

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton, G82 3PU

24 June 2005

MEETING: WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY 29 JUNE 2005
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CLYDEBANK TOWN HALL
DUMBARTON ROAD
CLYDEBANK

Dear Member,

Please attend a Meeting of **West Dunbartonshire Council** to be held in the **Council Chambers, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank** on Wednesday, 29 June 2005 at 2.00 p.m.

The business is as shown on the attached agenda.

Yours faithfully

TIM HUNTINGFORD

Chief Executive

Distribution:-

All Members of West Dunbartonshire Council.

Chief Executive

Director of Corporate Services

Director of Development and Environmental Services

Director of Education and Cultural Services

Director of Housing and Technical Services

Director of Social Work Services

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, 29 JUNE 2005

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. OPEN FORUM

The Council is asked to note that no open forum questions have been received.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 1 – 10)

Submit for approval as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 27 April 2005.

4. MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE (Pages 11 – 17)

Submit for information and, where necessary, ratification the Minutes of Meeting of the Community Participation Committee held on 18 May 2005.

5. REMIT FROM SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE - ADDITIONAL REPORT ON CONVERSION OF LOFT SPACE IN TENEMENTAL AND FOUR-IN-A-BLOCK PROPERTIES (Pages 19 – 26)

In terms of remit from the Meeting of the Social Justice Committee held on 11 May 2005, submit relevant excerpt minute and report by the Director of Corporate Services providing information on the feasibility of loft/attic conversions of tenemental or four-in-a-block properties where the Council has or formerly had an ownership interest in roof space.

6. REMIT FROM CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE – TEMPORARY RELOCATION OF DUMBARTON DISTRICT COURT (Pages 29 – 34)

- (a)** In terms of remit from the Meeting of the Corporate Services Committee held on 25 May 2005, submit relevant excerpt minute and report by the Director of Corporate Services on the proposed temporary relocation of Dumbarton District Court.
- (b)** Submit correspondence from the Justices Committee concerning the temporary relocation of Dumbarton District Court.

7. REMIT FROM COMMUNITY SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – STRATHLEVEN REGENERATION COMPANY (Pages 35 - 40)

In terms of remit from the Meeting of the Community Safety & Environmental Services Committee held on 1 June 2005, submit relevant excerpt minute and report by the Director of Development and Environmental Services.

8. SKYPOINT, FAIFLEY AND KNOWES CAFE (Pages 41 - 44)

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 27 April 2005, submit report by the Director of Development and Environmental Services providing further information to the Council on funding for the café at Skypoint, Faifley.

9. OBSERVATION VISIT TO NORTHERN IRELAND LOCAL ELECTION COUNT (Pages 45 - 52)

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 30 March 2005, submit report by the Chief Executive on the visit by the Leader of the Council and the Manager of Administrative Services to a local election count in Northern Ireland on 9 and 10 May 2005.

10. ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE IN RELATION TO THE NEW COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP (Pages 53 - 61)

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 30 March 2005, submit report by the Chief Executive considering the role of the Community Participation Committee in relation to the new Community Planning Partnership.

11. APPEALS HEARINGS (Pages 63 - 68)

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 30 March 2005, submit report by the Director of Corporate Services making recommendations in response to a review of the current arrangements for Appeals submitted under the Council's Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures.

12. JOINT CONSULTATIVE FORUM (Pages 69 - 72)

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 30 March 2005, submit report by the Director of Corporate Services asking the Council to consider options for the conduct of Joint Consultation with the Trades Unions.

13. COUNCIL MEETING ARRANGEMENTS – REGULATORY COMMITTEES (Pages 73 - 74)

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 30 March 2005, submit report by the Director of Corporate Services providing the Council with further information on meetings of its Regulatory Committees (the Planning Committee and Licensing Committee).

14. CHANGE OF CONVENERSHIPS/COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS/OUTSIDE BODIES ETC.

Council is asked to consider whether it wishes to make changes to Convenerships/Committee Memberships/Outside bodies etc.

15. LIAISON MEETING WITH AMEY AND SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE ON 20 MAY 2005 (Pages 75 - 76)

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 27 April 2005, submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services on the outcome of discussions with AMEY and the Scottish Executive on the A82.

16. CORPORATE PLAN: PROGRESS (Pages 77 - 114)

Submit report by the Chief Executive presenting the new Corporate Plan for 2005-2009 to the Council for approval.

17. CUSTOMER SERVICE STANDARDS (Pages 115 - 121)

Submit report by the Chief Executive asking the Council to approve new Customer Services Standards.

18. CUSTOMER FIRST STRATEGY (Pages 123 - 128)

Submit report by the Chief Executive asking the Council to approve a 'Customer First' strategy.

19. STANDARDS COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND - GUIDANCE ON CONDUCT IN CHAMBERS OR COMMITTEE (Pages 129 - 135)

Submit report by the Chief Executive seeking approval of comments which had been made in response to draft Guidance which had been issued by the Standards Commission for Scotland on the Conduct of Elected Members in Chambers or Committee.

20. ARTS IN WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE (Pages 137 - 140)

Submit joint report by the Director of Corporate Services and the Director of Education and Cultural Services providing information on West Dunbartonshire Council's art collection and making recommendations thereon.

