

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

At the Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held in the Council Chamber, Clydebank Town Hall, 49 Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Wednesday, 29 January 2020 at 2.00 p.m.

Present: Provost William Hendrie, Bailie Denis Agnew and Councillors Jim Bollan, Jim Brown, Karen Conaghan, Ian Dickson, Diane Docherty, Daniel Lennie, Caroline McAllister, Douglas McAllister, David McBride, Jonathan McColl, Iain McLaren, Marie McNair, John Millar, John Mooney, Lawrence O'Neill, Sally Page, Martin Rooney and Brian Walker.

Attending: Joyce White, Chief Executive; Angela Wilson, Strategic Director – Transformation & Public Service Reform; Richard Cairns, Strategic Director – Regeneration, Environment & Growth; Beth Culshaw, Chief Officer, Health & Social Care Partnership, Peter Hessel, Strategic Lead – Regulatory (Legal Officer); Stephen West, Strategic Lead – Resources; Laura Mason, Chief Education Officer; Malcolm Bennie, Strategic Lead – Communications, Culture, Communities & Facilities; Peter Barry, Strategic Lead – Housing & Employability; Gail Macfarlane, Strategic Lead – Shared Services Roads & Transportation; Gillian McNeilly, Finance Manager and Christine McCaffary, Senior Democratic Services Officer.

Apology: An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Gail Casey.

Provost William Hendrie in the Chair

STATEMENT BY CHAIR – AUDIO STREAMING

Provost Hendrie advised that the meeting was being audio streamed and broadcast live to the internet and would be available for playback.

PROVOST'S REMARKS

The Provost reminded the Elected Members present of the expected levels of conduct and behaviour during Council meetings, making reference to the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were no declarations of interest in any of the items of business on the agenda.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on (a) 27 November 2019 (Ordinary Meeting) and (b) 18 December 2019 (Requisitioned Meeting) were submitted and approved as correct records.

MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Minutes of Meeting of the Audit Committee held on 25 September 2019 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

OPEN FORUM

The Council noted that no open forum questions were submitted by members of the public.

GENERAL SERVICES BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT TO PERIOD 9

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Resources advising on the General Services revenue budget and the approved capital programme to 31 December 2019 (Period 9).

The Council agreed:-

- (1) to note that the revenue account currently shows a projected annual favourable variance of £0.294m (0.13% of the total budget); and
- (2) to note that the capital account shows that planned expenditure and resource for 2019/20 is lower than budgeted by £17.752m (22.84% of the budget), made up of £18.210m relating to project slippage, partially offset by £0.457m relating to an in year overspend (as shown within appendices 5 to 8 of the report).

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT TO PERIOD 9

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Housing & Employability providing an update on the financial performance of the HRA revenue and capital budgets to 31 December 2019 (Period 9).

The Council agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the report which shows the revenue budget forecast to underspend against budget by £0.039m (0.09%) at the year-end; and
- (2) to note the net projected annual position in relation to relevant capital projects which is highlighting a variance of £12.441m (20.0%) due to projected net slippage of £13.394m (21.5%) and an overspend of £0.953m (-1.5%).

GENERAL SERVICE BUDGET PREPARATION 2020/21 TO 2022/23

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Resources providing an update in relation to the setting of the General Fund budget for 2020/21 and gap projections for 2022/23.

The Council agreed:-

- (1) to note the update provided regarding the Scottish Government settlement position;
- (2) to note the update of the gaps following the budget alterations and management adjustments as detailed in paragraphs 4.2 and 4.3 of the report that have been applied to the draft budget position;
- (3) to note the outcome of the further Loans Fund Review and agree the option identified to reschedule loans fund advances to generate and use a revenue reserve within the General Fund detailed in paragraph 4.12 of the report;
- (4) to note the position regarding anticipated capital receipts which may be used to assist in closing future funding gaps and agree the proposed approach identified in paragraph 4.12 of the report;
- (5) to note that the Corporate Management Team (CMT) is finalising a set of savings options for potential future consideration by Members in closing the projected gaps should these be required; and
- (6) to note that this projected position is subject to amendment as the settlement implications for the Council are identified and as all other assumptions are finalised between now and the Council meeting on 4 March 2020.

DALMUIR GOLF CLUB FUTURE OPERATING MODEL

A report was submitted by the Strategic Director – Regeneration, Environment & Growth providing a response to the motion agreed by West Dunbartonshire Council at its meeting on 26 June 2019.

Following discussion the Council agreed:-

- (1) to note the consultation activity that has taken place to date;
- (2) that officers implement the proposals identified in section 4.10(i), ii) and (iv) of the report as a means to increase membership numbers and reduce the current net cost of operating the facility;
- (3) that officers explore the potential for Community Asset Transfer of Dalmuir Municipal Golf Course as a long term sustainable option;
- (4) that officers explore the option of developing the Dalmuir Bowling Pavilion into a café clubhouse, business case development costs to be contained in internal budgets; and
- (5) to note that a report will be submitted to a future meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council on the findings of paragraphs (3) and (4) above.

VACANCIES ON COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Regulatory advising of outstanding vacancies on committees, joint boards/committees and outside bodies.

Following discussion, the Council agreed the undernoted nominations:-

Educational Services Committee – Councillor David McBride

Joint Consultative Forum – Councillor John Millar

Local Negotiating Committee for Teachers – Councillor Daniel Lennie

CPWD Management Board (substitute) – Councillor Martin Rooney

Dunbartonshire and Argyll Valuation Joint Board (substitute) – Councillor David McBride

Knowes HA Management Committee – Councillor Jim Finn

Knowes HA Management Committee (substitute) – Councillor Douglas McAllister

Licensing Board – vacancy open to any councillor

Licensing Committee – vacancy open to any councillor

INCREASED FOOTWAY GRITTING UPDATE REPORT

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Shared Services Roads & Transportation providing an update of the supplementary footway treatment actions that have been implemented further to the motion agreed by West Dunbartonshire Council on 27 November 2019.

Following discussion and having heard the Strategic Lead in answer to Members' questions, the Council agreed:-

- (1) to note the actions implemented by the Neighbourhood and Roads Service as detailed in paragraph 4.4 of the report;
- (2) to approve the proposal to review all footway gritting routes and carry out route optimisation as identified in paragraph 4.6 of the report; and
- (3) to note that a further report will be submitted to West Dunbartonshire Council for consideration until completion of the routes review and following evaluation of the actions detailed in paragraph 4.4 on conclusion of winter 2019/20.

The meeting closed at 2.34 p.m.

