

COMMUNITY AND ENTERPRISE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held via Microsoft Teams on 4 May 2021

Chair:

Councillor John Anderson

Councillors Present:

Councillor Alex Allison (*substitute for Councillor Lynne Nailon*), Councillor John Bradley, Councillor Maureen Chalmers, Councillor Gerry Convery, Councillor Margaret Cooper, Councillor Peter Craig, Councillor Isobel Dorman, Councillor Joe Fagan, Councillor Allan Falconer (*substitute for Councillor Monique McAdams*), Councillor Graeme Horne, Councillor Mark Horsham (*substitute for Councillor Collette Stevenson*), Councillor Ann Le Blond, Councillor Hugh Macdonald, Councillor Ian McAllan, Councillor Catherine McClymont, Councillor Kenny McCreary, Councillor Mark McGeever, Councillor Davie McLachlan, Councillor Graham Scott, Councillor Margaret B Walker, Councillor David Watson, Councillor Josh Wilson

Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor Martin Grant Hose, Councillor Monique McAdams, Councillor Lynne Nailon, Councillor Richard Nelson, Councillor John Ross (*ex officio*), Councillor Collette Stevenson

Attending:

Community and Enterprise Resources

M McGlynn, Executive Director; S Clelland, Head of Fleet and Environmental Services; P Elliott, Head of Planning and Economic Development; G Mackay, Head of Roads and Transportation Services; A McKinnon, Head of Facilities, Waste and Ground Services

Finance and Corporate Resources

M M Cairns, Legal Services Manager; N Docherty, Administration Assistant; L Harvey, Finance Manager; P MacRae, Administration Adviser; E Maxwell, Human Resources Business Partner; E-A McGonigle, Administration Officer; K McLeod, Administration Assistant, L O'Hagan, Finance Manager (Strategy); S Somerville, Administration Manager, A Thompson, Public Relations Officer

1 Declaration of Interests

Councillor(s)	Item(s)	Nature of Interest(s)
McClymont	Community Benefit Funds – Renewable Energy Fund - Grant Applications	Paying member of Clydesdale Community Initiative

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee held on 16 February 2021 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

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

3 Community and Enterprise Resources - Revenue Budget Monitoring 2020/2021

A joint report dated 30 March 2021 by the Executive Directors (Community and Enterprise Resources) and (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted comparing actual expenditure at 26 February 2021 against budgeted expenditure for 2020/2021 for Community and Enterprise Resources and providing a forecast for the year to 31 March 2021.

Following the probable outturn exercise, there was a reported overspend for the Resource of £8.169 million after transfers to reserves of £0.447 million. This included the forecast cost of £8.199 million in respect of COVID-19.

At 26 February 2021, the position was an overspend of £7.066 million after transfer to reserves. Details were also provided on proposed budget virements in respect of Community and Enterprise Resources to realign budgets.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the forecast to 31 March 2021 of an overspend of £8.169 million after approved transfers to reserves, as detailed in Appendix A to the report, be noted;
- (2) that an overspend of £7.066 million as at 26 February 2021 after approved transfers to reserves, as detailed in Appendix A of the report, be noted; and
- (3) that the proposed budget virements, as detailed in appendices B to G of the report, be approved.

[Reference: Minutes of 16 February 2021 (Paragraph 3)]

4 Community and Enterprise Resources - Capital Budget Monitoring 2020/2021

A joint report dated 14 April 2021 by the Executive Directors (Community and Enterprise Resources) and (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted advising of progress on the Community and Enterprise Resources' capital programme 2020/2021 and summarising the expenditure position at 26 February 2021.

The revised capital programme for 2020/2021, as agreed at the 16 December 2020 Executive Committee, amounted to £37.622 million and, at 26 February 2021, expenditure was £22.143 million. The projected outturn for the current financial year was £32.827 million. This represented an underspend of £4.795 million and reflected anticipated timing of spend on a number of projects, with budget required carried forward to 2021/2022.

The ongoing implications of COVID-19 continued to impact on the level of capital spend achieved this financial year and the year-end position would be reported to the Executive Committee on 23 June 2021.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the Community and Enterprise Resources' capital budget programme of £37.622 million, and expenditure to date of £22.143 million, be noted; and
- (2) that the projected outturn of £32.827 million be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 16 February 2021 (Paragraph 4) and Minutes of the Executive Committee of 16 December 2020 (Paragraph 3)]

5 Community and Enterprise Resources - Workforce Monitoring – January and February 2021

A joint report dated 15 March 2021 by the Executive Directors (Community and Enterprise Resources) and (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the following employee information for Community and Enterprise Resources for the period January and February 2021:-

- ◆ attendance statistics
- ◆ occupational health statistics
- ◆ accident/incident statistics
- ◆ disciplinary hearings, grievances and Dignity at Work cases
- ◆ analysis of leavers and exit interviews
- ◆ staffing watch as at 12 December 2020

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 16 February 2021 (Paragraph 5)]

6 Larkhall Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan

A report dated 9 April 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the Larkhall Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan.

