

THE MORAY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MONDAY 11 JANUARY 2010

COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillors A. Wright, (Chairman), L. Bell, J. S. Cree, B. Jarvis, G. Leadbitter, G. McDonald, E. McGillivray, P. Paul, J. Russell, M. Shand, R. Shepherd and D. Stewart

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor G. McIntyre (Deputy Chairman).

ALSO PRESENT

Councillors G. Coull, J. Divers, J. Hogg, A. McKay, D. Ross, J. Sharp and I Young.

IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Executive, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Legal Officer, Director of Community Services, Director of Educational Services, Head of Direct Services, the Roads Maintenance Manager and the Principal Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the meeting.

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 member interest in respect of any item on the agenda.

2. WINTER MAINTENANCE PRIORITIES

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive asking the Committee to homologate a number of actions taken to date in the midst of the worst spell of cold weather in the last 50 years.

Councillor Paul joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

During discussion the Committee noted that :-

- (i) following discussions between Richard Lochhead, MSP and the Chief Executive of Scottish Water, the situation regarding accessing Glenlatterach reservoir had been resolved, and
- (ii) the majority of schools in Moray had re-opened with only 1 secondary school and 12 primary schools remaining closed.

Thereafter the Committee agreed to homologate:-

- (i) the use of external contractors to shift the ice and create access to as many schools as possible;
- (ii) provision of assistance to Scottish Water in accessing Glenlatterach reservoir;
- (iii) provision of assistant to the District Vet in accessing cattle which are trapped, and
- (iv) to note that the current situation will be treated as a civil emergency until there is a thaw

3. TWINNING – INVITATION TO VISIT CITY OF MOUNT DORA, FLORIDA

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive asking the Committee to consider an invitation from the City of Mount Dora to visit, especially for their official Centennial Anniversary of the City's incorporation and the twentieth Anniversary of the twinning relationship through the Sister Cities Association with the Royal Burgh of Forres.

Following discussion the Committee agreed that the invitation from the City of Mount Dora be declined.