

THE MORAY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE FLOOD ALLEVIATION SUB COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 1 OCTOBER 2014

COUNCIL OFFICES, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillors G Alexander (Chair), J Divers, G Leadbitter, A McLean, M Shand and A Skene.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors J Allan, L Creswell, P Paul, R Shepherd and A Wright

IN ATTENDANCE

The Consultancy Manager, the Project Manager (Elgin Flood Alleviation Scheme), the Project Manager (Forres (River Findhorn & Pilmuir) Flood Alleviation Scheme), and Caroline Howie, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the meeting.

1. ORDER OF BUSINESS

In terms of Standing Order 28, the meeting agreed to vary the order of business set down on the agenda and take Item 6 "Flood Event 11 August 2014" as the first item.

2. DECLARATION OF GROUP DECISIONS AND MEMBERS INTERESTS

In terms of Standing Order 20 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct, 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 or any declarations of Members' interest in respect of any item on the agenda.

3. FLOOD EVENT 11 AUGUST 2014

There was submitted a report by The Chief Executive updating the Sub-Committee with information on the performance of the five Moray flood alleviation schemes to date following the flooding event on 11 August 2014.

The Project Manager (Forres (River Findhorn & Pilmuir) Flood Alleviation Scheme) gave a presentation providing information on the event with comparisons to previous events of a similar magnitude.

During discussions and in response to a query regarding the flow rate for Elgin during this event the Project Manager (Forres (River Findhorn & Pilmuir) Flood

Alleviation Scheme) advised this had been higher than during the events of 2009 and 1997.

During further discussion the Chairman stated this was an excellent report that should be made public. He further noted that a member of the press had missed some of the presentation and advised that the information could be issued to them if required.

Thereafter the Sub-Committee agreed:

- (i) to note the performance of the five Moray flood alleviation schemes to date following the flood event on 11 August 2014;
- (ii) that any additional information with regard to the flooding in August 2014 could be supplied to the members of the press if required.

4. ELGIN FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME: PROGRESS

Under reference to paragraph 23 of the Minute of the Moray Council dated 18 January 2006, there was submitted a report by The Chief Executive updating the Sub-Committee on the progress of Elgin Flood Alleviation Scheme.

The Project Manager (Elgin Flood Alleviation Scheme) gave a presentation providing information on progress and difficulties faced during the recent event of 11 August.

Following consideration, the Sub-Committee agreed to note Monitoring Report No. 22 for the Scheme for July to end of August 2014, provided as Appendix 1 to the report and to report progress to the Council.

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

Under reference to paragraph 23 of the Minute of the Moray Council dated 18 January 2006, there was submitted a report by The Chief Executive updating the Sub-Committee on the progress of Forres (River Findhorn and Pilmuir) Flood Alleviation Scheme. A copy of Monitoring Report No. 21 for the Scheme for July 2014 to end of August 2014 was provided as Appendix 1 to the report.

There was a presentation by the Project Manager (Forres (River Findhorn & Pilmuir) Flood Alleviation Scheme) providing information on progress and updating the Sub-Committee on further work required following the recent event of 11 August.

Councillor Divers left the meeting at the end of the presentation.

Following consideration, the Sub-Committee agreed to:

- (i) note Monitoring Report No. 12 for the Forres (River Findhorn and Pilmuir) Flood Alleviation for July 2014 to end of August 2014, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (ii) report progress to the Council.

6. MORAY FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEMES: FINANCIAL MONITORING SUMMARY

Under reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of this Sub-Committee dated 1 April 2009, there was submitted a report by The Chief Executive updating the Sub-Committee on the Moray Flood Alleviation Schemes in respect of financial monitoring and advising of key factors affecting costs of schemes. A summary sheet of actual costs and commitments for all Schemes to end of August 2014 was provided as Appendix 1 to the report.

Following consideration, the Sub-Committee agreed to note that:

- (i) the estimated capital cost of Schemes accords with the approved Financial Plan as far as can be ascertained at this point, with the exception of Forres (Burn of Mosset);
- (ii) following further review of risk and forecast construction and other costs, the out-turn for the Elgin Scheme is forecast to be £2,258,000 under budget;
- (iii) following further review of risk and forecast construction and other costs, the out-turn for the Forres (River Findhorn & Pilmuir) Scheme is forecast to be £5,500,000 under budget; and
- (iv) the forecast out-turn costs for the Rothes Scheme remains at £2,397,000 below budget.