

THE MORAY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE FLOOD ALLEVIATION SUB-COMMITTEE

13 JUNE 2012

COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillors G Alexander (Chair), J Allan, L Creswell, J Divers, G Leadbitter, A McLean, M Shand, R Shepherd and A Skene.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors P Paul, and C Ralph and Councillor S Cree (Ex-officio).

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor D Ross.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Corporate Director (Environmental Services), the Consultancy Manager, the Project Manager, Ms D Halliday, Senior Engineer (Flood Risk Management), Elgin Flood Alleviation Scheme, Ms S Weir (EC Harris), Mr A Russell, Morrison Construction, Ms B Hellett, (Royal Haskoning), Mr A McEachan, Legal Services Manager (Property & Contracts) and Mrs S Kennedy Committee Services Officer, Clerk to the meeting.

1. DECLARATION OF GROUP DECISIONS

In terms of Standing Order 20 and the Councillor's Code of Conduct, Councillor Alexander declared a personal interest in the Forres Flood Alleviation Scheme. There were no other 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. WRITTEN QUESTIONS

There were no written questions.

3. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Meeting agreed, in terms of Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, that the public and media representatives be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the

Items of Business appearing at the relevant paragraphs of this Minute as specified below so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the appropriate paragraph of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Para No. of Minute

Para No. of Schedule 7A

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4. ELGIN FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME: PROGRESS

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) updating the Sub Committee on the progress of the Elgin Flood Alleviation Scheme.

Prior to consideration of the report the Consultancy Manager, introduced the Team and gave a brief history of the flood works/schemes undertaken to date.

During discussion, it was noted that there had been slippage of 5½ weeks and members expressed concern that the project was not moving forward. It was noted that there were problems with Scottish Water and the Consultancy Manager advised that he would be meeting with the most senior person in Scottish Water's flood Risk Team the following day. If, however following this meeting things were not resolved, it was the view of the Sub-Committee that a letter be sent to Scottish Water by either the Convener or the Council Leader.

The Chair on behalf of the Sub-Committee thanked Mr Russell for his conducted tour of the Elgin Flood Scheme.

Thereafter, the Sub-Committee agreed to:

- (i) note the Monitoring report no. 2007 for the Elgin Flood Prevention Scheme 2007 to the end of April 2007; and
- (ii) report progress to the Council.

5. FORRES (RIVER FINDHORN & PILMUIR) FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME: PROGRESS

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) updating the Sub Committee on the progress of Forres (River Findhorn & Pilmuir) Flood Alleviation Scheme.

In response to a question from the Chair, regarding the temporary closure of the Broom of Moy Bridge, Ms Hellet, (Royal Haskoning) advised that the bridge would be closed for 10 weeks.

In response to a question from Councillor Creswell with regard to an advertisement in the Forres Gazette in respect of a proposed waste disposal unit, she wondered if this work were to proceed could it be integrated into the

scheme works, the Consultancy Manager agreed to look into this issue and report back to Councillor Creswell.

Thereafter, the Committee agreed to:

- (i) note the progress for Forres (River Findhorn & Pilmuir) Flood Alleviation Scheme for the period 21 May 2012; and
- (ii) report progress to the Council.

6. MORAY FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEMES: FINANCIAL MONITORING SUMMARY

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) updating the Sub Committee on the Moray Flood Alleviation Schemes in respect of financial monitoring.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note:

- (i) that the estimated capital cost of schemes accords with the approved financial plan as far as can be ascertained at this point;
- (ii) that compensation costs and the costs of preparing for the Lands tribunal for the Forres (Burn of Mosset) Scheme, which have remained a concern for some time, have now been resolved following the hearings at the Lands Tribunal for Scotland;
- (iii) that in, in regard to the above, final costs depend on audited legal fees and it is predicted that the final cost of the Scheme will exceed the budget but not substantially; and
- (iv) the indicative estimated cost of the Forres (River Findhorn & Pilmuir) Scheme and that a report will be submitted to the Moray Council (or a special meeting thereof) to set the budget and authorise acceptance of the tender.

7. QUESTION TIME

There were no questions at this meeting.

Councillor D Ross left the meeting on the conclusion of this item.

8. MORAY FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEMES: FINANCIAL MONITORING SUMMARY [Para 6]

There was submitted and noted a report by the Corporate Director (Environmental Services) updating the Sub Committee on the Moray Flood Alleviation Schemes in respect of financial monitoring.

The Chair on behalf of the Committee expressed their thanks to the Flood and Legal Teams for all their work.