

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Community Participation Committee

Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services

Wednesday 21 January 2009

Subject: Regeneration of the Schools' Estate

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an update on progress in the regeneration of the schools' estate.

2. Background

- 2.1** At the meeting of the Community Participation Committee held on 23 April 2008, Community Representatives requested that a report on progress on the regeneration of the schools' estate be submitted to every second meeting of the Committee.

3. Main Issues

PPP "Phase 1"

- 3.1** St Peter the Apostle High School

Stage 1 - Proposed St Peter the Apostle HS school building (on existing football pitches)

- a. Programmed completion date – 17 July 2009. One week behind programme. However BAM have provided a recovery programme that will not compromise the programmed completion date. Inclement weather continues to affect progress. Council currently has incurred no cost liability for these delays.
- b. Works currently ongoing: external drainage, hard landscaping, superstructure brickwork & blockwork, curtain walling & windows, cladding, internal partitions, suspended ceilings, decoration, under floor heating, floor finishes, services installations, oratory frame & glazing, lift installation, sprinkler system and joinery work.

Stage 2 - Proposed sports pitches (on existing former Kilbowie Landfill Site)

- a. Phased handover of pitches from 17 July 2009 for hockey pitch to through to summer 2010 for grass pitch. One week behind programme. Inclement weather and Planning Conditions in relation to remediation has affected progress. Council currently has incurred no cost liability for these delays.
- b. Works currently ongoing: earthworks to formation level is now complete. Settlement period has commenced and continues to be monitored on a monthly basis. Some slight settlement is evident and this will continue to be monitored for final assessment in January/February by Schools Estate and our advisors.
- c. Site offices will be relocated over the Christmas holidays to increase the number of available car park spaces within the site.

Stage 3 - Proposed St Eunan's PS (on existing St Columba's HS location)

- a. Not programmed to commence until August 2009.

3.2 Clydebank High School

- a. Programmed completion date – 15 July 2009. On programme.
- b. Works currently ongoing: external drainage, hard landscaping, superstructure brickwork & blockwork, curtain walling & windows, cladding, internal partitions, suspended ceilings, decoration, under floor heating, floor finishes, services installations, roofworks, lift installation, sprinkler system, joinery work and completion of sample rooms.

3.3 Vale of Leven Academy

- a. Programmed completion date – 29 June 2009. On programme.
- b. Works currently ongoing: external drainage, hard landscaping, superstructure brickwork & blockwork, curtain walling & windows, cladding, internal partitions, suspended ceilings, decoration, under floor heating, floor finishes, services installation, roofworks, lift installation, sprinkler system and joinery work.

Other Issues

- 3.4 Reviews by BAM, Schools' Estate and schools co-ordinators of proposed room layouts to "specialist areas" are now complete.
- 3.5 The reviewable design data (RDD) process is progressing satisfactorily.
- 3.6 The proposed internal security installations to the buildings have been agreed between BAM and the Authority. BAM is currently liaising with the police to obtain "Secure by Design" approval. Designs of internal security to the building have been agreed by BAM and the project team. External security measures have also been agreed.
- 3.7 Designs continue to be refined to better meet the needs of the Authority through the processes listed in 3.4 and 3.5 above and, to date, extra capital costs instructed by the Authority are negligible (estimated currently to be in the region of £230,000, which represents 0.2% of the build costs) and this will be met from the project's sinking fund. At present the Unitary Charge has increased by approximately £2,500. These amounts are expected to change slightly throughout the build period.

Staffing Issues

- 3.8 The new Head Teacher appointed for St.Peter the Apostle High School is Mick Vassie who was formerly the Head Teacher at St. Andrew's High School. This early appointment will allow the new Head Teacher around eight months lead-in time to deal with timetabling, staffing, curricular and other issues relating to the new school and should assist with the amalgamation process.

Forward Planning

- 3.9 Planning for the transfer of materials, apparatus and equipment from the four existing secondary school buildings into the new secondary schools and other establishments has now commenced and a detailed plan is under development.

