

## **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

At the Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held in the Council Chamber, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Wednesday, 28 August 2019 at 6.05 pm

**Present:** Provost William Hendrie, Bailie Denis Agnew and Councillors Jim Bolland, Jim Brown, Karen Conaghan, Ian Dickson, Diane Docherty, Daniel Lennie, Caroline McAllister, Douglas McAllister, David McBride, Jonathan McColl, Iain McLaren, Marie McNair, 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 Hissett, Strategic Lead – Regulatory (Legal Officer); Stephen West, Strategic Lead – Resources; Laura Mason, Chief Education Officer; Malcolm Bennie, Strategic Lead – Communications, Culture & Communities; Jim McAloon, Strategic Lead – Regeneration; Gillian McNeilly, Finance Manager; Colin McDougall, Audit Manager; Amanda Coulthard, Performance & Strategy Manager and Christine McCaffary, Senior Democratic Services Officer.

**Apologies:** Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Gail Casey, Jim Finn and John Millar.

**Provost William Hendrie in the Chair**

### **STATEMENT BY CHAIR – AUDIO STREAMING**

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

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS**  
**(1) QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR MOONEY**  
**(2) PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON BUDGET CUTS**

Provost Hendrie advised that he had received a request from Councillor Mooney for an urgent question to Councillor McColl and a request from Councillor Rooney on an urgent motion in connection with the public consultation on budget cuts.

The Provost agreed that Councillor Mooney's question would be taken after the Notice of Motions on the agenda and that Councillor Rooney's urgent motion would be taken immediately after the deputation from the Trades Unions.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 26 June 2019 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

**MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Minutes of Meeting of the Audit Committee held on 20 March 2019 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

**OPEN FORUM**

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

**REQUEST FOR DEPUTATION**  
**UNISON AND UNITE - CUTS AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

In accordance with Standing Order 18 the Council agreed to receive a deputation from Unison and Unite in connection with the above.

The Provost invited the delegation forward to speak to the meeting. Val Jennings, Unison Convener and Margaret Wood, Unite Convener, West Dunbartonshire Branches were then heard express their concerns with the public consultation, management adjustments and threat to terms and conditions.

Following questions from Members both speakers returned to their seats.

**URGENT ITEM OF BUSINESS**  
**COUNCILLOR ROONEY – PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

Councillor Rooney, seconded by Councillor McBride moved:-

Consultation is the cornerstone of any democracy and should be viewed as a positive and empowering experience. However, under this SNP Administration, consultation has lost all meaning. How callous is this SNP administration, propped up by Baillie Agnew, to ask our young people, elderly, infirm, disabled and vulnerable to CHOOSE the cut they want? Is this some sort of Trumpian democracy?

Whatever loaded form it comes in, Labour certainly do not recognise or endorse it. We are horrified that the SNP are imposing £9 million worth of cuts to services – despite their leader, First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, confirming there is no need for any cuts in services in West Dunbartonshire.

If SNP Group Leader, Jonathan McColl, is dismissing the view of his Party Leader, then what chance do our citizens have of making him listen?

It is blindingly obvious, as the Speaker of Parliament would say, that this SNP Administration is completely out of touch with our citizens' views. Nobody is happy with cuts affecting our schoolchildren, community groups, grass cutting services, and community alarm price hikes for our vulnerable.

That is why Labour is taking the unprecedented move of discouraging residents in West Dunbartonshire from participating in the Council Budget Consultation.

Our citizens do not deserve to be the turkeys voting for Christmas and the SNP need to stop blaming our hard-working citizens for wanting budget cuts – that simply is not the case.

Labour will not be encouraging any citizens to complete this survey until such time that a ZERO CUTS BUDGET option is on the consultation paper.

We ask fellow citizens and Councillors to endorse the Labour Party's position and support our 'Boycott the Budget Consultation' Campaign.

