

**REPORT TO: LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE - 17 APRIL 2000
PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE - 24 APRIL 2000**

**REPORT ON: PROPOSED LOCAL NATURE RESERVE DESIGNATIONS AT SHIELL
STREET, BROUGHTY FERRY AND TROTTICK PONDS, DUNDEE**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND PARKS**

REPORT NO: 235/2000

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To outline feedback on the proposed Local Nature Reserve designations following:
- a informal consultation with relevant local communities and statutory undertakers; and
 - b formal consultation with Scottish Natural Heritage
- 1.2 To obtain approval of finalised Management Plans/Management Statements for each site and seek authority for the Directors of Leisure & Parks and Planning & Transportation to jointly proceed towards formal declaration.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Directors of Leisure & Parks and Planning & Transportation are remitted to commence formal declaration procedures under Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, as amended.
- 2.2 That the Local Nature Reserve designations are accommodated in the Review of the Development Plan framework.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Costs associated with Public Notices will be contained within the Leisure and Parks Department's Revenue Budget 2000/2001.

4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Local Nature Reserve designations will further the nature conservation and community value of these sites in accordance with a rolling programme of 5 year Management Plans. A key objective of these Plans is to further engage local communities in active stewardship. The designations will therefore contribute directly to the following key themes of Dundee 21:

- diversity of nature is valued and protected;
- diversity and local distinctiveness are valued and protected;
- opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation are readily available to all

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Local communities and the voluntary sector will be encouraged to assist in the future maintenance and management of these sites, to promote greater local stewardship.

- 5.2 Safe access for pedestrians and disabled persons will be accommodated as far as practicable within the Local Nature Reserves. The Management Plans promote responsible access within each site to protect their integrity.
- 5.3 Copies of the Local Nature Reserve Declarations will be placed on local deposit for information. Public Notices will also be published in the local Press to raise awareness.

6 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 The Committees will recall a Report on the proposed Local Nature Reserves which received approval in February 2000 (Report No 64/2000 refers).
- 6.2 The Directors of Leisure & Parks and Planning & Transportation were remitted to jointly report back to the relevant Committees in April to outline feedback from the Trottick Ponds public meeting, summarise any informal feedback from statutory undertakers, discuss the terms of SNH's endorsement and seek approval of finalised Management Plans/Statements for each site.
- 6.3 The following issues were raised at the public meeting in February 2000 concerning the proposed Local Nature Reserve designation at Trottick Mill Ponds Nature and Heritage Area:
- i the need to promote responsible access within the site and in particular to address unauthorised use of motor cycles;
 - ii the need to secure boundaries in ways which do not inhibit wheelchair access to the site; and
 - iii the issue of litter being blown into the site and the need for litter bins to assist clean up.
- 6.4 These comments have been accommodated as far as possible in the Finalised Management Statement and Management Plan for Trottick Mill Ponds Nature and Heritage Area. Feedback from an earlier public meeting concerning Shiell Street Nature Conservation Area has been accommodated in the finalised Management Statement and Plan for that site also. Copies of these documents are available for inspection in the Members' Lounges.
- 6.5 No comments were received in response to informal consultation with relevant statutory undertakers.
- 6.6 Scottish Natural Heritage has formally endorsed the proposed designations. The Committees may also be interested to note that SNH has expressed interest in launching its "Local Nature Reserves in Scotland: A Guide to their Selection and Declaration", document prepared in conjunction with COSLA, to coincide with the City Council's formal declaration of these sites. This may take the form of a Press call at one of the sites during May 2000, subject to the Council's agreement.
- 6.7 The Committees are therefore requested to approve the finalised Management Statements and Plans and authorise the Directors of Leisure & Parks and Planning & Transportation to jointly proceed towards formal declaration, on behalf of the Council.
- 6.8 Declarations will be placed on deposit for information in Tayside House, Broughty Ferry Library and Fintry Library. Public Notices will also be published in the Courier and Edinburgh Gazette to coincide with this process.
- 6.9 For the purposes of the Urban Nature Conservation Subject Local Plan 1995 and the Dundee Local Plan 1998, the Category A Wildlife Sites in question will continue to be referred to as "Sheill Street" and "Trottick Ponds". New signage will be positioned within the Shiell Street site to confirm its parallel designation as "Broughty Ferry Local Nature Reserve". Similar

signage will be erected at "Trottick Mill Ponds Nature and Heritage Area" confirming its Local Nature Reserve status.

7 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Support Services, Director of Corporate Planning, Education, Housing, Economic Development, Environment and Consumer Protection (Dundee 21), Neighbourhood Resources, Arts and Heritage, the Legal Manager and the Chief Constable, have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 The following Reports provide a background to the Local Nature Reserve designations:

- Planning and Transportation Committee Report 482/99
- Leisure Services Committee Report 498/99
- Joint Report to Leisure Services Committee and Planning & Transportation Committee 64/2000

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7 April 2000

KW/LAH/RJ LP16

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