

COMMUNITY AND ENTERPRISE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held in Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 30 October 2018

Chair:

Councillor John Anderson

Councillors Present:

Councillor Stephanie Callaghan (*substitute for Councillor David Watson*), Councillor Maureen Chalmers, Councillor Gerry Convery, Councillor Margaret Cooper, Councillor Peter Craig, Councillor Mary Donnelly (*substitute for Councillor Ian McAllan*), Councillor Isobel Dorman (Depute), Councillor Joe Fagan, Councillor George Greenshields, Councillor Graeme Horne, Councillor Ann Le Blond, Councillor Martin Lennon, Councillor Hugh Macdonald, Councillor Monique McAdams, Councillor Kenny McCreary, Councillor Mark McGeever, Councillor Jim McGuigan, Councillor Lynne Nailon, Councillor Mo Razzaq, Councillor Graham Scott (*substitute for Councillor Davie McLachlan*), Councillor Collette Stevenson, Councillor Margaret B Walker, Councillor Jared Wark, Councillor Josh Wilson

Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor Ian McAllan, Councillor Davie McLachlan, Councillor John Ross (*ex officio*), Councillor David Watson

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; I Ross, Project Manager

Finance and Corporate Resources

N Docherty, Administration Assistant; L Harvey, Finance Manager; H Lawson, Legal Services Manager; J McDonald, Administration Adviser; E McPake, Human Resources Business Partner; L O'Hagan, Finance Manager (Strategy)

Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair, on behalf of the Committee, welcomed Mr Brian Gillespie, Auditor, Audit Scotland to the meeting.

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee held on 21 August 2018 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 2018/2019

A joint report dated 26 September 2018 by the Executive Directors (Community and Enterprise Resources) and (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted comparing actual expenditure at 17 August 2018 against budgeted expenditure for 2018/2019 for Community and Enterprise Resources.

Details were provided on proposed budget virements in respect of Community and Enterprise Resources to realign budgets.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the breakeven position on the Community and Enterprise Resources' revenue budget and the forecast to 31 March 2019 of a breakeven position be noted; and
- (2) that the budget virements, as detailed in Appendices B to F of the report, be approved.

[Reference: Minutes of 21 August 2018 (Paragraph 3)]

4 Community and Enterprise Resources - Capital Budget Monitoring 2018/2019

A joint report dated 26 September 2018 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 2018/2019 and summarising the expenditure position at 17 August 2018.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 21 August 2018 (Paragraph 4)]

5 Community and Enterprise Resources - Workforce Monitoring – July and August 2018

A joint report dated 17 September 2018 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 July and August 2018:-

- ♦ attendance statistics
- ♦ occupational health statistics
- ♦ accident/incident statistics
- ♦ disciplinary hearings, grievances and Dignity at Work cases
- ♦ analysis of leavers

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 21 August 2018 (Paragraph 5)]

6 Renewable Energy Fund Community Benefit Fund – Proposed Update and Amendments

A report dated 27 September 2018 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on an amendment to the Renewable Energy Fund (REF) Community Benefit Fund and the establishment of a Funding Framework.

The Council had an established mechanism for the collection and distribution of community benefits related to the 31 wind farm developments within South Lanarkshire. However, the development of an approach to neighbourhood planning by addressing inequality in the rural area had been considered.

The purpose of the REF Community Benefit Fund criteria was to:-

- ◆ secure investment, create employment, implement training and promote or secure sustainable development
- ◆ relieve poverty, advance education and other social purposes beneficial to a community
- ◆ preserve, protect or enhance the environment or heritage of Scotland, including any building
- ◆ promote and encourage environmental improvement or enhancement, including the provision or upgrading of infrastructure
- ◆ provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time activities

The above purposes were still relevant, however, it was proposed that those be refreshed and set within a new REF Funding Framework which would aim to support community led neighbourhood planning by detailing clear themes and priorities which would provide a basis to assess project funding.

In addition, a Funding Framework, attached as an appendix to the report, had been established which aimed to deliver the following:-

- ◆ improved targeting of funds to areas of need
- ◆ support the development of community led neighbourhood planning and local strategies
- ◆ improved leverage from other funders and additional investment
- ◆ the ability to measure the outcomes and outputs of the investments made against the fund priorities

It was proposed that the:-

- ◆ amendments to the REF Community Benefit Fund, to be effective from 1 April 2019 and as detailed in the report, be approved
- ◆ Funding Framework, detailed in the appendix to the report, be approved

Following discussion in relation to the effective date for implementation of the amendments to the REF Community Benefit Fund, it was agreed that the amendments be implemented with immediate effect.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the amendments to the REF Community Benefit Fund, as detailed in the report, be endorsed;
- (2) that the establishment of a Funding Framework, as detailed in the appendix to the report, be endorsed; and
- (3) that the amendments to the REF Community Benefit Fund be implemented following approval by the Executive Committee.

The Committee recommended to the Executive Committee: that the REF Community Benefit Fund and Funding Framework be approved.