If you use Twitter, we would appreciate residents using the #BoycottTheBudgetConsultation hashtag line to spread the word.

Democracy is being eroded under the SNP; support this Motion to see it restored for the good of our citizens.

As an amendment, Councillor McColl seconded by Councillor Dickson moved:-

Council thanks the joint Trade Unions for their deputation and agrees that the simple fact is that we need more central funding if we are to deliver the services our citizens need.

Even with no central funding cuts, service enhancements or added requirements from the Scottish or UK Governments, the Council needs

approximately an extra £5m in funding just to stand still; this is due to inflation, wage rises and increasing needs of our residents.

The Council's cumulative projected gap over the next two years is almost £17m and is likely to increase into the following year. While West Dunbartonshire Council is committed to doing everything we can to protect jobs and services, the reality is that if austerity continues, across the UK Councils, including ours, will be struggling to provide statutory services; indeed some already are.

BREXIT is also an unquantifiable, extreme risk to the UK economy and we have no idea how it will affect Council finances.

Council reaffirms our support for the Trade Unions' anti-austerity campaign, and in light of feedback from the Trade Unions last year, this year's budget consultation is very different:

- There are no questions asking people to choose savings options.
- People are not being asked to give us feedback on a balanced budget.
- People are instead being asked to tell us what services areas they value most, and if there are areas they would like to see enhanced.
- People can choose to tell the Council that they wish us to prioritise investment in all services areas if they wish.
- Savings/Enhancement options will be published towards the end of the year, but we will not hold a specific consultation on them as per the request from Trade Unions.

Councillors will use the feedback from the budget consultation to make political decisions about how we should balance the budget.

Council welcomes input and advice from anyone with knowledge of our services and we fully encourage members of the public, and staff to take part in the consultation.

Council notes that as always, the Administration welcomes ideas and input from Trade Union and Councillor colleagues cross party in setting our budget.

Between now and February, we encourage our colleagues to bring forward realistic suggestions for ways in which we can make savings or increase the money we have available to spend to enable us to protect staff and services.

At the request of Councillor O'Neill the Council proceeded by way of a roll call vote.

On a vote being taken 10 members voted for the amendment, namely Provost Hendrie, Baillie Agnew and Councillors Brown, Conaghan, Dickson, Docherty, Caroline McAllister, McColl, McLaren and McNair and 9 members voted for the motion, namely Councillors Bollan, Lennie, Douglas McAllister, McBride, Mooney, O'Neill, Page, Rooney and Walker. The amendment was declared carried.

## **GLASGOW CITY REGION CITY DEAL UPDATE**

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Regeneration advising of progress with the implementation of the Glasgow City Region, City Deal.

Following discussion, Councillor McColl moved that the Council agrees:-

- (1) to note the progress of the Glasgow City Region (GCR) City Deal; and
- (2) to note progress with the Council's project for the Exxon site.

The Council agreed the motion.

Councillor Bollan, having failed to find a seconder for a proposed amendment, requested that his dissent be recorded in respect of this item.

## **ANNUAL REPORT ON AUDIT COMMITTEE**

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Resources providing an Annual Report on the Audit Committee for 2018/19.

After discussion and having heard the Audit Manager in answer to Members' questions Council noted the report.

## **GENERAL SERVICES BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT - PERIOD 4**

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Resources on the above.

After discussion and having heard officers in answer to Members' questions, the Council agreed:-

- (1) to note that the revenue account currently shows a projected annual favourable variance of £0.039m (0.02% of the total budget);
- (2) to note that the capital account shows that planned expenditure and resource for 2019/20 is lower than budgeted by £1.635m (2.35% of the budget), made up of £2.076m (2.98% of the budget) relating to project slippage, partially offset by £0.441m relating to an in year overspend; and
- (3) to delegate to the meeting of the Audit Committee in September 2019 the formal approval of the audited Financial Statements on behalf of the Council and note that the audited Statements will be reported to Council in October 2019.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Following a request from Councillor McColl the Council agreed to a short adjournment.