The Larkhall Town Centre Strategy consultative draft, which had been prepared in consultation with Larkhall Community Council and key stakeholders, had been issued for consultation for a period of 8 weeks. Due to COVID-19 support requirements, the planned commencement was delayed and started early February 2021. An online virtual web based public consultation took place between 19 to 31 March 2021 and generated 109 submissions and comments from 625 visits.

The main feedback received from the consultation was summarised in the report and the full consultation response was detailed in Appendix 2 to the report. Following the consultation exercise, the Larkhall Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, had been amended to reflect the key findings and it was proposed that the Strategy and Action Plan be approved.

In addition, it was also proposed that the established relationship with Larkhall Community Council and Larkhall Growers be used to oversee the implementation of the Strategy and delivery of the action plan.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the outcome of the Larkhall Town Centre consultation be noted;
- (2) that the Larkhall Town Centre Strategy be approved, taking account of the amendments, as detailed in section 5 of the report; and
- (3) that the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) be authorised to proceed with implementation of the finalised Strategy in partnership with Larkhall Community Council and identified key stakeholders.

[Reference: Minutes of 24 November 2020 (Paragraph 8)]

7 Community Benefit Funds – Renewable Energy Fund – Grant Applications

A report dated 9 April 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on a grant application to the Community Benefit Fund. The Community Benefit Funds had been established to provide funding to suitable projects providing community benefit in eligible areas.

It was proposed that, subject to the applicant providing written confirmation that all other additional funding for the projects had been secured, a grant be awarded of up to a maximum of

£85,000 towards eligible costs associated with the extension of Clydesdale Community Initiatives (CCI) existing tearoom and giftshop at Langloch Barn from the Blacklaw windfarm Renewable Energy Fund (REF).

The Committee decided:

that, subject to the applicant providing written confirmation that all other additional funding for the project had been secured, a grant be awarded of up to a maximum of £85,000 towards eligible costs associated with the extension of the Clydesdale Community Initiatives (CCI) tearoom and giftshop (Langloch Barn) from the Blacklaw windfarm Renewable Energy Fund.

[Reference: Minutes of 16 February 2021 (Paragraph 8)]

Councillor McClymont, having declared an interest in the above item, withdrew from the meeting during its consideration

8 Community Benefit Funds – Annual Report

A report dated 13 April 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on:-

- ◆ grants awarded in 2020/2021 from the Community Benefit Funds administered by the Council's Planning and Economic Development Services
- ◆ an update on the progress of the Renewable Energy Fund (REF) Clyde COVID-19 support

The Community Benefit Funds had been established to provide funding to suitable projects providing community benefits in eligible areas. Details of the grants awarded in 2020/2021 were provided in appendices 1 to 4 to the report.

At its meeting on 13 May 2020, the Executive Committee homologated an amendment to the administration of the Community Benefit Funds: REF and Clyde Wind Farm Fund (CWFF) to assist local communities' response and resilience to the COVID-19 crisis previously approved by the Chief Executive under delegated authority. The amendments introduced the following 2 funding priorities:-

- ◆ Priority 1: Immediate Support Fund
- ◆ Priority 2: 3rd Sector Resilience Fund

The COVID-19 response funds opened on 24 April 2020 and the funding priorities remained open to existing applications. The position would be reviewed as restrictions eased, whilst recognising the legacy impact of the pandemic. A total of 91 COVID-19 response projects, with a combined grant award of £491,746, had been awarded and were detailed in appendices 1 and 3 to the report.

A publicity document had been prepared with the purpose of raising awareness of the Community Benefit Funds and their support of communities. The annual report, attached as Appendix 5 to the report, highlighted projects funded in the year or recently completed. This annual report would be circulated and publicised digitally, with 200 copies made available to Councillors and groups.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the Community Benefit Funds administered by the Council and the grants awarded under the Renewable Energy Fund (REF), Clyde Wind Farm Fun (CWFF) and Quarry Funds in 2020/2021 be noted;

- (2) that the REF Clyde COVID-19 support provided be noted; and
- (3) that the publicity report for Community Benefit Funds grants 2020/2021 be approved.

[Reference: Minutes of 16 June 2020 (Paragraph 7) and Minutes of the Executive Committee of 13 May 2020 (Paragraph 11)]

9 Town Centre Funding and Project - Update

A report dated 7 April 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted providing an update on the progress of projects funded from the Scottish Government's Town Centre Capital Grants Funds, the Council's Capital Programme and Regeneration Capital Grant Funds.

