

Committee Minutes

Planning Committee

Edinburgh, 19 June 2008

Present:- Councillors Lowrie (Convener), Burgess, Child, Dundas, Hinds, Keir, McIvor (Vice-Convener), Milligan, Morris, Mowat, Munn, Paisley, Peacock, Rose and Thomas.

Also Present:- Councillors K MacKenzie and Work.

1 Minutes

1.1 Planning Committee

- 1) The minute of the Planning Committee of 14 May 2008 was approved as a correct record.
- 2) The minute of the Planning Committee of 15 May 2008 was approved as a correct record subject to the addition of the names of the proposer and seconder of the amendment in item 5 – Councillors Burgess and Child respectively.

1.2 Development Management Sub-Committees

The minutes of the Development Management Sub-Committees of 14, 21 and 28 May 2008 were approved as correct records.

1.3 Edinburgh and Lothians Structure Plan Joint Liaison Committee

The minute of the Edinburgh and Lothians Structure Plan Joint Liaison Committee of 28 April 2008 was noted.

1.4 Interim Edinburgh and South East Scotland Strategic Development Plan Joint Committee

The minute of the Interim Edinburgh and South East Scotland Strategic Development Plan Joint Committee of 28 April 2008 was noted.

2 West Edinburgh Planning Framework – Finalised Version

The Committee had previously agreed a response to the consultative draft of the West Edinburgh Planning Framework. The Scottish Government had revised the document in light of comments received during the consultation process and had now published a finalised version.

The Framework provided a long term strategic vision for sustainable economic development in West Edinburgh and focused on three main land use allocations in the area; the future growth of Edinburgh Airport, the relocation of Scotland's National Showground, and the identification of land for an International Business Gateway.

Councillors K MacKenzie and Work were heard as local ward members.

Motion

- 1) To note the publication of the West Edinburgh Planning Framework 2008.
- 2) To note the actions on the Council as Planning Authority, including the preparation of an Alteration to the Rural West Edinburgh Local Plan and the West Edinburgh Strategic Design Framework.
- 3) To agree that consideration of a potential link from the M8 to the airport, whilst requiring the involvement of the Council, should be led by Transport Scotland through the Strategic Transport Projects Review.
- 4) To agree to refer the report by the Director of City Development to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee for its information.

- moved by Councillor Lowrie, seconded by Councillor Thomas.

Amendment

To indicate that the Planning Committee regards the West Edinburgh Planning Framework as planning for unsustainable economic development and asks the Scottish Government to postpone its implementation until the requirements of national climate change legislation is made clear.

- moved by Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Child.

Voting

For the motion - 13 votes
For the amendment - 2 votes

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Decision

- 1) To note the publication of the West Edinburgh Planning Framework 2008.
- 2) To note the actions on the Council as Planning Authority, including the preparation of an alteration to the Rural West Edinburgh Local Plan and the West Edinburgh Strategic Design Framework.
- 3) To agree that consideration of a potential link from the M8 to the airport, whilst requiring the involvement of the Council, should be led by Transport Scotland through the Strategic Transport Projects Review.
- 4) To agree to refer the report by the Director of City Development to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee for its information.

(Reference – Planning Committee of 22 February 2007 (item 2); report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

3 Rural West Edinburgh Local Plan: Update and Proposed Alteration

Information was provided about a minor change to the Rural West Edinburgh Local Plan (RWELP) Proposals Map following a legal challenge submitted during the six week period following the plan's adoption.

Additionally, the report proposed a formal Alteration of the RWELP to take account of the finalised West Edinburgh Planning Framework 2008, and the decision made by Committee at its meeting on 28 February 2008 to change the affordable housing policy in Rural West Edinburgh to bring it into line with the rest of the city.

Decision

- 1) To note the change to the RWELP Proposals Map at Eastfield Road as a result of a legal challenge.
- 2) To agree to commence preparation of an Alteration to the Rural West Edinburgh Local Plan limited to matters arising out of the finalised West Edinburgh Planning Framework 2008, and to amend policy H7 on affordable housing to make it consistent with the policy elsewhere in the City based on 25% of total units.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

Dissent

Councillor Burgess asked that his dissent be recorded in relation to the above decision.

4 Strategic Development Planning Update

Committee considered a progress report on the introduction of the new strategic development plan system following guidance from the Scottish Government.

