

## LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

### COMMITTEE DECISION SHEET

#### PETITIONS COMMITTEE - TUESDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

Please let the Committee Officer know as soon as possible if you do not agree with any action proposed in this decision sheet. These are decisions of the Committee and there is an expectation that action will be taken. If for any reason it is apparent that you will not be able to act on these instructions in full or in part or that there will be a delay, please let the Committee Officer know as it may be necessary to advise the Committee or seek further instructions from the Committee.

	Item Title	Committee Decision	Services Required to take action	Officer to Action
1	<p><b><u>Crossing Refuge - North Deeside Road, Cults</u></b></p> <p><b>“We the undersigned petition the Council to install a crossing refuge near the junction of Abbotshall Road and Westerton Road.</b></p> <p>As local residents are having difficulty crossing from the bus stop near the above junction, we request that consideration be given to providing a crossing refuge. The volume of traffic at significant times of the day is high and the junction causes extra congestion making it difficult to judge how to cross safely. The elderly, the young and parents with buggies and toddlers are all bus users, and the problem is growing as traffic through Cults increases.”</p>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></p> <p>(i) to request officers to report on the terms of the petition, as well as all traffic management options at the location on North Deeside Road, Aberdeen to a future meeting of the Communities, Housing and Infrastructure Committee; and</p> <p>(ii) to thank the petitioner for her presentation.</p>	Public Infrastructure and Environment	<p>M Cheyne/V Ritson</p> <p>E Parr – for information</p>
2	<p><b><u>Clean up Aberdeen Harbour Beach and Coastal Path</u></b></p> <p><b>Statement:</b></p>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></p> <p>(i) to note the petition;</p> <p>(ii) to instruct officers to investigate the</p>	Public Infrastructure and Environment	<p>S Shaw</p> <p>E Parr – for</p>

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	<p>We the undersigned petition the council to perform a clean up and necessary maintenance of the Harbour Beach below Torry Battery, where littering and flytipping has reached an unacceptable level.</p> <p><b>Justification:</b>            Something must be done regarding the amount of litter at the harbour beach/coastal path below Torry Battery. Not only can litter be found on the beach itself, but large amounts of household waste appear to be dumped down the side of the cliff from the road above.</p> <p>Many people regularly enjoy visiting this beautiful area of the city to watch the local wildlife. At weekends the beach is always busy with photographers, dog walkers, young people and families. Considering the numerous health benefits of spending time outdoors, this area is an invaluable asset to the local community.</p> <p>Excessive litter is not just an eyesore but dangerous to the people and pets who enjoy this beach. Litter poses a significant threat to the environment and marine wildlife, particularly seabirds. It's also unacceptable that children should have to play and rock-pool amongst empty beer cans and other waste.</p> <p>Few cities can boast such an excellent dolphin watching spot so close to its centre – something Aberdeen City Council</p>	<p>greater use of unpaid work teams through Community Service Orders to help the local community to clean and maintain Aberdeen Harbour Beach;</p> <p>(iii) to instruct officers to liaise with the City Wardens with regards to reducing anti-social behaviour and with the Ranger Service to co-ordinate the maintenance of cleanliness on Aberdeen Harbour Beach;</p> <p>(iv) to request that officers arrange a meeting with the petitioner to discuss further options for cleaning and maintaining Aberdeen Harbour Beach;</p> <p>(v) to agree to take no action otherwise on the petition; and</p> <p>(vi) to thank the petitioner for an excellent and informative presentation.</p>		information

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	<p>is seriously undervaluing. Aberdeen has huge potential to attract wildlife tourism; if only it's natural spaces were given the attention and protection from vandalism that they deserve.</p> <p>I propose the following measures to be undertaken:</p> <p>An initial intensive clean up of litter by council staff AND invitation to the general public to help. People putting in hard work will be less likely to litter or to tolerate others doing so;</p> <p>Following this, regular litter collecting by the council to avoid the beach getting in such a bad state again;</p> <p>Improved waste collection services in the local area if this is the root cause of the fly tipping;</p> <p>Additional bins on the beach itself and not just in the car park;</p> <p>Signage prohibiting fly tipping and explaining it to be a chargeable offence;</p> <p>Improved signage showcasing the fantastic wildlife which can be seen in the area;</p> <p>Closing up of the stone shelter opposite the car park which encourages antisocial behaviour;</p>			

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	<p>Education of local school children in Torry as to the effects of littering on marine wildlife, drawing special attention to their local harbour beach; and</p> <p>General maintenance/leveling of the paths leading down to the beach and around the base of the cliff. This will make it safer and more accessible to all.</p>			
3	<p><b><u>Marischal Square Investment</u></b></p> <p>We the undersigned petition the council to The public wants to know the details of the investment decision process that Aberdeen City Council followed from the initial idea to vacate St. Nicholas House through to the award of contact to Muse/Aviva for the Marischal Square development that ultimately led to the council's decision to deliver guaranteed annual lease payments to Aviva over 35 years for a hotel, retail and office space at Marischal Square. The Information to be provided should include, but not be limited to, the following: • The key stages of the investment decision process. • The qualifications, skills and experience of those tasked with managing and executing the process. • The documentation produced to support the decision. • The stakeholder engagement programme. • Effectiveness and relevance of each and every consultation process. • The advice given to the council regarding</p>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></p> <p>(i) to note that this decision process began in June, 2003;</p> <p>(ii) to instruct officers to identify all relevant reports since that time and to issue all public ones to the petitioner, and to review those reports previously exempt to determine the extent to which they can be released and issue them accordingly;</p> <p>(iii) to instruct officers to respond to the remaining requests for information as a Freedom of Information request;</p> <p>(iv) to agree to take no action otherwise on the petition; and</p> <p>(v) to thank the petitioners for their presentation.</p>	Finance/Land and Property Assets	S Whyte/S Booth

	Item Title	Committee Decision	Services Required to take action	Officer to Action
	<p>State Aid implications. • The steps taken to alienate the Common Good Land.</p> <p>The council should present the information at a formal meeting hosted by the Convener of the Finance, Policy and Resources Committee. Sufficient time should be set aside for questions and answers at the end of the presentation. Representatives from the following organisations and interested parties should be invited to attend:</p> <p>City Centre Community Council; Common Weal Aberdeen; Reject Marischal Square Development campaign group; Stop the Desecration of Marischal Square campaign group; Any other campaign groups who opposed the Marischal Square development; and The local press.</p>			
4	<b><u>Minute of Previous Meeting of 21 April 2015</u></b>	<b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> to approve the minute as a correct record.		

If you require any further information about this decision sheet, please contact Roderick MacBeath, tel 01224 523054 or email [rmacbeath@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:rmacbeath@aberdeencity.gov.uk)