie Common Good Fund whereas the Committee was being asked to approve a contribution of £1.3m, over 3 years, towards the cost of the Grant Lodge project and equity of funding was requested. It was also noted that whilst the Fishermans Hall is a Common Good property whereas Grant Lodge is held in Public Trust, which restricts the usage they are both treated in the same manner for accounting purposes and that there has been previous occasions when repairs to the Fishermans Hall were met through council funding as opposed to Common Good funding and it is a matter for this Committee to determine the request for funding for the Grant Lodge project.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress and development;
- (ii) to contribute £1.3 million match funding from the Capital Budget (Economic Development) over 3 financial years, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15 towards the development and refurbishment of Grant Lodge, subject to approval of a detailed Business Plan in respect of the contributions for the financial years 2013/14 & 2014/15;
- (iii) to support the set up of a project management group, consisting of key partners and agreed that the Chair of the Economic Development & Infrastructure Services Committee sit on the group;
- (iv) that the decisions set out in (i), (ii) & (iii) above are referred to Policy and Resources Committee for approval, as it impacts on budget planning beyond this financial year and to provide an update on the outcome of the surveys and developments; and
- (v) to note that a report in regard to equity between the Fishermans Hall, Buckie and Grant Lodge, Elgin will be submitted to a future meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee.

8. ELGIN HERITAGE TRAIL : CASTLE TO CATHEDRAL TO CASHMERE

Under reference to Paragraph 5 of the Minute of this Committee dated 28 June 2011 there was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) presenting the outcomes and recommendations of the development phase of the Elgin Heritage trail. The Committee was requested to note the outcomes and recommendations of the Elgin High Street Conservation Area Appraisal, Management and Action Plan, a copy of which had been placed in the Members' Library, and that this Committee's recommendation in regard to the Conservation

Area Appraisal, Management and Action Plan would be submitted to the next meeting of the Planning & Regulatory Services Committee.

The meeting noted that the Conservation Area Appraisal, Management and Action and Interpretation Plans highlight the importance of Elgin's historic environment, provide new insight of how to care for and appreciate it. The proposals will directly contribute to deliver the identified emerging themes of the Draft Economic Development Strategy and Elgin City for the Future Study.

During discussion reference was made to the suite documents available, not all of which some members have had to opportunity to read, prior to the meeting, and a presentation given at Moray College on the Conservation Area Appraisal, Management and Action and Interpretation Plans.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to defer consideration of recommendations (i), (ii) & (iv) set out in Section 2.1 of the report to the next meeting of the Committee on 13 March 2012 for a presentation to be given on the Conservation Area Appraisal, Management and Action Plan and inclusion of the outcome of the public consultation exercise; and
- (ii) to recommend to the Policy and Resources Committee approval of a contribution of £120,000 from the Economic Development budget spread over the financial years 2012/13, 2013/2014 & 2014/2015 to support the submission of funding applications (in conjunction with the Grant Lodge proposal) for the development and delivery of an Elgin Heritage Trail

9. TOURIST INFORMATION : ELGIN

Under reference to Paragraph 5 (iii) of the Minute of this Committee dated 28 June 2011 there was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) seeking approval for the continuation of the tourist information service at Elgin Library from 1 April 2012 and the proposals to widen the provision of tourist and visitor information.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) the continuation of the visitor information service at Elgin Library as an interim arrangement from 1 April 2012 at an annual cost of up to £33,500 from the Economic Development Budget for the financial years 2012/13 and 2013/14;
- (ii) to note that the proposed arrangement extends the opening hours to include evenings;
- (iii) to note that the proposed arrangement includes widening the availability of information through co-operation with key retail and visitor attractions;
- (iv) that future reports refer to 'Visitor' information as opposed to 'Tourist' information; and

- (v) to recommend the decisions set out in (i), (ii) & (iii) above for approval to the Policy and Resources Committee as they impact on budget planning beyond one financial year.

10. MORAY TOURISM TASK GROUP

Under reference to Paragraph 5 (iii) of the Minute of this Committee dated 28 June 2011 there was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) inviting the Committee to consider either re-establishing the previous Moray Tourism steering group or the set up of a new group with a view to complement the work undertaken by the Moray Tourism Development Company, in relation to the Moray Economic Strategy.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) set-up a short term task group between the public bodies, The Moray Council, Highland & Island Enterprise (HIE) and Visit Scotland;
- (ii) that Councillors Russell and Paul represent the Council on this group;
- (iii) engage via the Moray Tourism Development Company with other tourism stakeholders across sectors; and
- (iv) note that the support and resourcing of tourism development in relation to the emerging themes and priorities of the Draft Economic Strategy will need to be reviewed as part of the overall budget settings.