7 Adjustment to the Planning and Building Standards Service

A joint report dated 15 October 2018 by the Executive Directors (Community and Enterprise Resources) and (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on proposed changes to the Building Standards Services' establishment within Community and Enterprise Resources.

Following the Grenfell fire and the Edinburgh school incident, the Scottish Government had reviewed aspects of the Scottish building standards regulatory framework. As a result, changes to the building and fire safety regulatory frameworks were proposed which would place a greater emphasis on ensuring completed buildings were constructed in accordance with the approved design and were compliant with the regulations. This would increase the current role of the Building Standards Services in relation to enforcement and compliance.

To meet the requirements of the new regulations, it was proposed that the following posts be established within Community and Enterprise Resources:-

- ◆ a 0.6 Full Time Equivalent post of Planning Enforcement Officer on Grade 3, Level 2, SCP 61-65 (£29,161 to £30,913)
- ◆ 2 permanent posts of Building Inspector on Grade 2, Level 3, SCP 44-48 (£22,683 to £24,070)
- ◆ 1 temporary post of Building Inspector on Grade 2, Level 3, SCP 44-48 (£22,683 to £24,070)

The costs associated with the establishment of the above posts would be met from within existing budgets.

The Committee decided: that the establishment of the above posts within the Building Standards Service of Community and Enterprise Resources be approved.

8 City Deal – Additional Economic Development Officers

A joint report dated 4 October 2018 by the Executive Directors (Community and Enterprise Resources) and (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the proposed increase to the staffing establishment within the Planning and Economic Development Service of Community and Enterprise Resources.

To meet the demands of the increased Economic Development activities associated with the Glasgow City Deal projects, it was proposed that 2 posts of Economic Development Officer on Grade 3, Level 8, SCP 77-80 (£36,881 to £38,614), for a fixed term 2 year period, be established within Community and Enterprise Resources.

The costs associated with the establishment of the above posts would be met from the City Deal budget allocation associated with the Council projects contained in the programme.

The Committee decided: that the establishment of the posts detailed above within Community and Enterprise Resources for a fixed term 2 year period, to meet the increased demands associated with the City Deal projects, be approved.

9 Hamilton Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan

A report dated 27 September 2018 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the Hamilton Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan.

The Hamilton Town Centre Strategy consultative draft, which had been prepared by external consultants for Hamilton Town Centre, had been issued for consultation for a period of 8 weeks.

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

To take forward the Hamilton Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan, it was further proposed that an appropriate forum be established to bring together business, community and residents' interests to oversee the implementation of the Strategy.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the Hamilton Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan, attached as Appendix 2 to the report, be approved;
- (2) that the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) be authorised to consider proposals for the establishment of an appropriate forum to oversee the implementation of the Strategy; and
- (3) that a report on the proposals for the establishment of an appropriate forum be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee for approval.

[Reference: Minutes of 6 March 2018 (Paragraph 14)]

10 Child Burial and Cremation Charges and Development of a Respectful Funeral Package

A report dated 8 October 2018 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on Child Burial and Cremation Charges and the development of a Respectful Funeral Package.

At its meeting on 21 August 2018, the Committee had approved the extension of the current age restrictions on charges for child burial internments and cremation from children aged 15 and under to 18 and under with effect from 1 September 2018.

Additional guidance had since been published and it was proposed that the charges for the purchase of lairs and headstone permits be provided free of charge for children aged 18 and under with effect from 12 October 2018.

To address the issue of Funeral Poverty, it was also proposed that a Respectful Funeral Package scheme, as detailed in the report, be developed to provide support in terms of affordable options.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the removal of charges for the purchase of lairs and headstone permits for children aged 18 and under, with effect from 12 October 2018, be approved; and

- (2) that a Respectful Funeral Package be developed and submitted to a future meeting of the Committee for approval.

[Reference: Minutes of 21 August 2018 (Paragraph 16)]

Councillor Callaghan left the meeting during this item of business

11 South Lanarkshire Park and Ride Strategy

A report dated 9 October 2018 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the South Lanarkshire Park and Ride Strategy.

The South Lanarkshire Park and Ride Strategy Consultative Draft had been issued for consultation for a period of 8 weeks.

The main feedback received from the consultation was detailed in the report and the full consultation response was detailed in the Park and Ride Strategy. The Consultative Draft had been amended to reflect the key findings from the consultation exercise and it was proposed that the Park and Ride Strategy be approved.

The costs associated with the implementation of the projects detailed in the Strategy would be explored by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services in consultation with the Head of Finance (Strategy).

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the South Lanarkshire Park and Ride Strategy be approved;
- (2) that the Head of Roads and Transportation Services be authorised to make drafting and technical changes to the Strategy prior to its publication; and
- (3) that the Head of Roads and Transportation Services, in consultation with the Head of Finance (Strategy), be authorised to explore funding opportunities to progress the Strategy.

[Reference: Minutes of 6 March 2018 (Paragraph 7)]

12 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.