The meeting reconvened at 8.28 p.m. with all those noted in the sederunt present.

### **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT - PERIOD 4**

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Housing & Employability providing an update on the financial performance to 31 July 2019 (Period 4) of the HRA revenue and capital budgets.

The Council agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the report which shows the revenue budget forecast to underspend against budget by £0.029m (0.1%) at the year-end; and
- (2) to note the net projected annual position in relation to relevant capital projects which is showing no projected variance.

### **TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19**

A report was submitted by Strategic Lead – Resources providing an update on treasury management during 2018/19.

The Council agreed:-

- (1) to note the treasury management stewardship information within the report;
- (2) to note the 2018/19 actual prudential indicators as advised within the report (Tables 2, 3, 4 and 5);
- (3) to note the future repayment profile of loans fund advances as at 31 March 2019 (Table 8 of the report); and
- (4) that a copy of the report be remitted to the Audit Committee to ensure further scrutiny takes place.

### **UPDATE OF THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Resources seeking approval of the revised Financial Regulations.

Councillor Dickson moved:-

- (1) that the Council approves the revised Financial Regulations, as attached to the report, for implementation on 15 September 2019; and
- (2) that the Council delegate authority to the Strategic Lead – Resources, together with the Strategic Lead – Regulatory, to make necessary amendments to the appropriate terms of the Financial Regulations relative to EU procurement law should the United Kingdom leave the European Union.

The Council agreed the motion.

Councillor Bollan, having failed to find a seconder for a proposed amendment, requested that his dissent be recorded in respect of this item.

### **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2018/19**

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Communications, Culture & Communities presenting the West Dunbartonshire Council Annual Report 2018/19.

After discussion and having heard the Performance & Strategy Manager in further explanation of the report, the Council agreed to note the contents of the Annual Report 2018/19.

### **AUDIO STREAMING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Regulatory seeking approval to continue the audio streaming of Council and certain committee meetings.

Following discussion, the Council agreed:-

- (1) that the audio-streaming of Council meetings continue for all ordinary and special meetings of full Council and the undernoted service committees:
  - Corporate Services Committee;
  - Educational Services Committee;
  - Infrastructure and Regeneration Committee;
  - Housing and Communities Committee; and
- (2) that officers seek the best pricing option with the existing contractor to deliver the audio-streaming requirements of this Council.

## **JOINT COLLABORATION: WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE AND INVERCLYDE COUNCILS**

A report was submitted by the Strategic Director – Transformation & Public Service Reform advising of proposals for further joint collaboration with Inverclyde Council.

Councillor McColl, seconded by Councillor Dickson moved that the Council agrees:-

- (1) to approve the implementation of the Internal Audit shared management model between Inverclyde and West Dunbartonshire Councils;
- (2) to note the timeline for the development and implementation of the Fleet, Waste and Grounds collaborative model; and
- (3) to note that a report providing an update on the above will be remitted to the Shared Services Joint Committee in October 2019.

As an amendment Councillor Rooney, seconded by Councillor Bollan moved:-

The Council notes the report but takes no further action. The Council does not agree with the Internal Audit shared management model. We do not agree with the Strategic Lead - Roads and Transportation assuming responsibility for fleet, waste and grounds services from October, and Labour supports Option 4, which is the status quo.

On a vote being taken 7 Members voted for the amendment and 12 for the motion, which was declared carried.

### **QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR JIM BOLLAN TO COUNCILLOR JONATHAN McCOLL**

Councillor Bollan put the following question to Councillor McColl:-

On 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2019, Council agreed to review its current charging policy for non-residential social care.

Will this review undertake an Equality Impact Assessment, according to the Equality Act 2010, of such a policy?

If so, what aspects and outcomes of the policy will that assessment cover; and will those aspects and outcomes include the total level, as well as the range of levels of debt to the individual, such a policy accrues?