11. WASTE MANAGEMENT : PROGRESSION OF WASTE STRATEGY PROPOSALS

Under reference to Paragraph 6 of the minute of the Policy and Resources committee dated 18 January 2011 there was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) provide the Committee with an update on progress with the implementation of The Council's Waste Strategy Action Plan and the initiatives which are required to meet future targets and legislation, details of which were set out in the report. There was appended to the report as Appendix 1 a diagrammatic representation of the previous, current and proposed schemes.

The Waste Management Officer spoke to the report and thereafter responded to Members' questions during which it was noted that officers were currently investigating an alternative route for the processing of cans which will ensure that the work Wastewatchers carry out with trainees will continue and a report in this regard will be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee. The meeting also noted that on the introduction of the new collection arrangements to urban areas additional orange containers for glass bottles only will be made available, on request, and in regard to the purple bin for cans and plastics any individual household can opt out of this service provided that they recycle their cans and plastics through recycling centres and not in the residual bin. In regard to textiles it was noted that these should not be placed in the residual bin and every effort should be made, where possible to recycle them. It was also suggested that, wherever practical, communal bin areas

should be provided for flatted accommodation which should also be future proofed to take into account any expansion of the service.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) note the progression of the Waste Strategy Action Plan and associated matters;
- (ii) approve the proposal to extend the fortnightly kerbside collection of recyclable material into urban areas and notes the requirement for additional capital funding for wheeled bins and notes that revenue expenditure would be reduced through the introduction of fortnightly kerbside recycling collections into urban areas;
- (iii) approve the proposal to extend the collection of co-mingled cans and plastic bottles at the kerbside into urban areas and notes the requirement for additional capital funding to purchase wheeled bins and alterations required at the Council's Moycroft facility;
- (iv) note that an investigation is underway to seek an alternative to landfilling all waste at Nether Dallachy the outcome, of which will be the subject of a future report;
- (v) note the provision of commercial food waste collections will be the subject of a future report;
- (vi) support the ongoing requirement for an effective advisory and monitoring regime to ensure full participation in recycling by our customers;
- (vii) note that the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) undertook to discuss with Development Management the possibility, in terms of planning policy, of having better located and managed communal bin areas in new flatted developments taking into account the views/suggestions put forward by Members; and
- (viii) note that Members will be advised of any changes to the service in advance of public notification.

12. NATIONAL RAIL CONSULTATION : RAIL 2014

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) inviting the Committee to consider a draft response to Transport Scotland's public consultation on the future of rail passenger services in Scotland, and this report contains a draft response for consideration by the Committee. A copy of the full consultation document was available on the Members Portal and Appendix 1 to this report contains the Ministerial foreword and the Executive Summary. A copy of the draft response was set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

The meeting noted that in Autumn 2014 both the current contract for all rail passenger services and the funding arrangements which the Government has with

Network Rail in Scotland will need to be renewed. Transport Scotland is carrying out a public consultation exercise in a bid to seek views on how Scotland's railway services should develop. This exercise focuses on the provision of rail passenger services only.

During discussion it was noted that whilst the meeting welcomed to proposed increase in frequency in service between Aberdeen and Inverness it was hoped that this would not lead to increases in fares and whilst recognising that a balance needed to be struck any increase in fares should be kept to a minimum. It was also noted that there was a need for increased investment in disabled access with particular reference to access to the platform on the south side of Elgin station

Following consideration the Committee agreed to approve the draft response to Transport Scotland's national rail consultation as set out in Appendix 2 to the report, subject to amending the responses to questions 22 & 28 to include Members comments on these questions.

13. PROPOSED ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER : BOROUGHBRIIGGS ROAD AND COOPER PARK, ELGIN

Under reference to Paragraph 14 of the Minute of this Committee dated 6 September 2011 there was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) inviting the Committee to consider over-ruling an outstanding objection and authorises the Head of Direct Services and Head of Legal and Democratic Services to make the Traffic Regulation Order restricting parking around Boroughbriggs Road and Cooper Park, Elgin as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report. There was also appended to the report as appendix 2 location plans of the areas in question.

The meeting noted that the outstanding objection related to the Cooper Park only and the proposal to restrict waiting to 2 hours. Those submitting the representation would like this time restriction to be extended to 3 hours. They consider that 2 hours is not sufficient for library volunteers or people attending courses or meetings to undertake their business.

Councillor Leadbitter, seconded by Councillor Divers, moved that the proposed waiting restrictions in the Cooper Park, Elgin be amended to 3 hours.

There being no-one otherwise minded the motion was approved. It was also agreed that the situation be monitored and after 12 months of implementation if there were any issues/concerns a report would be submitted to a subsequent meeting of the Committee.

