

SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

Minutes of special meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 28 June 2007

Chair:

Provost Russell Clearie

Councillors Present:

Alex Allison, John Anderson, Eileen Baxendale, Archie Buchanan, Jackie Burns, John Cairney, Graeme Campbell, Andy Carmichael, Gordon Clark, Pam Clearie, Russell Clearie, Gerry Convery, Peter Craig, Maureen Devlin, Jim Docherty, Barry Douglas, Hugh Dunsmuir, Douglas Edwards, Allan Falconer, Lynn Filshie, Beith Forrest (Depute), Tommy Gilligan, Ian Gray, Jim Handibode, Anne Higgins, Bill Holman, Graeme Horne, Bobby Lawson, Eileen Logan, Joe Lowe, Anne Maggs, Archie Manson, Edward McAvoy, Michael McCann, Clare McColl, Lesley McDonald, Jim McGuigan, Alex McInnes, Brian McKenna, Denis McKenna, Jean McKeown, David McLachlan, John McNamee, Mary McNeill, Alice Marie Mitchell, Henry Mitchell, John Murray, Patrick Ross-Taylor, Graham Scott, David Shearer, Graham Simpson, Mary Smith, Hamish Stewart, George Sutherland, Chris Thompson, Bert Thomson, Jim Wardhaugh, Sheena Wardhaugh, Pat Watters

Councillors' Apologies:

David Baillie, Walter Brogan, Bev Gauld, John Higgins, Bobby Lawson, James Malloy, Brian McCaig, Danny Meikle, David Watson

Attending:

Chief Executive's Service

A Strang, Chief Executive

Community Resources

N Anderson, Executive Director

Corporate Resources

S Dickson, Head of Legal Services; R Lake, Administration Manager; J McDonald and S Somerville, Administration Advisers

Education Resources

L Forde, Executive Director

Enterprise Resources

I Urquhart, Executive Director

Finance and Information Technology Resources

L Hardie, Executive Director

Housing and Technical Resources

J Hayton, Executive Director

Social Work Resources

H Stevenson, Executive Director

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Finalised South Lanarkshire Local Plan - Sites at Colonsay Field/Strathaven Road, East Kilbride and Covenanters Field, Hamilton Road, Bothwell

A report dated 18 June 2007 by the Executive Director (Enterprise Resources) was submitted on:-

- ◆ the current planning status for sites at Colonsay Field/Strathaven Road, East Kilbride and Covenanters Field, Hamilton Road, Bothwell
- ◆ the local planning and development implications of any change to the sites' planning status

The Finalised South Lanarkshire Local Plan had been approved by the Planning Committee on 21 June 2006. The Plan had included proposals for:-

- ◆ Calderglen Country Park and Colonsay Field (Policy STRAT 8)
- ◆ Covenanters Field (Policy RES 2 – Site 285)

Policy STRAT 8 detailed the following proposed developments:-

- ◆ comprehensive improvement and investment proposals for the Country Park and Colonsay Field
- ◆ residential use on part of Colonsay Field subject to a detailed development brief which would emphasise sustainable construction materials, energy efficiency and innovative design
- ◆ extension to the formal Country Park boundary by inclusion of open semi-natural grassland to the north and east of the Park along the Calder Glen

Policy STRAT 8 would be considered as part of the Local Plan Public Local Inquiry which would commence on 2 October 2007. There had been 9157 objections to the Policy.

In October 2006, the Executive Committee had:-

- ◆ approved proposals to market a site of 4.1 hectares for residential development at Colonsay Field/Strathaven Road, East Kilbride
- ◆ agreed, in principle, a programme of improvements to Calderglen Country Park including upgrading of the visitor centre and zoo, improved sporting facilities, new access arrangements, additional parking and investment in woodland and landscape management. The capital receipt to be realised from the disposal of part of Colonsay Field would be used to fund those improvements.

In March 2007, the Executive Committee had agreed to the sale of the 4.1 hectare site at Colonsay Field/Strathaven Road to Keir Homes Limited who had submitted the highest offer compliant with the Council's planning brief. No legal contract, however, had been entered into.

In February 2007, the Planning Committee had agreed to modify the Finalised Local Plan following representations and objections to the proposal for Covenanters Field. The proposal became RES 3 – Residential Masterplan Site and included the following development requirements:-

- ◆ small scale, low density housing of around 10 to 12 units. Part of the land would be used to relocate the Covenanters Monument from its present site at Bothwell Bridge on to Covenanters Field in a properly landscaped setting incorporating car parking and interpretation boards
- ◆ further archaeological work to be carried out by appropriate specialists

3 objections had been received to the modification to the Finalised Local Plan. Those objections would be heard at the Public Local Inquiry.

Details were provided on the financial implications to the capital programme if the proposed Local Plan status of the sites at Colonsay Field/Strathaven Road, East Kilbride and Covenanters Field, Hamilton Road, Bothwell was changed to retain both sites for open space/grazing use.

In view of a material change in circumstances and in terms of Standing Order No 17, further consideration was given to previous decisions taken in respect of sites at Colonsay Field/Strathaven Road, East Kilbride and Covenanters Field, Hamilton Road, Bothwell.

The Council decided:

- (1) that Policy STRAT 8 be modified to exclude the Development Framework Site at Caldergleng Country Park and Colonsay Field, East Kilbride from the Finalised South Lanarkshire Local Plan;
- (2) that the use of Colonsay Field, East Kilbride be maintained as informal open space;
- (3) that Keir Homes be advised that the Council was not proceeding with the sale of 4.1 hectares of land at Colonsay Field/Strathaven Road, East Kilbride;
- (4) that Policy RES 3 be modified to exclude Covenanters Field as a Residential Masterplan Site;
- (5) that the use of Covenanters Field be maintained as grazing/informal open space;
- (6) that, on the basis that the proposals had been withdrawn, agreement be requested for objectors to withdraw their objections to:-
 - ♦ the Caldergleng Country Park and Colonsay Field proposals (Policy STRAT 8)
 - ♦ the Covenanters Field Policy RES 3 Residential Masterplan Site. This agreement would be subject to there being no other party requesting the retention of Policy RES 3 designation for Covenanters Field
- (7) that the Local Plan Reporters be advised of the Council's intentions in relation to Policy STRAT 8 and Policy RES 3.

[Reference: Minutes of 23 May 2007 (Paragraph 11)]

3 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.