

THE MORAY COUNCIL
MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 27 MAY 2008
COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN

PRESENT

A Wright (Chair), G McIntyre (Deputy), L.A. Bell, J S Cree, B Jarvis, G. Leadbitter, G. McDonald, P.B. Paul, M. Shand, J Sharp, R.H. Shepherd

IN ATTENDANCE

The Chief Executive, Head of Financial Services, Director of Educational Services, Chief Legal Officer Director of Community Services, Head of Direct Services and C Carswell, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the meeting.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors E. McGillivray and J. Russell.

1. DECLARATION OF GROUP DECISIONS AND MEMBERS INTERESTS

In terms of Standing Order 20 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct the meeting noted that 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 nor any declarations of Members Interest in respect of any Item on the Agenda.

2. ORDER OF BUSINESS

In terms of Standing Order 25, the meeting agreed to vary the order of business set down on the Agenda and take Item 8 'Council Chambers: Supply And Installation Of Water Dispenser' out of the confidential section of the Agenda and place it in the open section.

3. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

In terms of Standing Order 25 (iv) the Committee agreed to accept as additional items of business the undernoted reports on the Chairman certifying that, in his opinion, they required to be considered on the grounds of urgency:

- 6(a) Request for Support by Heartstone for "Ganga and the Shark"
- 6(b) Colour Copying Charges

4. WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Committee were advised that there were no written questions submitted to the Committee.

5. ELGIN SOUTH WEST DEVELOPMENTS: WORKING GROUP

There was submitted a report by the Director of Environmental Services advising the Committee of a cross-departmental Working Group to co-ordinate the development of a number of Council projects centred on South West Elgin, and inviting nominations from the Committee to attend the Working Group.

Councillor G McDonald asked whether this could be within the remit of Local Area Committees. Councillor A Wright advised that the Local Area Committees would be updated on the work of the Group and it would be a regular agenda item of business.

Following consideration the Committee agreed that that the three Elgin South Councillors and the Chair of the Economic Development & Infrastructure Committee be appointed to the Working Group.

6. BLOOD DONOR AWARDS CEREMONIES

There was submitted a report by the Chief Legal Officer inviting the Committee to consider a request from the North East of Scotland Blood Transfusion Service for financial assistance to host annual civic receptions to recognise the achievement of blood donors in Moray.

Councillor A. Wright queried the reason why in Forres, blood donors were expected to attend the civic reception in Inverness whereas in other areas in Moray although their main centre is in Aberdeen they are permitted to attend the civic reception in Elgin.

In response it was agreed that the Chief Legal Officer would look into this.

Following further discussion Councillor G. Leadbitter asked whether inflation costs should be taken into account on a year by year basis as in his opinion this would not necessitate an annual report to Committee and it was agreed that

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) a request from the North East of Scotland Blood Transfusion Service for financial assistance to host an annual civic reception in the Elgin Town Hall on the 24th March 2009;
- (ii) delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair and Deputy of the Policy & Resources Committee along with the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Legal Officer to approve future years civic receptions, and in the event of any changes in circumstances (not including rates of inflation); a that a report would be brought back to Committee; and

(iii) the use of the Elgin Town Hall for future ceremonies, and

7. “GANGA AND THE SHARK” – REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive asking the Committee to consider supporting an arts, culture and educational event linked to the 150th anniversary of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) to be held in Buckie, one of only two venues in Scotland for the event.

Following discussion, Councillor A. Wright, seconded by Councillor R. Shepherd, moved that the Council support the event to mark the anniversary and that the Council support be matched pound for pound from the Buckie Common Good Fund.

Councillor G. McDonald thanked the Convener for helping submit the report to Committee today at such short notice as Buckie had to make a commitment within a short deadline otherwise it would have been held outwith Moray. He had spoken with his fellow Councillors in Ward 3 Buckie and they were all in agreement to support the event.

Thereafter there being no one otherwise minded, the Committee unanimously agreed that the Council would support the event in Buckie which would mark the 150th anniversary of the RNLI and that the Council would give £4,000 and the Buckie Common Good Fund would also give £4,000.

Councillor P. Paul stated that she hoped that as part of the condition of obtaining the £4,000 from the Buckie Common Good Fund and £4,000 from the Council that the event would take place in Buckie and Councillor A. Wright advised that it was clear that one of the events would be held in Buckie.

8. COLOUR COPYING CHARGES

There was submitted a report by the Chief Legal Officer advising the Committee of the current cost of colour copying in respect of Committee Reports.

During discussion Councillor S. Cree advised that the reports were easier to digest when in colour but at a previous meeting, the issue regarding collating the colour copies into the agendas had been raised as possibly an area for concern.

In response the Chief Legal Officer advised that Committee Services had written the report in consultation with the Print Room and the practicalities and cost have been taken into account.

Following consideration the Committee approved the colour printing of Committee reports and others, which would be considered appropriate, in consultation with the respective Committee Chair.

9. COUNCIL CHAMBERS: SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF WATER DISPENSER

There was submitted a report by the Chief Legal Officer asking the Committee to consider whether to install a chilled water dispenser in the Council Chamber.

Following consideration the Committee agreed that a chilled water dispenser be installed into the Council Chambers.

10. QUESTION TIME

There were no questions raised by Members at the Committee.