Following consideration the Committee agreed, on the motion of councillor Leadbitter, seconded by Councillor Divers,:-

- (i) to note the outstanding objection received and approved the Traffic Regulation Order, as detailed in the report, subject to amending the waiting restrictions in the Cooper Park, Elgin to 3 hours with no return within 2 hours;

- (ii) that the situation be monitored and after 12 months of implementation if there were any issues/concerns a report would be submitted to a subsequent meeting of the Committee; and
- (iii) to authorise the Head of Direct Services and Head of Legal and Democratic Services to make the undernoted order -

“The Moray Council (various waiting restrictions – Boroughbriggs Road and Cooper Park, Elgin) Order 2011”.

14. PROPOSED ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER : MORAY PLACE AND KING STREET

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) inviting the Committee to consider approving the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order which will restrict parking on various streets in Elgin as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report. There was also appended to the report as Appendix 2 a copy of the location plan of the areas in question.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposed Traffic Regulation Order to introduce waiting restrictions on various streets in Elgin and instruct the Head of Direct Services and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to proceed with the statutory process, subject to the proviso that officers proceed with the Moray Place element only if the situation proves not to have been satisfactorily resolved by the Police intervention; and
- (ii) to instruct the Head of Direct Services and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to make and implement the Order if, following the consultation period, there are no outstanding objections.

15. FUTURE TRUNK ROAD DUALLING : A9 & A96

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) informing the Committee that following the recent Government announcement regarding proposals to upgrade the A9 and A96 Trunk roads to dual carriageway standard, an invitation has been received from Transport Scotland for officers to engage in the first stages of planning the improvements.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the report and that officers write to Transport Scotland welcoming the early approach, and assuring them of the Council's willingness to engage at all levels in future work to advance this project and stressing the importance of some certainty in respect of future planning applications.

16. DESIGNATION OF CYCLETRACKS : ELGIN

Under reference to Paragraph 6 of the Minute of this Committee dated 19 October 2010 there was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) seeking Committee approval of the promotion of an Order under Section 152 (2) of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 which will have the effect of providing a shared use footpath or footway/cycletrack at the locations specified in the schedule appended to the report as Appendix 1. There was also appended the report as Appendix 2 location plans of the areas in question.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposal to re-determine the means of exercise of a public right of passage on part of the existing footways within the Elgin boundaries, specified within Appendix 1 to the report and shown on the plans in Appendix 2 to the report and instruct the Head of Direct Services and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to proceed with the statutory process; and
- (ii) to instruct the Head of Direct Services and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to make and implement the Order if, following the consultation period, there are no outstanding objections.

17. PROPOSED POLICY ON ROADSIDE SIGNAGE

Under reference to Paragraph 8 of the Minute of this Committee dated 1 November 2011 there was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) providing information on the feasibility of allowing footway advertising for business premises within the Roadside Signage policy. There was appended to the report as Appendix 1 a copy of the proposed draft policy which, in terms of The Roads (Scotland) Act 1984, does not allow advertising boards on footways and footpaths together with an amended clause 3 set out in appendix 2 to the report which conditionally allows for advertising boards on footways and footpaths. The Transportation Manager spoke to the report and the meeting also noted that the reason there is no reference in the report covering produce or goods from shops set out on the footways is because, with the exception of newspapers, The Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 is quite clear that this should not be allowed.

Following discussion Councillor G McDonald, seconded by Councillor Cree, moved approval of the proposed policy incorporating the amended Clause 3 which allows for advertising boards on footways and footpaths.

Following consideration the Committee agreed, on the motion of councillor G McDonald, seconded by Councillor Cree, to:-

- (i) approve the policy as contained in Appendix 1 to the report, subject to the inclusion of the amended substitute clause 3 detailed in Appendix 2 to the report that conditionally allows advertising boards on footways and footpaths; and

- (ii) instruct the Head of Direct Services to prepare a guidance note to be issued to appropriate groups.

18. MORAY LEADER PROGRAMME 2007-2013

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) providing the Committee with an update on the progress and commitment of the Moray LEADER Programme 2007-2013, details of which were set out in Section 3 of the report.

During discussion it was noted that the Moray Council – Keith Conservation Area regeneration Scheme application had recently been conditionally approved, subject to compliance with three conditions and it was hoped that this would be finalised shortly and a letter confirming approval would be issued. Ward Members to be kept informed as matters progress.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the content of the report.

19. HOUSING & PROPERTY : DESIGN & PROPERTY RESOURCES PERFORMANCE REPORT : QUARTER 2 JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2011

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) outlining to the Committee the performance of the service for the period from 1 July to 30 September 2011, details of which were set out in Sections 4 & 5 of the report.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note performance outlined in the report and the actions being taken to seek improvements where required.