At its meeting on 16 February 2021, the Committee requested an update report to be provided on the various town centre funding streams and projects.

The Council had been awarded funding for town centres from a number of sources since the beginning of 2019 which allowed a programme of investment to be put in place following consultation and bidding exercises with local communities.

The principal funding sources and sums awarded were:-

- ◆ Scottish Government Phase 1 Funds – allocation of £2.506 million in March 2019 from the Town Centre Capital Grants Fund projects to be committed by March 2021 and money spent by September 2021
- ◆ Scottish Government Phase 2 Funds - allocation of £902,000 to augment Phase 1 with the timeframe to spend Phase 2 funding coterminous with the timetable for Phase 1
- ◆ Council Capital Programme – allocation of £500,000 to enhance and extend the programme of town centre activity, confirmed in the Capital Programme Report as part of the Executive Committee agenda in March 2020, and funding of £60,000 allocated to allow the initial work to be carried out on the East Kilbride Civic Centre Project

Details of each project, previously approved by this Committee, were provided at Appendix 1 to the report.

Officers responded to members' questions in relation to the East Kilbride Civic Centre Project and provided assurance that discussions with the new owners of East Kilbride Town Centre were progressing and members would be kept updated.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 16 February 2021 (Paragraph 1)]

10 Lanarkshire Economic Forum - Update

A report dated 9 April 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted providing an update on the Lanarkshire Economic Forum.

At its meeting held on 8 July 2020, the Recovery Board agreed to the establishment of a Lanarkshire Economic Forum (LEF) to support economic recovery and ensure action was undertaken in a strategic and coordinated manner.

On 5 August 2020, the Scottish Government published its Economic Recovery Implementation Plan, as well as its response to the Enterprise and Skills Strategic Board's report, 'Addressing

the Labour Market Emergency'. The content of both documents was broadly consistent with existing national and local economic development strategies and would be a continued focus for the LEF. Priorities were framed around the following 3 key themes:-

- ◆ People: skills, learning and employability
- ◆ Place: physical infrastructure and place
- ◆ Business: business development and growth

The first meeting of the Forum had been held on 21 September 2020 and its terms of reference, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, were agreed in November 2020. The LEF was chaired by Professor Milan Radosavljevic, Vice-Principal for Research, Innovation and Engagement at the University of the West of Scotland and secretariat support would initially be provided by the Council.

The purpose of the Forum was centred around:-

- ◆ planning and coordinating a Lanarkshire wide economic recovery activity based around People, Place and Business themes
- ◆ developing recovery and review planning that maintained the flexibility to adapt to, short, medium and long term horizon scanning
- ◆ ensuring active liaison, coordination, and cooperation between all partners

The Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) responded to members' questions.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the content of the report be noted; and
- (2) that further updates on the work of the Lanarkshire Economic Forum be reported to the Community Planning Partnership Board and this Committee as appropriate.

11 Introduction of New Charge – Export Health Certificate Supporting Attestation

A joint report dated 9 April 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted advising of the introduction of a national charge for the issuing of a food export health certificate's Supporting Attestation from 1 January 2021.

From 1 January 2021, the UK was considered by the EU as a 'Third Country' for the purposes of trade, and businesses exporting products of animal origin to the EU and Northern Ireland would require an Export Health Certificate (EHC). The EHC provided evidence that a consignment met EU health requirements and businesses would be unable to trade with the EU without them.

The EHC for products of animal origin for human consumption must be signed by a designated Certifying Officer (CO) which could be an Official Veterinarian (OV) or a Food Competent Certifying Officer (FCCO), such as Environmental Health Officers within the Council.

Logistical hubs were created to reduce the financial and administrative burden associated with the issuing of EHCs for every consignment of fishery products exported to the EU or Northern Ireland. Goods arriving at logistic hubs required to be accompanied by a supporting attestation from the local authority. The supporting information was subsequently used by COs at logistic hubs to facilitate certification of goods and the issuing of EHCs. The attestation confirmed, from the documents provided with the application, that the product was produced or otherwise processed or stored at a premise which was subject to official controls, including inspections.

Currently, the Council had been asked to provide supporting attestations for food businesses utilising the 3 logistic hubs located in Lanarkshire and the national standard charge of £100 currently set by Food Standards Scotland would be applied to be consistent with the national charging model.

The Committee decided: that the introduction of a new charge of £100 for the issuing of an Export Health Certificate Supporting Attestation be noted.

12 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

Chair's Closing Remarks

The Chair advised that this would be the last meeting that G Mackay, Head of Roads and Transportation Services, would be attending prior to his forthcoming retirement. The Chair, on behalf of the members of the Committee, thanked Mr Mackay, for his valuable contribution, assistance and advice to the Committee over the years and wished him well on his retirement. Mr Mackay responded in suitable terms.