It was now necessary to put into place arrangements for a permanent Edinburgh and South East Scotland Strategic Development Plan Joint Committee.

Decision

- 1) To endorse the principle that the Strategic Development Planning Authority be established on the basis of equal voting and equal funding.
- 2) To agree that the Council's two members currently sitting on the Interim Joint Committee would transfer to represent the Council on the SDP Joint Committee at the earliest opportunity.
- 3) To authorise that a small dedicated team/resource be established to support the SDP Joint Committee and manage SDP preparation.
- 4) To agree that the project manager and project team/resource be based in Edinburgh, with Fife Council being the employing authority.
- 5) To support any necessary and reasonable interim appointments to the dedicated team until permanent staff can be recruited.
- 6) To support the principle of co-locating the team with SEStran.
- 7) To agree that the Directors of the member councils form the Strategic Development Plan project board, supported by senior officers with a strong project assurance role.
- 8) To agree that engagement with local groups in this council's area on the SDP boundary is unnecessary.
- 9) To confirm that the Council will make available its share of the required resources to deliver the SDP project.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

5 Edinburgh Hotel Schedule 2007/2008

Details were provided of progress made towards meeting visitor accommodation targets in the city.

The report indicated a third of the additional rooms required by 2015 had been developed or had planning consent. A further 1500 rooms were awaiting determination.

Decision

- 1) To note the publication of the Edinburgh Hotel Schedule 2007/08 and the progress made towards achieving the visitor accommodation targets.
- 2) To refer the report to the Economic Development Committee for its interest.

(Reference – report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

6 Skyline Report – The Protection of Key Views

Committee had previously approved a draft guideline on the protection of key views for consultation purposes, and also identified additional views from Leith to be considered for inclusion.

The guideline had been amended in light of comments received during the consultation period and was now presented for approval in its finalised form.

Decision

- 1) To approve the additional key views set out in appendix 1 to the report.
- 2) To note the comments received and listed in appendix 2 to the report.
- 3) To approve the finalised Guideline for the Protection of Key Views as set out in appendix 3 to the report.
- 4) To agree to a review of the operation of the guideline after a period of eighteen months.

(References – Planning Committee of 28 February 2008 (item 17); report by the Director of City Development, submitted.)

7 Edinburgh Tram and Public Realm

At its meeting on 12 May 2008, the Tram Sub-Committee of the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee considered a report on the public realm options which could be developed in connection with the Edinburgh Tram Project and the funding implications.

The Sub-Committee agreed, amongst other things, to refer the report to the Planning Committee for information.

Decision

To note the report.

(Reference – report by the Tram Sub-Committee of the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee, submitted.)

8 Introduction of a Bicycle Station Scheme

The Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee on 19 February 2008 considered a report by the Director of City Development in response to a motion by Councillor Whyte on the feasibility of setting up a bicycle station scheme.

The Committee had noted the report and that a further report would be submitted to its next meeting on completion of a feasibility study. It also agreed to refer the report to the Planning Committee for further consideration.

Decision

To note the information and that a further report would be submitted to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee on completion of the feasibility study.

(Reference – report by the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee, submitted.)

9 Departmental Service Plans 2008-11: City Development

At its meeting on 13 May 2008 the Policy and Strategy Committee considered the Departmental Service Plans 2008 – 2011, together with a report by the Director of Corporate Services.

The Committee agreed to refer the City Development Service Plan 2008-11 to the Planning Committee for consideration.

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Decision

To note the City Development Service Plan 2008-2011.

(Reference –report by the Policy and Strategy Committee, submitted.)

10 Conference Invitations

Details were provided of invitations for the planning committee to appoint delegates for conference, dealt with as a matter of urgency, by the Director of Corporate Services in consultation with the Convener, under Standing Order 84 to allow the conference places to be booked.

Decision

- 1) To note the attendance of Councillor McKay at the 'Making it Happen – Planning for Success /Capital Review' conference on 4 June 2008.
- 2) To note the attendance of Councillor Munn at the 'Taking Stock: Scotland's Planning System in 2008/Holyrood Events' conference on 16 June 2008.
- 3) To note the attendance of Councillors Hinds and McIvor at the 'Places Need Vision – First Scottish Politicians in Planning Association (PIPA) Conference/Royal Town Planning Institute in Scotland (RTPI)' conference on 21 June 2008.

(Reference – report by the Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)