Councillor McColl replied as follows:-

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of March 2019 the Council agreed to review its current charging policy for non-residential social care.



Initial Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) were carried out by relevant Heads of Services which covered the increase to Community Alarms and Charging for Day Opportunities in 2018/19. The completed EIAs will be published on the HSCP website in due course.

The EIAs considered the impact on all protected characteristics under the Equality Act considered including socio economic status.

Initial findings highlighted that while a consistent charging policy across all care groups would be welcomed, some groups of people with protected characteristics particularly age, sex and disability may initially find charges off-putting. The EIA also highlighted that there was the potential for individuals to exercise more choice and access more personalised day opportunities in line with self-directed support principles. A clearer charging policy for both learning disability day opportunities and additional care at home services will mean that eligible older people with learning disabilities will be able to navigate the support systems in a clearer way.

A number of actions agreed for 2019/20 include;

- Six monthly monitoring of users affected by age, sex and disability to ascertain the profile of users who may no longer be accessing the services
- Regular consultation with user groups affected as per routine service practices
- Ensuring that individuals' incomes are maximised and other opportunities are accessed through continued support from WDC Working 4 U.
- Considering and monitoring the impact on carers and adult carers support plans by sex, disability and age
- Development of appropriate policies in place for supporting individuals who are assessed as being at risk, but who may refuse to pay the charges
- Ensuring that the information on the HSCP and Council website regarding charges is fully updated and ensuring that the information is available in different formats.

Councillor Mooney, having had the agreement of the Council, proceeded to ask his urgent question to Councillor McColl at this point in the meeting.

#### **URGENT QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN MOONEY TO COUNCILLOR JONATHAN McCOLL**

Councillor Mooney put the following question to Councillor McColl:-

Will the Leader of the Council bear in mind when he attends the COSLA Leaders' meeting on Friday that the proposed new funding formula for

school nursing and counselling will significantly reduce the funding available to West Dunbartonshire? Will he also convey his dismay that the allocation of this funding has taken so long and that SIND data on the levels of deprivation in West Dunbartonshire have not been taken into account?

Councillor McColl replied as follows:-

Yes and yes. Can I also thank Councillor Mooney for raising the questions. I have a briefing for attending the COSLA meeting and will share that with Councillor Mooney and am happy for him to share that with colleagues and I will update Councillor Mooney after the COSLA meeting to let him know how the meeting went and what other colleagues were saying.

### **NOTICES OF MOTION**

#### **(a) Motion by Councillor Jim Bollan - Biodiversity**

Councillor Bollan, seconded by Councillor Douglas McAllister moved:-

Council agrees to draw up a Biodiversity plan for West Dunbartonshire and actively involve the local communities in the planning, development and use of these Biodiversity areas across West Dunbartonshire. These areas require to be in suitable locations, with appropriate soil, plus have wildflowers added to encourage the bees, birds, butterflies and other insects to use the areas to help protect the ecosystems.

The areas of open land in various parts of West Dunbartonshire at present where the grass and weeds have been left uncut due to budget reductions are, unsightly, strewn with litter, dogs dirt, and are not areas where bees will pollinate."

As an amendment Councillor McLaren, seconded by Bailie Agnew moved:-

Council notes the progress made since 2010 in improving the area's biodiversity and instructs officers to refresh the current biodiversity plan, and bring it to a future IRED committee for consideration.

The report should include a summary of progress made to date, and what future activities can be done to improve the biodiversity of West Dunbartonshire. It should also include an action plan to control invasive species in the area, particularly Himalayan Balsam which is rampant in many parts.

Council notes that many departments are key to the success of our biodiversity programme, for example Greenspace, Roads and HAC, and asks

that these departments work together to include in the report how success can be achieved.

