

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

At the Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held in the Main Hall, Abbotsford Church Hall, Abbotsford Road, Clydebank on Wednesday, 28 September 2011 at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Provost Denis Agnew and Councillors George Black, Jim Bolland, Jim Brown, Geoff Calvert, Gail Casey, Jim Finn, William Hendrie, Douglas McAllister; David McBride, Jonathan McColl, Ronnie McColl, Jim McElhill, Craig McLaughlin, Willie McLaughlin, Marie McNair, John Millar, Lawrence O'Neill, Iain Robertson, Martin Rooney and May Smillie.

Attending: David McMillan, Chief Executive; Terry Lanagan, Executive Director of Educational Services; Elaine Melrose, Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development; Keith Redpath, Director of West Dunbartonshire Community Health & Care Partnership; Joyce White, Executive Director of Corporate Services; Lorraine Coyne, Head of Audit, Performance & Strategic Planning; Andrew Fraser, Head of Legal, Democratic & Regulatory Services; Stephen West, Head of Finance & Resources; Colin McDougall, Manager of Risk & Performance, Christine McCaffary, Senior Administrative Officer and Craig Stewart, Committee Officer.

Apology: An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Patrick McGlinchey.

Provost Denis Agnew in the Chair

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were no declarations of interest.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 31 August 2011 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

OPEN FORUM

The Council noted that no open forum questions had been submitted by members of the public.

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE

The Minutes of Meeting of the Community Participation Committee held on 17 August 2011 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

COMMITTEE TIMETABLE - JANUARY 2012 TO APRIL 2012

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Corporate Services recommending approval of the Committee timetable for meetings from January to April 2012.

After discussion and having heard the Head of Legal, Democratic & Regulatory Services it was agreed:-

- (1) that the Committee timetable, as detailed in the Appendix to the report, be approved subject to the Appeals Committee scheduled for Thursday 26 January 2012 being moved to Thursday, 2 February 2012 which would allow for any outstanding business carried over from the Council meeting on 25 January to be continued to 26 January, if so required;
- (2) to continue the existing arrangements with regard to using the Abbotsford Church Hall and St. Margaret's Hospice, Clydebank until such time as a report on alternative venues in Clydebank can be submitted to Council for consideration; and
- (3) that, meantime, officers investigate the availability of a sound system at St. Margaret's Hospice and the use of the Lecture Room there.

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE REPROVISION OF AUCHENTOSHAN DAY CENTRE

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive providing an update on the re-provision of Auchentoshan Day Services.

After discussion and having heard the Director of West Dunbartonshire Community Health & Care Partnership provide an update on the report, the Council agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the report and the verbal update given by the Director in respect of this matter; and
- (2) to note that monthly update reports would continue be provided to Council on this matter.

SHARED RISK ASSESSMENT - ASSURANCE AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2011-14

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive presenting an updated Assurance and Improvement Plan (AIP) scorecard report for 2011/12.

The Council agreed to note the contents of the report and the AIP scorecard report as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

HRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2011/2012 BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT TO 31 JULY 2011 (PERIOD 4)

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development advising of the progress made on the HRA Capital Programme 2010/11.

After discussion and having heard the Executive Director provide a verbal update and in answer to Members' questions, the Council agreed to note the position to date and as outlined in Appendices A, B and C of the report.

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT 2011/2012 - BUDGETARY CONTROL STATEMENT TO 31 JULY 2011 (PERIOD 4)

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development providing an update on the financial performance of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for the period ending 31 July 2011.

The Council agreed to note the contents of the report.

GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT TO 31 JULY 2011 (PERIOD 4)

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Corporate Services providing the Council with an update on the General Services Capital Plan for 2011/12.

After discussion and having heard the Executive Director of Educational Services in answer to Members' questions, the Council agreed to note the position to date, including the new spend, as outlined in Appendices A and B of the report.