20. DIRECT SERVICES PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS : QUARTER 2 : 1 JULY TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2011

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) outlining the performance of the Service for the period 1 July to 30 September 2011, details of which were set out in Sections 4 & 5 of the report. There was also appended the report as appendices 1, 2 & 3 respectively details of the Revenue Budget progress, capital projects which have slipped or postponed this financial year and Audit Scotland statutory performance indicators for 2010/11.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) note the performance against Economic Development and Infrastructure Performance Indicators, Revenue and Complaints at the end of September 2011 as outlined in this report; and
- (ii) note the services Audit Scotland Statutory Performance Indicator performance and rankings for 2010/11, as set out in Appendix 3 to the report; and
- (iii) welcome the good performance as indicated in the report and noted the actions being taken to seek improvements where required.

21. QUESTION TIME

Councillor Coull referred to the Annual Trunk Roads Liaison meeting held on 9 December 2011 when it was noted that Transport Scotland/BEAR would discuss with Moray Council's Transportation and Economic Development Sections what was required to improve signage in Keith and thereafter consideration given to a co-ordinated approach to improving signage directing people to Mid Street and sought an update on the situation. The Transportation Manager advised that no discussion had as yet taken place and suggested that, in the first instance, arrangements be made for officers to meet with Ward Members to ascertain finer details prior to meeting with Transport Scotland/BEAR. This was agreed.

Councillor G McDonald enquired when the outcome of the ERDF application would be reported to Committee and whether they would be reported to this Committee or the Policy & Resources Committee and it was noted that a report would be submitted to the next meeting of this Committee.

22. LETTING AT MILLBUIES FISHERY, MILLBUIES COUNTRY PARK, NEAR ELGIN (PARA 9)

Under reference to Paragraph 22 of the Minute of this Committee dated 28 June 2011 there was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) inviting the Committee to consider proposals, as detailed in Section 5 of the report, for the lease of the fishery at Millbuies Loch, Millbuies Country Park, Elgin.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to recommend to the Policy & Resources Committee:-

- (i) the letting of the fishery at Millbuies Loch to Mr Kevin Moss on the main terms detailed in Appendix 1 to the report; and
- (ii) that it be remitted to the Legal Services Manager (Property and Contracts) to conclude the legal documentation on this basis and any other terms considered appropriate.

23. REPLACEMENT DREDGER (PARAS 1 & 8)

During consideration of this item Councillor Wright left the meeting.

Under reference to Paragraph 19 of the Minute of this Committee dated 1 November 2011 there was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) providing the Committee with an update on the Dredger's condition, options for future dredging and invited the Committee to consider a replacement of the Council's dredger, the "Shearwater". There were appended to the report as Appendices 1, 2 & 3 respectively details of these options and risks together with an assessment of the overall cost to the Council of each option and a short summary of projected overall costs.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the content of the report considering future dredger operations;
- (ii) that as a first stage, to deal with the immediate needs, approve that dredging as required on an emergency basis, be carried out at Buckie and Burghead with assistance from Peterhead Harbour work boat at an estimated cost of £1500 per day;
- (iii) that an external contractor be employed on a temporary basis until a replacement dredger becomes available;
- (iv) that as a third stage quotes be obtained from marine architects to proceed with preparing an initial specification, preliminary design and estimate for a replacement dredger;
- (v) that the estimate be reported to Economic Development and Infrastructure Services Committee for consideration prior to approval for detailed calculation, design, and construction;
- (vi) that provision of £2,500,000 for a new dredger be met from the capital programme as £100,000 in 2012/13, £2,000,000 in 2013/14, and £400,000 in 2014/15;
- (vii) that the second hand market for suitable replacement vessels be monitored until such time as a contract for a new dredger is confirmed;
- (viii) that the Shearwater be disposed of in the most advantageous terms to the Council after a short term dredging contract for Moray harbours with an external contractor has been set up;
- (ix) that the Council investigate the possibility of a replacement dredger as a joint venture with its counterparts in neighbouring local authorities.

Suspension of Standing Orders

Prior to considering the next item of business the meeting agreed to suspend Standing Order 76 and conclude the business of the meeting prior to breaking for lunch.

24. PROPERTY AT 28 WEST ROAD, GRESHOP INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, FORRES (PARAS 6 & 9)

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) inviting the Committee to consider proposals for the disposal of 28 West Road, Greshop Industrial Estate, Forres by way of a long ground lease.

Following consideration the committee agreed to defer consideration of this report for further information.

**25. DIRECT SERVICES REVENUE BUDGET : QUARTER 2 MONITORING
REPORT FOR TRADING ACCOUNTS (PARA 6)**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) informing Committee of the progress of Trading Accounts against revenue budgetary targets for the financial year 2011/12 during the period 1 April to 30 September 2011.