

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

21 September 2004

MEETING: WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2004
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, 29 September 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

Acting Director of Education and Cultural Services

Director of Housing and Technical Services

Director of Social Work Services

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2004

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. CLYDEBANK REBUILT – PRESENTATION

Eleanor McAlister will give a presentation on progress being made by the Clydebank Rebuilt project.

3. OPEN FORUM

**(a) Mr Lockhart H. Cameron, 13f Howcraigs Court, Clydebank
Removal of Asbestos Tiles**

I signed for the tenancy of one of the high rise flats in Clydebank East. When I started to move my personal belongings into my new flat I noticed the floor tiles on the living room and the hall and the bathroom floors contained a certain amount of asbestos. I asked for them to be removed and this has been done by an asbestos removal company.

Why is the Council not removing the tiles from the other flats or houses with similar tiles within West Dunbartonshire?

**(b) Mrs Heather Graham, 9 Dixon Drive, Dumbarton
Development at Keil School, Dumbarton: Protection of Trees**

The tree survey carried out on behalf of the developers, Kirklee Developments, states that the trees are divided into three categories: (1) Trees to be retained; (2) Trees to be removed for development; (3) Trees which (*according to the survey*) need to be removed due to damage and disease. Other mature trees are earmarked for removal for a variety of insignificant and non-essential reasons.

Although trees in the Kirktonhill Conservation Area are protected by a blanket TPO, how will the Council ensure that only **well-informed** and **'tree-friendly'** decisions are made concerning which trees *really* need to be removed?

**(c) Mr Brian Cairns, 108 Brown Avenue, Clydebank
Building Our Future Programme**

The report agreed by Council "Building Our Future" cited a projected 24.7% drop in population of 5-15 year olds in West Dunbartonshire as causing the secondary rolls of St. Andrew's and St. Columba's to be too low to "offer a viable curriculum" on their own (Cllr McCallum's words to parents at public meetings in the Town Hall and Dalmuir C.E. Centre). Despite the fact that Dumbarton Academy has a smaller roll than either St. Columba's or St. Andrew's H.S. it is not earmarked to merge with a bigger school. Why?

**(d) Mr Robert Doherty, 63 North Elgin Street, Whitecreek, Clydebank
Building Our Future Programme**

Councillor White, can I please have a comment on this question from each of the other groups in the Council. If on consulting with parents and communities over the administration's proposals for schools you find that there is a strong rejection of parts of your plans, will you like other local authorities, listen to the people and change your proposals?

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 1 - 15)

Submit for approval, Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 25 August 2004.

**5. BUILDING OUR FUTURE – REGENERATION OF THE SCHOOLS' ESTATE
(Pages 17 - 25)**

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of Council on 25 August 2004, submit report by the Chief Executive providing an update on progress made in implementing the Building Our Future Programme.

**6. REMIT FROM THE SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE – RESIDENTIAL
RESPITE SERVICES FOR ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES
(Pages 27 - 31)**

In terms of remit from the Meeting of the Social Justice Committee held on 8 September 2004, submit for consideration the relevant excerpt minute and report by the Director of Social Work Services concerning the redesign of Marelén House from a residential care service to provide a five person respite unit.

Council is requested to approve the capital expenditure required to refurbish the accommodation, as referred to in Section 6 of the report.

**7. DRAFT ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2003/2004 – OFFICER EMOLUMENTS
(Page 33)**

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of Council on 25 August 2004, submit report by the Director of Corporate Services providing the Council with further information in relation to the increase in the number of employees whose emoluments exceeded £40,000 per annum during the last financial year.

**8. GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT:
PERIOD 4, 2004/05 (Pages 35 - 53)**

Submit report by the Director of Corporate Services advising of progress of the General Services Capital Programme to 15 August 2004 and updating members on Prudential Indicators.

**9. GENERAL SERVICES BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT:
PERIOD 4, 2004/05 (Pages 55 - 71)**

Submit report by the Director of Corporate Services advising of the performance of the General Services Budget for the period to 15 August 2004.

**10. HRA REVENUE ACCOUNT 2004/2005 BUDGETARY CONTROL
STATEMENT TO 15 AUGUST 2004 (PERIOD 4) (Pages 73 - 76)**

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services advising of the financial performance of the Housing Revenue Account to the period ended 15 August 2004.

**11. HRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2004/2005 BUDGETARY CONTROL
REPORT TO 15 AUGUST 2004 (PERIOD 4) (Pages 77 - 80)**

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services advising of progress on the HRA Capital Programme to 15 August 2004.

12. HOUSING MAINTENANCE TRADING OPERATION 2004/2005 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE TO 15 AUGUST 2004 (PERIOD 4) (Pages 81 - 83)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services providing interim cumulative financial information for the period ending 15 August 2004.

