

# **SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 8 February 2007

## **Chair:**

Provost Mushtaq Ahmad

## **Councillors Present:**

David Baillie, Archie Buchanan, Jackie Burns, Sam Casserly, Russell Clearie (Depute Provost), Gerry Convery, Stewart Crawford, Maureen Devlin, Alan Dick, Jim Docherty, Beith Forrest, Bev Gauld, Tommy Gilligan, Ian Gray, James Handibode, Liz Handibode, Graeme Horne, Davy Keirs, Eileen Logan, Anne Maggs, James Malloy, Edward McAvoy, Billy McCaig, Brian McCaig, Michael McCann, Michael McGlynn, John McGuinness, Alex McInnes, Ian McInnes, Brian McKenna, Denis McKenna, Mary McNeill (Depute Provost), Danny Meikle, Alice Marie Mitchell, Henry Mitchell, Pat Morgan, John Ormiston, Patricia Osborne, Brian Reilly, Bob Rooney, Gretel Ross, William Ross, David Shearer, Mary Smith, May Smith, Hamish Stewart, Chris Thompson, Murray Tremble, Jim Wardhaugh, David Watson

## **Councillors' Apologies:**

Tony Carlin, Pam Clearie, Cathie Condie, Jim Daisley, Gerry Docherty, Allan Falconer, Stan Hogarth, Carol Hughes, Joe Lowe, Archie Manson, David McLachlan, Bill McNab, Betty Rush, Graham Scott, Bert Thomson, Pat Watters

## **Attending:**

### **Chief Executive's Service**

A Strang, Chief Executive

### **Community Resources**

N Anderson, Executive Director

### **Corporate Resources**

R McIlwain, Executive Director; R Lake, Administration Manager; J McDonald, Administration Adviser; S Somerville, Administration Adviser; D Wilson, Head of Administration Services

### **Education Resources**

K Arthur, 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

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## **1 Declaration of Interests**

No interests were declared.

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## **2 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of the South Lanarkshire Council held on 9 February 2006 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

**The Council decided:** that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

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### **3 Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000 - Findings of Standards Commission**

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A report dated 30 January 2007 by the Chief Executive was submitted on the requirement, in terms of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000, for the Council to consider and respond by 16 March 2007 to the written decision of the Standards Commission following the Hearing held on 28 November 2006 into an alleged breach of the Councillors' Code of Conduct by Councillor Daniel Meikle.

**The Council decided:** that the written decision of the Standards Commission, to the effect that Councillor Meikle "be censured (in terms of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000 (Section 19 (1)(a)) and that no further action be taken", be noted.

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### **4 Recommendations Referred by Executive Committee - Housing Revenue Budget 2007/2008; Housing Investment Programme 2007/2008; Capital Budget 2007/2008 and 2008/2009 and Primary School Modernisation Programme Phase 2 and Revenue Budget and Level of Local Taxation 2007/2008**

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A report dated 8 February 2007 by the Chief Executive was tabled on recommendations referred to the Council by the Executive Committee (Special) of 8 February 2007. The recommendations were as follows:-

- ◆ **Housing Revenue Account Budget 2007/2008**  
that the recommendations of the Housing and Technical Resources Committee (Special) of 8 February 2007 in relation to the Housing Revenue Account Budget 2007/2008 be approved

*[Reference: Minutes of Executive Committee (Special) of 8 February 2007 (Paragraph 3)]*

- ◆ **Housing Investment Programme 2007/2008**  
that the Housing Investment Programme 2007/2008 be approved

*[Reference: Minutes of Executive Committee (Special) of 8 February 2007 (Paragraph 4)]*

- ◆ **Capital Budget 2007/2008 and 2008/2009 and Primary School Modernisation Programme (Phase 2)**
  - ◆ that the amended Capital Programme for the period 2007 to 2009 and the funding schedule, as detailed in the appendices to the report, be approved
  - ◆ that the revisions to Phase 2 of the Primary Schools Modernisation Programme increasing the number of new build schools by 39 to 84, as detailed in the report, be approved
  - ◆ that an updated Phase 2 programme of works be submitted to the Executive Committee at its meeting on 21 March 2007

*[Reference: Minutes of Executive Committee (Special) of 8 February 2007 (Paragraph 5)]*

- ◆ **Revenue Budget and Level of Local Taxation 2007/2008**
  - ◆ that the investment proposals totalling £20.710 million, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, be approved
  - ◆ that the recommendation of the Finance and Information Technology Resources Committee and the Revenue Budget for 2007/2008 be approved

- ◆ that the budget allocations for each Resource for 2007/2008, as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report, be approved
- ◆ that the actions required to finalise the Council's detailed Revenue Budget for 2007/2008 be approved
- ◆ that the Band D Council Tax for 2007/2008 be set at a figure of £1,101 (increase of 2.32%)

*[Reference: Minutes of Executive Committee (Special) of 8 February 2007 (Paragraph 6)]*

Councillor McAvoy:-

- ◆ made a statement highlighting the priorities within the 2007/2008 Revenue Budget
- ◆ thanked Donald Thomas, Head of Schools Modernisation, Education Resources for ensuring the success of the schools modernisation programme and wished him well in his forthcoming retirement
- ◆ acknowledged the contribution made by the members of the other political groups, the Corporate Management Team and officers to the work of the Council

Councillors Buchanan and Gretel Ross made comments on the Revenue Budget process and thanked officers for their hard work and support over the past 4 years.

**The Council decided:** that the recommendations of the Executive Committee (Special) of 8 February 2007 in relation to the following issues be approved:-

- ◆ Housing Revenue Account Budget 2007/2008
- ◆ Housing Investment Programme 2007/2008
- ◆ Capital Budget 2007/2008 and 2008/2009 and Primary School Modernisation Programme (Phase 2)
- ◆ Revenue Budget and Level of Local Taxation 2007/2008

*Councillor Mary Smith left and re-entered the meeting during this item*

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## **5 Urgent Business**

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There were no items of urgent business.

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## **Provost's Closing Remarks**

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The Provost referred to the fact that this was the first meeting of the Council attended by Archie Strang and Norrie Anderson as Chief Executive and Executive Director (Community Resources) respectively and wished them well in their new posts.

The Provost also thanked all members and officers of the Council for their hard work and support over the past 4 years. He wished those members who were standing for re-election the best of luck and those who were standing down all the very best for the future.