21. TOLLED BRIDGES REVIEW, PHASE 2 CONSULTATION (To follow)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services advising of the current status of the Scottish Executive's review of the tolling arrangements on Scotland's three remaining toll bridges and seeking approval

to respond to the Phase 2 Consultation in relation to Erskine Bridge as contained within the report.

**22. WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE LOCAL HOUSING STRATEGY 2004-2009
ANNUAL UPDATE – JULY 2005 (Pages 141 - 209)**

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services seeking approval to submit the first annual update of the West Dunbartonshire Local Housing Strategy to Communities Scotland.

23. COMMONWEALTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORUM (Page 211)

Submit correspondence from the Commonwealth Local Government Forum inviting this Council to become a member of the Forum at an annual cost of £695.

24. QUESTIONS

(A) In accordance with Standing Order No 9, the following questions have been submitted to the Convener of Housing:-

- (1) What are the current criteria for the replacement of a kitchen as part of the capital and revenue programmes?
- (2) Can the Convener provide a written list to members detailing on a ward by ward basis, how many kitchens have been replaced through either capital or revenue programmes?
- (3) Can the Convener detail the current council policy for the external painting of houses?
- (4) Is the Convener aware that this council's housing debt is almost at its upper limit of borrowing consent?
- (5) Does the Convener find this level acceptable?

(B) In accordance with Standing Order No 9, the following questions have been submitted to the Convener of Cultural Services:-

The Council congratulates the Convener and officers for all their efforts in the preparation of the REM Concert in Balloch. Could the Convener provide answers to the following questions:-

- (1) How many complimentary tickets and passes in total did the Council receive?
- (2) How and who allocated the complimentary tickets throughout the Council?
- (3) What is the total face retail value of the tickets received?
- (4) What was the total income generated to the council from the event?

(C) In terms of Standing Order 9, the following questions are submitted to the Convener of Housing:-

At a meeting to discuss the stock appraisal and stock condition survey members were told that partial stock transfer was the best possible option for this Council - has the Labour Group formed a view on the option presented?

In our local communities there are existing regeneration vehicles and structures in place where communities are heavily involved. Does the Convener agree that they are the best mechanisms to drive forward regeneration in those areas?

Does the Labour Group agree that where local well established local housing associations exist they should be considered IF partial transfer was agreed by this Council?

25. NOTICES OF MOTION

Council is asked to consider the undernoted motions which were submitted in accordance with Standing Order 8:-

(A) Motion by Councillor Bollan

This Council agrees to the request of local tenants and residents to remove the dangerous concrete structure situated in Riverside Estate Alexandria. The Director should be authorised to secure funding from slippage in the Capital Programme or from resources released from any other appropriate budget head.

(B) Motion by Councillor Bollan

This Council condemns the length of time it is taking the Labour Administration to replace the public toilets they closed in West Dunbartonshire. As an interim measure, this Council agrees to provide suitable temporary toilets, before the summer school holidays, until the new toilets are put in place.

(C) Motion by Councillor Bollan

This Council agrees that the budgetary decision to remove the summer play facilities in our parks, in particular Christie Park and Levensgrove, was a mistake.

Therefore this Council agrees to suspend standing orders and reverse the decision to remove the children's summer play facilities.

(D) Motion by Councillor McLaughlin

This Council agrees that the collection of council tax is a high priority for the delivery services and that maximisation of collection is a must.

However this Council agrees that the threat of/or the removal of a person's licence is an inappropriate maximisation method.

Therefore Council officers should be instructed to no longer issue the threat of removal of a person's licence on the basis of their council tax arrears.

(E) Motion by Councillor Bollan

This Council agrees that given the imposition of a 1.5% reduction to requests from community groups for grant funding that the Council revisits the number of Conveners and committee chairs with a view to bringing them into line with the number of council departments. Any savings made should be re-allocated to the grants budget.

(F) Motion by Councillor McLaughlin

This Council recognises that it is a key partner in the economic regeneration process.

This Council agrees that the prioritisation of local investment in the area is critical key to the regeneration of our local economy.

Therefore to deliver that objective the Council agrees to instruct officers to utilise and prioritise local companies when procuring services.

(G) Motion by Councillor McLaughlin

This Council expresses its grave concern at the disruption and traffic chaos being caused by the road works at and beyond the Stonymollan Roundabout at Balloch.

The delays being causes to businesses, local people and tourists is wholly unacceptable and in some cases is causing waiting times in excess of 45 minutes.

Therefore this council should demand that the Scottish Executive instruct that all works at the A82 should be conducted either at night or during quieter months of the year.

(H) Motion by Councillor Black

This Council agrees that stock transfer of any kind is a huge step for this Council. As such it requires the partnership of our tenants for any regeneration plans of our stock to succeed.

Therefore to assist the Council to make a fully informed view well in advance of any decision on the future of the housing stock that tenants groups are fully consulted and involved prior to any decision being taken by the Council.

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27 June 2005

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COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CLYDEBANK TOWN HALL
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Dear Member,

ITEM TO FOLLOW

I refer to the Agenda for the above meeting which was issued on Friday 24 June 2005, and now attach, for your attention, the report referred to at Item 21 entitled "Tolled Bridges Review, Phase 2 Consultation"

Yours faithfully

TIM HUNTINGFORD

Chief Executive

Distribution:-

All Members of West Dunbartonshire Council.

Chief Executive

Director of Corporate Services

Director of Development and Environmental Services

Director of Education and Cultural Services

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