

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton G82 3PU

12 March 2010

MEETING: WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

**WEDNESDAY 24 MARCH 2010
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, 24 March 2010 at 6.00 p.m.**

The business is as shown on the attached agenda.

Yours faithfully

DAVID MCMILLAN

Chief Executive

Distribution:-

All Members of West Dunbartonshire Council.

Chief Executive

Executive Director of Corporate Services

Executive Director of Educational Services

Interim Executive Directors of Social Work and Health

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 MARCH 2010

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are invited to declare if they have an interest in any of the items of business on this agenda and state the reasons for such declarations.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Submit for approval as a correct record, the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on Wednesday, 24 February 2010.

4. OPEN FORUM

The Council is asked to note that no open forum questions have been submitted by members of the public.

5. MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE HELD ON 17 FEBRUARY 2010

Submit for information, and where necessary ratification, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Participation Committee held on 17 February 2010.

6. REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS (copy to follow)

Submit report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services recommending certain changes to the Standing Orders as a result of the issues which have arisen during the past year.

7. AUDIT OF BEST VALUE - UPDATE ON BEST VALUE PROGRESS REPORT SUBMITTED BY AUDIT SCOTLAND TO THE ACCOUNTS COMMISSION – FEBRUARY 2010

Submit report by the Chief Executive providing the Council with an update on the Best Value Progress Report which Audit Scotland submitted to the Accounts Commission on 18 February 2010.

8. BEST VALUE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Submit report by the Chief Executive presenting progress on the Best Value Improvement Plan (BVIP).

9. PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2009/10 AND TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2010/11 TO 2012/13

Submit report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services seeking Council approval of the proposed Prudential Indicators for 2009/10 to 2012/13 and the Treasury Management Strategy for 2010/11 to 2012/13.

10. AVAILABLE BALANCES REVIEW

Submit report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services providing the Council with an update on the recent review undertaken by officers on the current position on available General Services review.

11. SCHOOLS REGENERATION: DUMBARTON ACADEMY – UPDATE

Submit report by the Executive Director of Educational Services providing the Council on the current proposals with regard to Dumbarton Academy and the related discussions with the Scottish Futures Trust.

12. GENERAL SERVICES REVENUE BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT – PERIOD 10 (2009/10)

Submit report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services advising the Council of the performance of the General Services Revenue Budget for the period to 15 February 2010.

13. GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT – PERIOD 10 (2009/10)

Submit report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services providing the Council with an update on the General Services Capital Plan 2009/2010 for the period to 15 February 2010.

14. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNTS 2009/2010 BUDGETARY CONTROL STATEMENTS TO 15 FEBRUARY 2010 (PERIOD 10)

Submit report by the Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development providing the Council with an update on the financial performance of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) up to the period ending 15 February 2010.

15. HRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2009/2010 BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT TO 15 FEBRUARY 2010 (PERIOD 10)

Submit report by the Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development advising the Council of progress of the HRA Capital Programme for the period to 15 February 2010.

16. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES – BUDGETARY CONTROL ISSUES 2009/10

Submit report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services providing the Council with the current financial issues facing Educational Services and action plans in place to minimise the risk of the current overspend happening in future years.

17. DRUG AND ALCOHOL REHABILITATION INITIATIVES - HEAR (HELP, EMPATHY, ADVICE AND REASSURANCE) (Copy to follow)

Submit report by the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health providing the Council with updated information on the HEAR Out of Hours Telephone Support Service.

18. QUESTIONS

(a) Question by Councillor Patrick McGlinchey to the Convener of Education and Life Long Learning

Will the Convener detail what consultation process will be carried out with parents, teachers, unions and the community prior to the implementation of any of the service cuts in the Michael O'Neill review of Education Services?

(b) Question by Councillor Geoff Calvert to the Convener of Social Work and Health Improvement

In his response to my question Councillor McColl responded that the maximum charge for special needs equipment would be £75.

However, as there are only 500 clients and they could only pay a maximum of £75 then this would only raise a maximum of £37,500 and not the £100,000 stated.

Therefore there is a shortfall of £62,500 (60%). Where is this budget shortfall of £62,500 to come from?

19. NOTICES OF MOTION

(a) Motion by Councillor Patrick McGlinchey - Michael O'Neill Consultant Report

Council notes that that the Consultant Michael O'Neill has completed his review of Education Services.

In accordance with the Labour Group budget proposals, Council calls on the findings of the consultant's report to be presented to elected members for consideration prior to implementation of any of the recommendations.

Note: Members are asked to note that the suspension of Standing Order 19 (a) will be required in order to consider the above motion as a period of six months has not passed since a decision was made on this matter.

(b) Motion by Councillor David McBride - Dumbarton Academy Funding

In response to questions from Councillor Martin Rooney at the August Council meeting, the Executive Director of Educational Services confirmed that the cost of building a new Dumbarton Academy for 750 pupils would be the same as building a school for 700 pupils. In addition the Executive Director confirmed that the new Dumbarton Academy would be built to the same high space standards and the same high quality as the PPP schools.

The Executive Director also confirmed that the cost of the new school would be split between the Council and the Scottish Futures Trust at 33% from West Dunbartonshire Council and 66% from the Scottish Futures Trust.

Council agrees that a new Dumbarton Academy must meet the same space size and quality standards as the Vale of Leven Academy, Clydebank High School and St. Peter the Apostle Secondary School.

Therefore, the Council instructs the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council to lobby the Scottish Government and the Scottish Futures Trust in to deliver the necessary resources in order to honour the promises made to pupils, parents, teachers and the wider community in Dumbarton.

(c) Motion by Councillor Jim Bolla – Strategic Finance Working Group

This Council in the interests of openness, accountability, and transparency agrees to disband the Strategic Finance Working Group and refer all the business of this working group to the Corporate & Efficient Governance Committee.

(d) Motion by Councillor Jim Bolla – Single Status Appeals Process

This Council is concerned at the large number of employees, around 60%, being denied the right to fully exhaust the appeals process built into the Single Status arrangements for Council Employees.

In view of this concern Council agrees to immediately suspend the current process until an Independent Review has taken place. The review should take evidence from the Trades Unions, Management and any external advice that is felt necessary. The review should be undertaken by an organisation agreed on by Unions and the Corporate Management Team.