Council notes that biodiversity areas are not just created by simply leaving them alone; they require careful management – especially in April and September – and asks that the report being brought to IRED includes what additional resources would be required to manage these areas better, along with an options appraisal to reinstate the Biodiversity Officer post.

Council further notes that Greenspace work closely with communities and individuals with regard to biodiversity issues, and that areas given over to biodiversity can take several years for nature to return to them.

Council further instructs officers to begin the process of designating Brucehill Cliffs / Havoc Meadows as a Local Nature Reserve, which has become a site of outstanding biodiversity and beauty, and enjoyed recreationally by many.

On a vote being taken, 10 Members voted for the amendment and 9 for the motion which was declared carried.

### **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

At this point Councillor Dickson stated that as no Member had moved to suspend Standing Order 7(c) earlier in the meeting that the meeting would require to be reconvened and the remaining business continued to a meeting to be held within the next fourteen days.

Councillor McBride asked if it was possible to suspend Standing Orders and conclude the remaining business this evening.

Following discussion the Legal Officer advised that it would be possible for the Council to suspend Standing Order 7(c) provided two thirds of Members present so decided.

Councillor McBride, seconded by Councillor Douglas McAllister moved that Council agrees to suspend Standing Order 7(c). The Council agreed the motion and the business remaining on the agenda was considered.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Following a request from Councillor Caroline McAllister, the Council agreed to adjourn the meeting for a short period.

The meeting reconvened at 10.33 p.m. with all those Members noted in the sederunt present.

**(b) Motion by Councillor David McBride – Civic Space Church Street**

Councillor McBride, seconded by Councillor O'Neill moved:-

Council notes the capacity of the public viewing gallery in the Church Civic Space is limited. While this provides sufficient seating for most meetings, depending on the agenda item this will not accommodate the capacity required if there is a contentious issue being considered, or for the annual budget setting meeting. We note the many interested members of the public were locked out of the June meeting when the Flamingoland development was being considered. Council believes public interest in local democracy should be encouraged and if possible, we should attempt to satisfy demand for people to attend meetings if they wish.

Therefore, we call on the Chief Executive to arrange space planning to maximise public attendance in the Church St Civic Space when demand is required. If a large attendance of the public is anticipated for a Council Meeting the seating could be arranged in a similar manner to committee meetings, possibly at one side of the Civic Space and not dissimilar to the arrangement in the Council Chamber in Clydebank Town Hall. This could allow additional seating and increase capacity to attend Council Meetings. In addition, a temporary barrier could be procured to ensure there is a suitable defined space for Elected Members, Officers and members of the public.

Council also requests that the Chief Executive reports back to next Council with options and costs of proposals which could also include live visual streaming to the large screen in the Council Staff area. In addition, we would also wish to consider holding meetings if required in the Lesser Town Hall when the Clydebank Council Chamber proves unable to accommodate the public. Therefore, we also request any costs involved to ensure this supports the live streaming of meetings.

As an amendment Councillor Conaghan, seconded by Bailie Agnew moved:-

Council notes that the capacity of the viewing galleries in both Church Street and Clydebank Town Hall are limited, in common with every public viewing gallery in Councils and Parliaments across the UK.

A selection of Councils have advised officers that they have the following public viewing space:

West Dunbartonshire (Church Street, Dumbarton)	-	30
Inverclyde	-	28
East Renfrewshire	-	27
Renfrewshire	-	27
West Dunbartonshire (Clydebank Town Hall)	-	26
Argyll & Bute	-	25
West Lothian	-	23
Glasgow	-	20

Council notes from the above list that the capacity in Church Street is greater than that of other Councils, including the largest Council in Scotland, Glasgow City Council. Similarly, the Capacity in Clydebank Town Hall is comparable with others. As such Council agrees our public viewing capacity entirely appropriate.

West Dunbartonshire Council believes public interest in democracy should be encouraged, which is why we now livestream our meetings, and have hundreds of listeners for each full Council.

