

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

20 May 2004

**MEETING: WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**  
**WEDNESDAY 26 MAY 2004**  
**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 Road** on Wednesday, 26 May 2004 at 7.00 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, 26 MAY 2004**

### **AGENDA**

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

#### **2. OPEN FORUM**

The following question has been submitted to Council for consideration:-

#### **Mr Chris Neill, 3 Garshake Terrace, Dumbarton – Restructure of Council Departments**

I was at the last meeting where the restructure of council departments was put forward and agreed. I am extremely concerned that this decision was made on the premise of a report that wasn't published yet and that in-fact the council were indeed pre-empting its contents.

I am not against the smoothing of processes and indeed see it as a "positive step in the right direction" to the delivery and access of better run services.

Craig McLaughlin and Jim Bolland both agreed that to pre-empt the report was putting the cart before the horse. Craig indeed asked if the Leader of the council had seen the report and indicated there had been behind the door meetings. Councillor White indicated he had met with Community Scotland and there was some confusion when that meeting was. As a lay person I am confused as to the protocol for such meetings.

However both Craig and Jim felt that it was better to wait until the full report had been published and consultation with the front line staff had been completed before any changes were implemented and asked for a months adjournment on this basis, this amendment was not accepted as the Labour group voted against it.

I feel pretty uneasy that such deep rooted and probably very costly changes could be made when no report had been officially received. I do not see how any Councillor could nod through such radical changes without reading such a report and again without proper consultation with frontline services and in-fact they were implemented 3 days after they were accepted.

It was also pointed out that previous changes had been hastily pushed through during a previous administration it seems that this is the case again and perhaps more council tax payer's money is being squandered. It seems bad timing when the council has restructured its finances and cut services to save money that money is being spent on a re-structure that may or may not work.

I would therefore like to ask how the council came up with such radical changes without seeing the full report as it seems these changes were being planned sometime ago because of their deep seated impact on the whole delivery of council services or are they just a knee jerk reaction to the sighting of a draft report?

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**(Pages 1 - 13)**

Submit for approval, Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 28 April 2004.

**4. MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE**

**(Pages 15 - 66)**

Submit for information and where necessary ratification, Minutes of Meeting of the Community Participation Committee held on 21 April 2004, reconvened on 7 May 2004.

**5. MINUTES OF THE RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE**

**(Pages 67 - 68)**

Submit for information, the Minutes of Meeting of the Recruitment Committee held on 11 May 2004.

**6. REMIT FROM COMMUNITY SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – ECONOMIC REGENERATION AND THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

**(Pages 69 - 75)**

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Community Safety & Environmental Services Committee held on 5 May 2004, submit for consideration relevant excerpt minute together with report by the Director of Development and Environmental Services making recommendations concerning the allocation of funding of £1.980M contained in the Council's General Services Capital Programme (2004/05) for Economic Regeneration.

**7. SKYPOINT, FAIFLEY – FINAL UPDATE**

**(Pages 77 - 104)**

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Council held on 25 February 2004 (Page 607, paragraph 2007 refers), submit report by the Director of Corporate Services providing an update in regard to Skypoint, Faifley.

**8. WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE LOCAL HOUSING STRATEGY 2004-2009**  
**(Pages 105 - 213)**

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Council held on 28 April 2004, submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services seeking approval to submit the Local Housing Strategy document to Communities Scotland for assessment, as directed by Scottish Ministers.

**9. MONITORING OFFICER**  
**(Pages 215 - 216)**

Submit report by the Chief Executive on the appointment of West Dunbartonshire Council's Monitoring Officer in terms of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

**10. THE PROVISION OF FREE SWIMMING FOR WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE SCHOOLCHILDREN DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS SUMMER 2004**  
**(Pages 217 - 219)**

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services examining the feasibility and cost of providing free swimming in Council leisure facilities for schoolchildren of West Dunbartonshire during the school summer holidays of summer 2004.

**11. WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL: AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS AND SCHEME OF DELEGATED POWERS**  
**(Pages 221 - 231)**

Submit report by the Director of Corporate Services seeking approval to amend the existing West Dunbartonshire Council's Standing Orders and Scheme of Delegated Powers.

**12. SCHEME OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES**  
**(Page 233)**

Submit report by the Director of Corporate Services advising of an adjustment to the Basic Allowance and requesting approval thereof.

**13. BILLING AND COLLECTION ORDER – A CONSULTATION**  
**(Pages 235 - 239)**

Submit report by the Director of Corporate Services recommending a Council response to the Scottish Executive Environment Group's Billing and Collection Order consultation paper.

**14. CONSULTATION ON DRAFT PROTOCOL FOR MULTI-MEMBER WORKING**

**(Pages 241 - 245)**

Submit report by the Chief Executive seeking a response to the Scottish Executive on a draft protocol for multi-member working.

**15. CONFERENCES, SEMINARS ETC. – AUTHORISATION OF ATTENDANCE**

**(Pages 247 - 248)**

Submit report by the Director of Corporate Services proposing the introduction of a mechanism to authorise the attendance of Members at specific conferences which are not included on the Standing List of Conferences.

**16. CONFERENCE: DIALOGUE WITH COMMUNITIES**

Council is invited to nominate a Member to attend the above Conference which will take place on 3 and 4 June 2004 in the West Park Conference Centre, Dundee. The conference is organised by the Scottish Community Development Centre and its aim is to look at how we can work towards a position in which the relationship between communities and the agencies that serve them can be based on dialogue and on the prerequisites for dialogue: information, respect, listening and learning. The cost per delegate is £250.

For information on the above agenda please contact Craig Stewart, Administrative Assistant, Legal and Administrative Services, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton, G82 3PU on Tel: (01389) 737251 or e-mail: [craig.stewart@west-dunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:craig.stewart@west-dunbarton.gov.uk).