13. PROPOSED PURCHASE OF COMMERCIAL PREMISES AT 4/6 AND 8 ELM ROAD, DUMBARTON (Pages 85 - 89)

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services outlining proposals that the Council purchases commercial offices/depot property at 4/6 and 8 Elm Road, Dumbarton for use by the Housing and Technical Services Department in providing housing and non-housing property maintenance services

14. COMMITTEE TIMETABLE TO DECEMBER 2005 (Pages 91 - 100)

Submit report by the Director of Corporate Services requesting the Council to approve the programme of Council and Committee Meetings from October 2004 to December 2005.

15. CLYDEBANK CREMATORIUM – REQUEST TO VIRE CAPITAL FUNDS (Pages 101 – 102)

Submit report by the Director of Development and Environmental Services requesting that capital funds allocated to the Clydebank Crematorium for the purpose of re-lining cremators be vired to other projects at the crematorium.

16. PROPOSED CONCERT AT BALLOCH CASTLE COUNTRY PARK – JUNE 2005 (Pages 103 - 104)

Submit report by the Director of Development and Environmental Services advising of progress to date in staging a major pop concert at Balloch Castle Country Park event site on Saturday 18 June 2005.

**17. SHAPING THE FUTURE – NHS ARGYLL & CLYDE CLINICAL STRATEGY
(Copy to follow)**

Submit report by the Director of Social Work Services advising of the content of the NHS Argyll & Clyde Clinical Strategy and its potential implications for the people of West Dunbartonshire and making recommendations thereon.

**18. DISPOSAL OF COUNCIL OWNED SITE AT STONYFLATT ROAD AND
WHITEFORD AVENUE, BELLSMYRE, DUMBARTON (Pages 105 - 108)**

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services seeking approval to market the above site for private housing development.

**19. DEMOLITION OF 27 & 29 STEELE CRESCENT, HALDANE
(Pages 109 - 110)**

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services seeking retrospective approval of the demolition of two properties at 27 and 29 Steele Crescent, Haldane.

**20. PROVOST MACDONALD – 3X LTD VISIT TO HUNAN PROVINCE, CHINA
(Page 111)**

Submit correspondence from 3X Ltd informing the Council that Provost Macdonald has been invited to visit China as part of a delegation from 3X Ltd, who will be there to discuss issues of mutual interest with the Chinese Government.

Accordingly, Council is asked to approve Provost Macdonald's visit to China.

21. QUESTIONS

Councillor Craig McLaughlin has submitted the undernoted questions on behalf of the SNP Group and the SSP:-

Questions to Councillor Duncan McDonald.

- (1) When was first contact made with No Graffiti Ltd and did any officer from the HATS department contact them?

- (2) How many discussions, including telephone, did you have and officers from within HATS with councillors about graffiti removal contracts? When did you have them?
- (3) The Dept selected six companies to tender. Why was none of them on the list of approved contractors?
- (4) Did you have any meetings, including telephone, with any reps from No Graffiti Ltd? How many, where and when did they take place?
- (5) Who did the department seek authority from to invite tenders for the additional graffiti work?
- (6) Given that no company who bid is on the council's approved contractors list, what assessments/evaluations were made of companies before submitting the tenders to the tendering committee?
- (7) When did you become aware that the Company which was going to be handed the Graffiti Contract was in ownership of a fellow councillor?

Questions to Mr Tim Huntingford

- (1) The approval of a Contractor not on the list of approved Contractors is at odds with the Council Standing Orders. Why did you not intervene and investigate?
- (2) Why was the contract not advertised?

Questions to Legal Officer

- (1) Is the Council required by law to observe its financial standing orders?
- (2) Which senior officer is responsible for ensuring compliance with the council financial regulations when dealing with contracts?

Questions to Councillor Flynn

- (1) Did you play any part in setting up the demonstration from No Graffiti?
- (2) Did you have any discussions, including telephone, with any reps from Stainbusters or No Graffiti Ltd concerning their potential bid to the council?
- (3) Did you or any other Labour Cllr introduce the matter of graffiti work into Labour Group discussions/agendas? When did you do so?
- (4) Did you support the outsourcing of the graffiti work in Labour Group discussions?

- (5) When did you disclose the connection between your franchise owners, Stainbusters, and the other franchise owners No Graffiti Ltd to the Labour Group or to senior officers?

Questions to Councillor White

- (1) Can you detail your involvement in this matter. What discussions have you had with Cllr Flynn, any other Labour councillors and departmental Directors or the CEO on this matter and when? What was the nature of the discussions?
- (2) When did the Labour group first discuss the tendering committee report to tender the graffiti removal contract?

For information on the above agenda please contact George Hawthorn, Senior Administrative Officer, Legal and Administrative Services, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton, G82 3PU on Tel: (01389) 737204 or e-mail: george.hawthorn@west-dunbarton.gov.uk.