

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

At a Requisitioned meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held within the Council Chambers, Municipal Buildings, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Wednesday, 14 June 2000 at 9.00 a.m.

Present: Provost Alistair Macdonald (LAB) and Councillors John Syme (LAB), Andrew White (LAB), Anthony Devine (LAB), Mary Collins (LAB), Ian McDonald (SNP), Duncan McDonald (LAB), John McCutcheon (SNP), Linda McColl (LAB), Iain Robertson (SNP), Geoffrey Calvert (LAB & CO-OP), James McCallum (LAB & CO-OP), John Trainer (LAB), James Bollan (SSP), Craig McLaughlin (SNP), Ronald McColl (SNP), Margaret McGregor (SNP), James Flynn (LAB) and Connie O'Sullivan (LAB).

Attending: Tim Huntingford, Chief Executive; Eric Walker, Director of Corporate Services; Ian McMurdo, Director of Education and Cultural Services; Dan Henderson, Director of Economic, Planning and Environmental Services; Cy Neil, Head of Housing and Stephen Brown, Head of Legal and Administrative Services.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors James McElhill (SNP), Mary Campbell (LAB) and Daniel McCafferty (LAB).

Provost Alistair Macdonald in the Chair

ORDER OF BUSINESS

In terms of Standing Order 6, Provost Macdonald determined that the Notice of Motion regarding the future of Kvaerner in Clydebank be taken at the end of the meeting.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAMME 2000/2001 (NON HOUSING AND NON HRA)

With reference to the minutes of meeting of Council held on 29 March 2000 (**Volume page 5681 refers**) there was submitted report by the Chief Executive providing an update on the 2000/2001 Capital Expenditure Programme for Non Housing and Non HRA and intimating that the provisional consent sum, including capital receipts advised previously to members, had now been confirmed.

Councillor Devine, seconded by Councillor Trainer, moved that the Council agree the revised programme for 2000/2001 and note that a further report would be submitted when the final outturn for 1999/2000 had been determined.

As an amendment, Councillor Bollan, seconded by Councillor Ronald McColl, moved that the Council allocate £150,000 from the Capital Programme for the first phase of a rehabilitation programme for the main library at Gilmour Street, Alexandria, this sum to come out of the block for the St. Stephen's Primary School new build project which was rolling over 2 financial years.

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

GLASGOW AND THE CLYDE VALLEY STRUCTURE PLAN

With reference to the minutes of meeting of Council held on 27 October 1999 (**Volume page 5196 refers**) there was submitted report by the Director of Economic, Planning and Environmental Services advising that the finalised Structure Plan had now been approved by the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Structure Plan Joint Committee and that it was now necessary for the eight constituent authorities to approve the submission of the document to the Scottish Ministers.

The Council agreed to approve the submission of the Finalised Written Statement of the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Structure Plan and its accompanying Report on Consultation for submission to the Scottish Ministers for their approval.

NOTICE OF MOTION

The Council were advised that this meeting had been requisitioned to deal with the undernoted motion with regard to Kvaerner, Clydebank.

That in respect of the presentation given by Robbie Robertson from Kvaerner to the Council meeting held on 31 May 2000, this Council agrees the following resolution:

That this Council notes with regret the withdrawal of the preferred bidder interested in purchasing the yard.

The Council also agrees to extend all possible resources to assist the workers of Kvaerner in securing another buyer for the yard.

Furthermore, this Council agrees to establish a cross party group to co-ordinate all agencies efforts in securing the future of the yard and it's workforce.

Lastly this Council calls on Henry McLeish, MSP to attend an urgent meeting with the full Council and shop stewards of the yard, to discuss ways how the Scottish Executive and the enterprise minister can intervene to save the yard, protect the workforce and secure employment.

With the agreement of the meeting, Councillor Ronald McColl withdrew the motion.

Thereafter, on the motion of Councillor Ronald McColl, seconded by Councillor White, the Council unanimously agreed:-

This Council reaffirms its commitment to the Kvaerner workforce and the need to ensure that manufacturing continues on the site at Clydebank.

Furthermore, Council restates its support to the Kvaerner Joint Shop Stewards Committee and reiterates our offer of full assistance (including financial) regarding their campaign to retain manufacturing jobs at Clydebank.

Council endorses the concerns expressed at the Council meeting on 31 May regarding the removal of the Texas bid for the manufacturing element of the yard.

Council notes that talks are currently ongoing between a second interested party and Kvaerner Energy. Aware of the delicate nature of these discussions, Council agrees to contact the Kvaerner Joint Shop Stewards Committee seeking their advice on how the Council can provide any further assistance.

The meeting finished at 9.25 am.