If Council was to adjourn to the lesser hall in Clydebank, those people would be disenfranchised, unable to hear proceedings either live or afterwards.

Such a policy would also mean refusing any bookings on all Council days, given the agenda isn't known until a few weeks before the meetings, and weddings are rarely booked at such short notice.

While the idea of streaming into the Church Street Atrium seems like a good solution in Dumbarton, it would be impractical given staff are still working when many Council meetings are taking place, and need use of this non-public space for themselves.

Given the above, Council agrees to take no action on this issue.

On a vote being taken 10 Members voted for the amendment and 9 for the motion. The amendment was declared carried.

**(c) Motion by Councillor Martin Rooney – Self Directed Care**

Councillor Rooney, seconded by Councillor Mooney moved:-

This Council notes the recent review of Self Directed Care by the Care Inspectorate highlighted limited progress by West Dunbartonshire Health & Social Care Partnership.

The Partnership has fallen further behind the Scottish average in terms of Self Directed Care.

In 2015/16 the Scottish average implementation rate was 26% but by 2016/17 the national average had increased to 39%. However, West Dunbartonshire Health & Social Care Partnership implementation rate was just 3%.

The West Dunbartonshire Health & Social Care Partnership was ranked 32 out of 32 local authorities in Scotland on the percentage of social care clients who had made an informed choice regarding Self Directed Care.

The West Dunbartonshire Health & Social Care Partnership was ranked 28 out of 32 Scottish local authorities on the percentage of adults that used direct payments or personalised managed budgets to meet their support needs.

The West Dunbartonshire Health & Social Care Partnership annual public performance report in 2017 reinforced its commitment to meeting the requirements of self directed support legislation but the partnership has failed to meet these commitments.

The Care Inspectorate identified that there was evidence of poor personal outcomes in 32% of the case studies they read.

The inspectors also noted that the West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership had not used evidence to inform changes and improvement and had not fully assessed the potential implications of Self Directed Care legislation and the implications of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 on its finances.

Given the above, the Council calls for a copy of the recently published West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership report on Self Directed Care to be presented to the next Council meeting for public scrutiny by all elected members.

A copy of the Care Inspectorate's Thematic Review of Self-Directed Support in Scotland is appended as the Appendix to these minutes.

As an amendment Councillor McNair, seconded by Bailie Agnew moved:-

This Council notes that the matter was fully considered at the Health & Social Care Partnership's Integrated Joint Board, and an action plan was unanimously agreed to sufficiently address the issues raised.

On a vote being taken, 10 Members voted for the amendment and 9 for the motion. The amendment was declared carried.

**(d) Motion by Councillor David McBride – Road Closures**

Councillor McBride, seconded by Councillor Lennie moved:-

Council notes there has been significant road works locally in the last few months. Of course we recognise the maintenance is absolutely necessary and often an emergency by utilities. However, in recent months the local community has endured significant delays and inconvenience. Therefore, Council requests the Chief Executive provides a report of road works in the last six months and review if any lessons can be learned for future projects that could be introduced before and during major roadworks.

The report should review preparation of the road closures, consultation with local residents & businesses to attempt to minimise disruption and mitigate this where possible. In future, it should be mandatory that road closures discussions are held with bus companies to ensure some form of service is retained. For example, Silverton residents service was severely disturbed following the Glasgow Road gas replacement pipes. Clearly, this will have had a huge impact in many residents' day to day lives. In addition, diversion signage installed by contractors have proved confusing and inadequate. WDC roads staff should always be on site prior to the immediate work starting. Officers should have the authority to postpone work if the signage or parking restrictions required have not been introduced by the contractors as agreed.

In addition, the level of road works may be unsustainable in terms of sufficient staffing for our officers. This should therefore also be taken into consideration when planning and while authority for road closures is agreed.

The report with findings and recommendations should be submitted to next suitable Council Meeting.

