

## **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

At a Hybrid Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held in the Civic Space, 16 Church Street, Dumbarton on Tuesday, 9 November 2021 at 10.04 a.m.

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

**Attending:** Joyce White, Chief Executive; Peter Hessett, Chief Officer – Regulatory and Regeneration (Legal Officer); Stephen West, Chief Officer – Resources and Section 95 Officer; Peter Barry, Chief Officer – Housing & Employability; Victoria Rogers – Chief Officer – People and Technology; Laura Mason – Chief Officer – Education, Learning and Attainment; George Hawthorn, Manager – Democratic & Registration Services and Lynn Straker, Committee Officer.

**Apologies:** Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Douglas McAllister and Marie McNair.

### **STATEMENT BY CHAIR**

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

### **URGENT ITEM OF BUSINESS**

The Provost advised that he had received and accepted a request from Bailie Agnew for an urgent item of business to be considered in connection with the positioning of traffic lights at the corner of Hall Street/Dumbarton Road, Clydebank and that this would be considered as the last item of business on the agenda.

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

## **RECORDING OF VOTES**

The Council agreed that all votes taken during the meeting would be done by roll call vote to ensure an accurate record.

### **A NATIONAL CARE SERVICE (NCS) FOR SCOTLAND CONSULTATION**

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive seeking approval for a formal response to the consultation on a National Care Service (NCS) for Scotland through the adoption of a response developed by Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (CoSLA) and further enhanced by the professional advice of Council Chief Officers.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Executive, the Chief Officer – Resources and the Chief Officer – Health and Social Care Partnership Board in further detail of the proposed response, Councillor Mooney, seconded by Councillor Millar, moved:-

This Council agrees the formal response at Appendix I to the report with the following additions:-

- Council fully supports a National Care Service for Scotland which focuses on cultural change and values social care staff in the same way as NHS staff. However, Council is concerned about the lack of local governance and accountability, and the impact of centralisation of service on the excellent local partnership arrangements already in place.
- Valuing the new National Care Service for Scotland includes properly rewarding staff. Council therefore supports the campaign for £15 an hour for social care staff and calls for an immediate increase to £12 per hour; with further phased increases to get the rate to £15 per hour. The new National Care Service should also include a commitment to collective bargaining rights for social care staff.
- Underfunding of Scottish Councils and social care has led to a narrowing of eligibility and cuts to services. Therefore, funding needs to be a national priority, and the funding gap of £650 million identified in the Feeley report should be released to local authorities to immediately start social Care improvements rather than waiting years for legislation to be passed.
- In addition, the Council supports the immediate ending of all non-residential care charges to ensure vulnerable people no longer have to pay for care connected to their health condition.

Council agrees that the above bullet points will be included at appropriate sections of the Council's formal response.

## ADJOURNMENT

The Council agreed to adjourn the meeting for a period of 30 minutes.

The meeting reconvened at 10.48 a.m. with those listed in the sederunt present.

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

This Council agrees the formal response to the consultation on a National Care Service (NCS) for Scotland as outlined in Appendix I of this report and delegates submission of same to the Scottish Government.

Councillor Bollan asked Councillor Mooney if he would be willing to accept an addendum to his motion but Councillor Mooney declined to accept the proposed addendum.

On a roll call vote being taken 12 Members voted for the amendment, namely Provost Hendrie, Bailie Agnew and Councillors Brown, Conaghan, Dickson, Docherty, Finn, Caroline McAllister, McColl, McLaren, Page and Walker and 8 Members voted for the motion, namely Councillors Bollan, Casey, Lennie, McBride, Millar, Mooney, O'Neill and Rooney. The amendment was accordingly declared carried.

### **URGENT ITEM OF BUSINESS POSITIONING OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT THE CORNER OF HALL STREET/ DUMBARTON ROAD, CLYDEBANK**

Bailie Agnew moved:-

This Council laments the positioning of traffic lights at the corner of Hall Street/Dumbarton Road as it impacts to the detriment of the Hall Street War Memorial. Council agrees we should remove or relocate these lights to a more suitable location.

Council asks officers to prepare a report with options to achieve this and bring it to December 2021 Council.

A site visit should be arranged for interested members with appropriate officers and partner agencies.

Following a request from Councillor Conaghan, Bailie Agnew accepted the following addendum to his motion:-

To change the wording slightly to state we should **consider** removing or relocating these lights to a more suitable location once Council have had a site visit and seen a detailed report into the proposal before making a final decision.

The Council agreed the motion with addendum.

The meeting closed at 11.38 a.m.