

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton G82 3PU

19 September 2008

MEETING: WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

**WEDNESDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2008
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
COUNCIL OFFICES
GARSHAKE ROAD
DUMBARTON**

Dear Member,

Please attend a Meeting of **West Dunbartonshire Council** to be held in the **Council Chambers, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton, on Wednesday, 24 September 2008 at 7.00 p.m.**

The business is as shown on the attached agenda.

Yours faithfully

BILL CLARK

Acting Chief Executive

Distribution:-

All Members of West Dunbartonshire Council.

Chief Executive

Executive Director of Corporate Services

Executive Director of Educational Services

Executive Director of Social Work and Health (Acting Chief Executive)

Executive Director of Housing, Environmental & Economic Development

For information on the following agenda please contact George Hawthorn, Legal, Administrative and Regulatory Services, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton, G82 3PU on Tel: (01389) 737204 or e-mail: george.hawthorn@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2008

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Submit for approval as a correct record, the undernoted Minutes of Meetings of West Dunbartonshire Council:-

- (a) Special Meeting on 19 August 2008
- (b) Ordinary Meeting on 27 August 2008
- (c) Requisition Meeting on 10 September 2008

3. OPEN FORUM

The Council is asked to consider the undernoted questions:-

(a) William Rooney, Geared Up Club – Suitable Premises

The Geared Up Club was evicted from Alexandria Community Resource Centre 12 weeks ago. We still don't have a suitable venue with computer access to allow the club to continue with its activities. We are also facing the possibility of losing a ten thousand pound grant from the lottery.

When will we have suitable premises where we can access computers and get back to recruiting more members for our Club?

(b) Sephton MacQuire, Board Member of Social Enterprise Clydebank, T/A DCCS – Leasing of Vehicles

In January 2008, DCCS applied to The Community Planning Partnership - The Business Growth & Employability Strategy Group for £77,230 to purchase 3 new vehicles and plant & equipment to carry out £250k of new contract works in Renfrewshire. These new works would enable DCCS to employ an additional 6 full time employees from the West Dunbartonshire New Deal and Skill Seeking Programmes and provide an additional 8 training placements.

The Business Growth & Employability Strategy Group awarded DCCS £77,230 of funding week of 11 February 2008.

On the 21 February 2008 West Dunbartonshire Partnership instructed DCCS to cancel their vehicles order, as David McMillan Chief Executive of West Dunbartonshire Council had decided that in their responsibility to ensure the best use of public resources the Council had made arrangements to buy the vehicles and lease them to DCCS on appropriate terms. To date no terms and conditions for leasing vehicles from the Council have been received. The new DCCS contracts would commence on the 17th March 2008 and the Council would arrange to lease vehicles as an interim measure.

The DCCS Board of Directors asked the Council how this action could be perceived as following the Scottish Government directive of Building Community Assets. No adequate response was received.

A meeting was held on the 12 March 2008 between DCCS, Community Planning Partnership and the Council. The question of developing Community Assets was raised again. The Council responded that they could save £16k by purchasing the vehicles. £11k of the £16k being the Value Added Tax.

As of Wednesday 17 September 2008 DCCS has still not received the vehicles that the Council drew down Scottish Government funding to purchase in March 2008. The cost to the Council for hiring vehicles for DCCS up to the end of August is £7300.

The Council has failed in its obligation to provide DCCS with the specified vehicles approved to be purchased by the publicly elected Business Growth & Employability Strategy Group.

Will the Council now return the original grant funding, awarded to DCCS, for the approved specified vehicles to be purchased?

4. MINUTES OF THE AUDIT & PERFORMANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Submit for information, and where necessary ratification, the Minutes of Meeting of the Audit & Performance Review Committee held on 10 September 2008.

5. MEMBER/OFFICER WORKING GROUP: REGENERATION OF THE WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE SCHOOLS' ESTATE - PHASE 2 – PROGRESS REPORT

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 28 May 2008, submit report by the Executive Director of Educational Services providing the Council with an update on the progress of the Member/Officer Working Group: Regeneration of the Schools' Estate - Phase 2.

6. COMMITTEE TIMETABLE – JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2009

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 27 August 2008, submit report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services proposing a timetable for Meetings for 2009 and making the Council aware of comments received from Members thereon.

7. INVESTIGATION REGARDING CALLING OF THE SPECIAL MEETING ON 19 AUGUST 2008

With reference to the Minutes of the Special Requisitioned Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 10 September 2008, submit report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services informing the Council of progress being made in respect of the investigation by an external organisation (Brodies Solicitors) in connection with the calling of a Special Meeting of Council on 19 August 2008.

8. BEST VALUE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Submit report by the Acting Chief Executive on the progress of the Council's Best Value Improvement Plan (BVIP).

9. BUDGET 2008/09 – ADDITIONAL DEPARTMENTAL SAVINGS

Submit report by the Acting Chief Executive providing an update on developments to address the budget decision to identify a further 1% efficiency savings by April 2009.

10. MASTER PLANNING: PRIORITISATION OF HOUSING REGENERATION AREAS

Submit report by the Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development asking the Council to agree a proposed programme for master planning and housing redevelopment plans as detailed within the report.

11. NOTICES OF MOTION

(a) Motion by Councillor Jim Bollan – Re-decoration Allowances

This Council agrees to exclude re-decoration allowances, which are funded from the HRA, from being set off against Council tax arrears.

(b) Motion by Councillor Jim Bollan – Webpage for Trades Unions

This Council agrees to allocate a free full page, with a front page link, on the Council's website to the joint trades unions on WDC for their exclusive use to provide their members with information/advice, subject to compliance with all relevant legislation. The joint trades unions will have full editorial control over the content on the page. The facility, with appropriate professional advice and back up, should be made available to the trades unions as an urgent priority.