As an amendment Councillor McLaren seconded by Councillor McNair moved:-

Council notes that there has been disruption to the authority's roads network this summer, caused by a number of unpredictable external factors classified as emergency works. Between June and August this year there were 304 urgent and emergency works notified, all of which were notified to the council within 24 hours, 99 of which were notified either before work started or within two hours of it starting.

Council further notes that the correct and appropriate liaison with bus companies is via the transport authority, SPT, who then liaise with bus companies.

Council further notes the excellent progress made in improving our authority's roads, including £1.54m of improvement works in 2017/18, £5.13m in 2018/19 and a fully committed infrastructure budget for 2019/20 of over £5.47m.

Council gives thanks to the Roads Department for their continuing improvement works and diligence in managing and monitoring emergency works according to legislation, and to the public for their patience during roadworks. Council asks that a report be brought to the IRED committee detailing the roads improvements to date, what the department does to mitigate the impact of closures, and any recommendations that may mitigate the impact of future roadworks.

On a vote being taken, 10 Members voted for the amendment and 9 for the motion. The amendment was declared carried.

**(e) Motion by Councillor Caroline McAllister – Community Alliance**

Having heard the Legal Officer, a vote was taken to suspend Standing Order 20 to allow consideration of Item 18(e) – Motion by Councillor Caroline McAllister – Community Alliance.

11 Members voted to suspend Standing Order 20, however due to a two-thirds majority of those present not being obtained, the Standing Order was not suspended and the item was not considered.

**(f) Motion by Councillor Douglas McAllister – Clydesdale Harriers – Above Inflation Letting Charges**

Councillor Douglas McAllister, seconded by Councillor O'Neill moved:-

This Council is disappointed to learn that a community sports group that actively encourages participation by young people into sports activities has been subjected to an 18% increase in its letting charges at St Peter The Apostle in Clydebank.

The club targets the young people from the five mainstream secondary schools and it keeps its rates low to remove barriers for less well-off young people so that they can fully participate in their activities.

In the Year of Young People, it is indeed unfortunate that the club had seen its letting costs increase from £7,000 to £8,000.

Council calls on the Chief Executive to explore options and to bring a report to the next Council meeting with a resolution to the situation.

This could include setting up a support grant from reserves to help the organisation to obtain financial support to keep its club fees affordable. Alternatively it could be a supported grant from the Year of Young People legacy fund.

Council also notes that the club had been informed that they would have their access to facilities at St. Peter The Apostle Secondary School cut back essentially locking/

Locking the community out of using the sports facilities including the community use of the running track etc.

The Council report should also explore the rationale for this change and consider the implications of reversing this so that the club can continue to provide the service to local young people.

As an amendment, Councillor Conaghan seconded by Bailie Agnew moved:-



Council notes that the letting charges were increased by 14% as part of the Council's strategy to maximise income while ensuring our facilities remain competitive and available to local groups.

Council further notes that information from the department confirms the Clydesdale Harriers have bookings for 172 lets in 2019/20 compared to 176 lets in 2018/19, a reduction of just four. Officers have also confirmed that access to the school hall has only been restricted during exam periods to minimise disruption for pupils and staff; Council does not consider this an unreasonable decision.

Council invites the member who raised this motion to assist his constituents in making an application to the Council's "Year of Young People Fund".

On a vote being taken, 10 Members voted for the amendment and 9 for the motion. The amendment was declared carried.

**(g) Motion by Councillor Ian Dickson – Use of Solar PV**

Councillor Dickson moved:-

Having recently recognised the climate emergency Council asks officers to investigate and provide a report on increasing the council's energy self-sufficiency through the use of solar PV. The use of solar panels can generate locally some or all of the energy our new build and existing buildings consume, reducing our consumption of fossil fuel derived energy. This report should be available for councillors to consider in time for the budget setting meeting in March 2020.

The Council agreed the motion.

The meeting closed at 12.13 a.m.

Draft