

## **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

At a Special Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held in the Council Chamber, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Wednesday, 18 January 2017 at 5.00 p.m.

**Present:** Provost Douglas McAllister and Councillors Denis Agnew, George Black, Jim Bolland, Jim Brown, Gail Casey, Jim Finn, William Hendrie, David McBride, Jonathan McColl, Michelle McGinty, Patrick McGlinchey, Marie McNair, John Mooney, Lawrence O'Neill, Tommy Rainey, Gail Robertson, Martin Rooney, Kath Ryall and Hazel Sorrell.

**Attending:** Keith Redpath, Chief Officer, West Dunbartonshire Health & Social Care Partnership Board; Peter Hessett, Strategic Lead – Regulatory; Soumen Sengupta, Head of Strategy, Planning & Health Improvement and Christine McCaffary, Senior Democratic Services Officer.

**Apologies:** Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors John Millar and Ian Murray.

### **Provost Douglas McAllister in the Chair**

## **PROVOST'S REMARKS**

Having heard Provost McAllister, the Council agreed to relocate the meeting to the Grand Hall after Item 1 on the agenda had been dealt with, in order to accommodate the large number of public who were in attendance.

The meeting reconvened at 5.07 p.m. in the Grand Hall, with all those shown on the sederunt present.

The Provost then welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanking the public for the fantastic turnout and show of support to St. Margaret of Scotland Hospice.

## **MINUTE OF SILENCE**

After hearing the Provost advise of the recent death of Mrs Josephine Ewing, former Head Teacher of St Eunan's and St Mary's Primary Schools, Clydebank, the Council observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

## **NOTICE OF MOTION**

The Provost then spoke of the exceptional service provided by St Margaret of Scotland Hospice, stating that the Leader of the Council, Councillor Rooney, had asked that his motion be withdrawn to allow only Councillor Agnew's motion to be considered.

### **Motion by Councillor Denis Agnew - St Margaret of Scotland Hospice**

Councillor Agnew spoke of the excellent work carried out by the Hospice and its staff, expressing his support and stressing the importance of everyone backing the Hospice now and in the future.

Councillor Agnew then moved:-

This Council agrees to commit to support St Margaret of Scotland Hospice in its endeavours to retain its charitable status and not be placed in a situation whereby future patients will be means tested.

This Council further believes that the hospice should be recognised as a stand-alone centre of excellence, and that the 28 beds for patients with complex medical needs at St Margaret of Scotland Hospice should continue to be funded by Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board (GG & CHB), and not be subject to Integrated Joint Board funding decisions.

Councillor McNair then spoke of her first-hand knowledge of the exceptional work carried out by the Hospice and why the Council had to add its support to the campaign in order to secure a bright future for the Hospice.

At this point in the meeting the Provost invited any declarations of interest from the Members present. Councillor McColl declared an interest being a member of West Dunbartonshire Health & Social Care Partnership Board.

Councillor Black was then also heard in support of the Hospice, stating that its patients should not be subjected to means testing.

Councillor Casey, as Chair of West Dunbartonshire Health & Social Care Partnership Board, was also heard express her full support to the Hospice, stating that she would not accept that patients would be means tested in the future.

Councillor McColl spoke of his disappointment that the Health Board was imposing this change on the Hospice, and echoed his colleagues' full support to the Hospice and the campaign going forward.

The Provost advised that in normal circumstances voting would not be required when an amendment to a motion had not been moved, however wishing to show the strength of support to the Hospice he asked Members in support of Councillor Agnew's motion to raise their hand.

On a show of hands, the Council unanimously agreed to support the motion.

The meeting closed at 5.35 p.m.