

NOTE OF PETERHEAD DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, 27th March 2018

The Chamber, Buchan House, Peterhead

Present: Councillors Stephen Smith (Chair), Anne Allan, Dianne Beagrie and Norman Smith; Martin Danziger, Robert Emslie, Alison Gardner, Phyllis Mundie, Iain Sutherland, Christine Webster and Chris White.

Craig Elliott (Service Manager – Cultural Services) joined via Skype for item 5.

Apologies: Councillor Alan Fakley; and Robert McGregor.

Action

Welcome and apologies

Councillor S Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Councillor Fakley and Robert McGregor.

Minutes of Last Meetings

5th December 2017

The Minute of meeting held on 5th December 2017 was approved by Councillor A Allan, seconded by Councillor N Smith.

Education Service Update – Councillor Allan queried whether the results from the Sports Survey, which was carried out over the summer, had been received. It was agreed that a representative from the Education Service should be invited to the next meeting to provide an update.

AG

16th January 2018 (interim meeting)

The Minute of the interim meeting held on 16th January 2018 was approved by Councillor D Beagrie, seconded by Councillor A Allan.

Clerkhill Shops

A briefing note from the Roads Service was circulated with the agenda. Chris provided an update in Robert's absence.

A meeting was held at the Strichen Depot with Roads Projects and Local Roads Managers a couple of weeks ago where the brief and key details of the scheme, including additional traffic calming and road safety measures were agreed. The Local Roads Team had wished to undertake the work, but unfortunately are no longer able to do so within the required timescale due to the amount of repair work required on the network. Final design for approval is expected by the end of this week and work will go to tender in April at which point the full costs will become known.

It is expected that construction works will commence late May and run throughout June and July. The construction period is likely to last 8 weeks, in collaboration with shop owners to maintain access. The budget will need to be clarified as the original budget of £150,000 which was indicated in the original Action Plan seems ambiguous. The project will continue to be fully funded through the regeneration line.

It was agreed the Development Partnership should be kept fully updated, via e-mail, on progress with the brief and tenders etc. A full update should be provided to the interim Development Partnership meeting scheduled to take place on 24th April. RMcG
RMcG

Drummers Corner

Christine advised that since the last meeting the agreed brief for the detailed design work was issued. Initially there were no responses received by the deadline date. The date was extended and all the consultants were contacted by telephone. One tender was received from TGP Landscape Architects. The contract is almost complete – just waiting on financial BACS forms to allow them to be set them up on the system for payment.

Elaine McCarron has left her post in Peterhead and started a new job with the Property Service in Woodhill House. Peter Fraser from the Environmental Planning Team will now project manage the works. An initial meeting took place with TGP last week and they are working on three design options. A date for the receipt of the designs has still to be agreed.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Development Partnership, Area Committee Councillors and specific groups – for example, Peterhead Community Council, Modo, Scottish Week and Light-Up Peterhead would meet on Tuesday, 17th April to discuss the designs. Any issues brought up at the meeting will be discussed with TGP. CWeb

The final designs will then be discussed at the interim meeting on 24th April. CWeb

Chris added that we have worked with TGP Landscape Architects in the past and have always been happy with their work. They have good examples on their website www.tgp.uk.com. Peter Fraser was involved with the last upgrade to Drummers Corner back in 1998 so Chris is very pleased he is on board with the project.

Electrical Infrastructure – Christine advised that the Council are looking for community groups to take responsibility for the electricity in town centres. Unfortunately, the BID Group are not in a position to take this on at the moment. We will need to find a resolution at some point.

Councillor S Smith has approached SSE regarding sponsorship for the supply, no response has been received to date.

Councillor N Smith felt that this was a non-starter and couldn't imagine any community group being willing to take this on. Hywind may be a possibility? Queries were also raised regarding insurance liability. Will Aberdeenshire Council be liable or the community group?

CWeb

Christine confirmed that community groups have taken on the responsibility of the electrical supply in both Inverurie and Banchory. Iain Sutherland noted that Peterhead has areas of multiple deprivation and does not have the same lifestyles as Inverurie and Banchory.

It was agreed the electricity infrastructure for Drummers Corner will be discussed further and a view taken forward at the next meeting.

CWeb

Cultural Strategy

Craig Elliott advised that the new Cultural Strategy will hopefully be approved at the Full Council meeting in April. Craig gave an overview/summary of the Strategy. There are 4 strategic outcomes –

Strategic Outcome 1 – The Wider World

A Place known for our distinctive culture

- Our unique Doric culture will be promoted and celebrated.
- We will celebrate our places and people; from Lewis Grassie Gibbon to Thomas Blake Glover.
- We will work to support a national and international Cultural profile for Aberdeenshire.
- We will develop our collections and local history and provide digital access around the world.

Strategic Outcome 2 – Our Sense of Place

A Place where communities will be stronger and more connected.

- We will use culture to tackle inequalities and promote diversity in our communities.
- We will develop opportunities for people to come together to share, learn and create.
- We will help “close the gap” in attainment through targeted interventions using culture.