GENERAL SERVICES REVENUE BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT: PERIOD 4 (2011/12)

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Corporate Services informing of the performance of the General Services revenue budget for the period to 31 July 2011.

After discussion and having heard the relevant officers in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Council agreed:-

- (1) to note that the Director of West Dunbartonshire Community Health & Care Partnership would arrange for a Briefing Note to be issued to Members detailing the staff vacancies in his department, section by section; and
- (2) to note the contents of the report and the favourable variance reported.

TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2010/2011

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Corporate Services providing an up date on treasury management during 2010/11.

Having heard the Executive Director of Corporate Services in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Council agreed:-

- (1) to note the Treasury Management Stewardship Report (TMSR), attached as Appendix 1 to the report;
- (2) to note the 2010/11 actual prudential indicators as advised within Tables 2 to 5 of the TMSR;
- (3) that a copy of the Treasury Management Stewardship Report be passed to Members of the Audit and Performance Review Committee in order further scrutiny to take place; and
- (4) that the Executive Director of Corporate Services arrange to issue a Briefing Note to Members detailing the full outlays and liabilities in relation to PPP as contained in the report.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Motion by Councillor Jim Bolla - Howatshaws Hall

Council will be aware the "Our Place Lottery Fund" is proposing to invest in excess of £1.6m in Bellsmyre, and the Housing, Environment & Economic Development Committee in June 2011 agreed to engage in detailed negotiations with Bellsmyre Community Renewal Group to develop a report and recommendations for members to consider.

To facilitate this and meet the necessary timescales for the lottery investment Council agrees to work in partnership with the Bellsmyre Community and the Lottery. It also agrees, subject to assessing the costs and disbenefits of the proposal, being satisfied that a transfer value of £1 is reasonable and that the disposal is likely to contribute to economic regeneration, health or social or environmental wellbeing to transfer ownership of Howatshaws Hall and the adjoining footprint of land to Bellsmyre Development Trust for £1.

This in principle decision is subject to officers carrying out the necessary appraisal in terms of the Disposal of Land by Land Authorities (Scotland) Regulations 2010 and agreeing the appropriate conditions to be attached to the sale for which they will have delegated powers due to the tight timescale to be achieved.

The Council agreed unanimously to approve the motion.

VALEDICTORY – DAVID McMILLAN

Provost Agnew informed the Council that this would be the last meeting which David McMillan, Chief Executive, would be attending before retiring from West Dunbartonshire Council in October.

The Provost, on behalf of the Council, expressed his sincere thanks and gratitude to Mr McMillan for all the hard work and support he had provided to the Council, not only as Chief Executive but also in his previous role as Director of Housing & Technical Services, particularly in relation to the way he had dealt with housing related issues.

Councillor Rooney, on behalf of the Labour Group and residents of West Dunbartonshire, acknowledged the exceptional leadership demonstrated by Mr McMillan during his five years as Chief Executive and previously as Director of Housing & Technical Services and thanked him for his commitment, work ethic and input which had achieved significant improvements and benefits to West Dunbartonshire Council and the local community.

Councillor R. McColl expressed his personal appreciation for the guidance and support Mr McMillan had given him when he became Leader of the Council, and on behalf of the Administration acknowledged his strong, determined leadership and honest manner and wished him well in the future.

Councillor Robertson thanked Mr McMillan for the support and guidance provided to him particularly over the three years as Council Leader and wished him a happy retirement.

Councillor Black recognised the difficult work Mr McMillan had inherited when appointed as Chief Executive, acknowledging his dedicated approach to the challenges faced and the significant successes achieved.

In summing up, Provost Agnew acknowledged the fortitude and resilience of Mr McMillan as illustrated by the warmth of the dedications offered.

In response, Mr McMillan thanked everyone for their kind words, stating that the Council's success was a result of good team work at all levels, involving the Corporate Management Team and front and back office staff. He wished the Council continued success in the future and wished Members well for the local government elections in May 2012.

The meeting closed at 7.15 p.m.