School Fund and Capital Programme

- 3.10 A new Project Notification was advertised in the European Journal (OJEU) for the proposed new Bonhill and Goldenhill Primaries. As a result, on 12 December 2008 the Council received 25 contractors wishing to tender for the project. A selection process is now underway to invite 6 contractors to formally tender using the revised tender package.
- 3.11 The tender period will be from 19 January to 27 January 2009. Appointment of the successful contractor is programmed to be on or

before 1 May 2009 and construction of both Schools is due to start on 1 June 2009.

Dumbarton Academy

- 3.12** A meeting with the Parent Council took place on 30 June where options were presented for potential sites for the new Dumbarton Academy building. It was generally agreed that the most suitable sites were either at Postie's Park or on the existing school site on Crosslet Road.
- 3.13** On 19 September 2008 Members and Senior officers of the Council met with Fiona Hyslop (Cabinet Secretary for Education & Lifelong Learning) to discuss, amongst other matters, possible funding options for delivery of a new Dumbarton Academy. The meeting was very positive and we now await the outcome of any further considerations by the Scottish Government.

Schools' Regeneration "Phase 2"

- 3.14** Council instructed that separate consultation meetings be held in every school and Early Education and Childcare Centre (EECC) affected by phase 2. The Schools' Regeneration Phase 2 Member/Officer Working Group subsequently proposed that a preliminary informal consultation meeting be conducted with parent councils, school staff and church representatives from all education establishments within the Bellsmyre, Faifley and Haldane/Jamestown areas, to gather views on the possibility of co-location of denominational and non-denominational primary schools in each of the areas.
- 3.15** The preliminary informal consultation meeting took place in Garshake on 28 August 2008. Discussions proved to be very productive with varied responses relating to the pros and cons of co-located schools, refurbishments and new build schools. Questionnaires were completed by attendees and these were analysed and reported back to the Schools' Regeneration phase 2 Member/Officer Working Group, where direction was given on how to proceed with the next stage of consultation for these areas.
- 3.16** Following the meeting as outlined in 3.14 three separate informal public consultation meetings were held. The meeting for the Bellsmyre community was held on 21 October 2008 in Dumbarton Academy, the Faifley community meeting was held on 11 November 2008 in Auchnacraig EECC and the Haldane / Jamestown community meeting was held on 17 November 2008 in St.Kessog's P.S. Questionnaires were again completed by attendees and these are being analysed for reporting

back to the Schools' Regeneration phase 2 Member/Officer Working Group.

- 3.17** An initial consultation meeting for the remainder of the Alexandria schools and EECC's was held on Wednesday 3 December 2008 in Christie Park P.S at which all schools, Parent Councils and EECC's were represented.
- 3.18** An initial consultation meeting for the remainder of the Dumbarton schools and EECC's will be held on Monday 19 January 2009 at 7.00pm in Dumbarton Academy at which all schools, Parent Councils and EECC's will be represented.
- 3.19** An initial consultation meeting for the remainder of the Clydebank schools and EECC's will be held on Monday 26 January 2009 at 7.00pm in Clydebank Town Hall at which all schools, Parent Councils and EECC's will be represented.

4. Personnel Issues

- 4.1** There are no personnel issues associated with this report.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1** There are no financial issues associated with this report

6. Risk Analysis

- 6.1** No risk analysis is required at this time.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1** The PPP project is well under way and generally on programme.
- 7.2** The re-tendering process for the new Goldenhill and Bonhill primary schools project is underway as described in 3.10 and 3.11.
- 7.3** The preliminary informal consultation meetings to consider the pros and cons of co-located schools was productive. Initial public consultation meetings with the Bellsmyre, Faifley and Haldane/Jamestown communities have been held as well as the initial public consultation meeting with the remainder of the Alexandria schools. The programme for future consultations will be considered by the Member/Officer Working Group.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1** It is recommended that the Community Participation Committee note the contents of this report.

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Appendices None

Background Papers: None

Wards Affected: All wards.