Strategic Outcome 3 – Our Local Economies

A Place where our towns and villages are vibrant and thriving

- We will support a thriving programme of performances, exhibitions, classes and events and adopt a fair but entrepreneurial approach to maximising income.
- We will use culture to help make Aberdeenshire a “must visit” tourist destination.
- We will promote and support pathways in to the Creative Industries.
- We will support volunteering, modern apprenticeships, accredited learning and other initiatives to support people in to work.

Strategic Outcome 4 – Health and Wellbeing

A Place where lives are enriched and where people are happier and healthier

- We will encourage and promote learning and literacy.
- We will work with healthcare providers to support programmes which promote good mental health and improve life chances.
- We will use culture to help older people live rich and independent lives for longer.

Craig explained it is a very ambitious 10-year plan, which will be funded from both the Council's revenue budget and external funding wherever possible. The Strategy will be delivered by 3rd Sector Partners as well as all Services across the Council.

Craig added that once the Strategy is approved, this is just the starting point. Communication with the communities is key to the delivery.

Councillor S Smith thanked Craig for his time.

Membership

It was felt it was time to have a look at the membership of the Development Partnership. Peterhead Projects Limited were originally on the group but have since ceased trading.

Councillor S Smith confirmed he was keen to open up the Partnership meetings, but they need to remain focused.

Following discussion it was agreed that Peterhead Community Council, Rediscover Peterhead BID and Peterhead Scottish Week should be formally invited to join the Partnership.

CW/
CWeb

It had been confirmed to the Councillors at a meeting last week that it is the Chair's decision which Officers are invited to the Partnership meetings.

Chris and Christine will have a further discussion at a later date regarding a further business representative – for example an energy related business. They will also discuss "theming" the meetings to particular aspects.

CW/
CWeb

Future Agenda Items / Invites for the Next Meeting

As discussed earlier, an Officer from the Education Service will be invited to the next meeting to discuss the results from the sports survey, the Peterhead Community Campus and associated issues. Linking to this will be the cultural offer/provision for Peterhead – theatre space etc. It would be good to discuss what we would like to have in Peterhead and what is actually feasible. It was requested that the Rescue Hall and Catto Park are also included in the discussions.

CW/AG

Chris confirmed that no decision has been made on the 2 alternative sites for the Community Campus. Various items need to be considered in the big picture for Peterhead – including the future of the Ugie Hospital, Community Care, Police Scotland moving to Buchan House etc.

Iain Sutherland noted that the last thing Peterhead needs is a gaping hole left in the current academy site. If a “place” is created where people want to use, it will also pull people in from other towns and hopefully they will also visit the town centre businesses, which will help with the backlash of the Academy moving out of the town centre. We need to plan ahead and ensure the community/businesses are aware of our vision.

Robert Emslie queried whether the results from the survey of how much income was currently being generated in the town centre from the school children were available. Christine confirmed that Suzanne, Heather and Elaine had worked on this and fed the information to the Education Service. The information will be provided at the next meeting.

CWeb

Ellon town centre will have gone through the same changes when their new Academy opened – it would be good to hear about their experiences.

Councillor Allan added that with any new Academy there are much better catering facilities/provisions, so even if the Academy was to be built on the same site, there may be less pupils walking into the town centre at lunchtime.

A.O.C.B.

Regeneration Action Plan – March 2018 Progress Update

The Regeneration Action Plan 6-monthly progress update is due to be reported to both the Buchan Area Committee (8th May '18) and Infrastructure Services Committee (10th May '18). The financial commitment for “live” projects in Peterhead is currently £444,539.00 from the overall £1.15m.

Copies of the draft 6-monthly progress update, which is a working document at the moment, were available at the meeting.

Two examples of good projects from the Action Plan are – (1) the Skills Hub, which was awarded £150,000. There are great employability results coming from the Skills Hub monthly reports, and (2) Your Voice Your Choice, which was awarded £49,000. Steph is currently working on the monitoring and evaluation report for the successful projects which will be circulated to everyone in the next month or so.

AG

Phyllis commended the Your Voice Your Choice funding, without the successful grant Light-Up Peterhead received this year the group would not have been able to put on such a great display. The funding assisted so many local groups in Peterhead and made a huge difference.

Councillor N Smith noted that as discussed at the meeting last week, a more condensed Action Plan with achievable actions is what the Councillors would like to see for Peterhead. It was agreed this would be discussed in more detail following the report to Buchan Area Committee.

CW/
CWeb

Proposed dates and times for future meetings

A meeting to discuss the Drummers Corner designs will be held at 3pm on Tuesday, 17th April in the Chamber, Buchan House.

ALL

An interim meeting of Peterhead Development Partnership will be held on Tuesday, 24th April at 12noon in the Chamber, Buchan House.

ALL

It was also agreed that the 3rd July was too far away for the next Peterhead Development Partnership meeting, therefore it was agreed that the meeting would be pulled forward to 12th June at 12noon.

ALL

Christine reminded the Development Partnership that the current Terms of Reference states that the Group would meet 3 – 4 times per year. If the Group want to meet more regularly, the Terms of Reference will need to be amended.