

CAMBUSLANG AND RUTHERGLEN AREA COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held via Microsoft Teams on 5 October 2021

Chair:

Councillor Carol Nugent

Councillors Present:

Councillor John Bradley (Depute), Councillor Walter Brogan, Councillor Robert Brown, Councillor Janine Calikes, Councillor Margaret Cowie, Councillor Alistair Fulton, Councillor Ann Le Blond, Councillor Martin Lennon, Councillor Katy Loudon, Councillor Margaret B Walker

Councillor's Apology:

Councillor Jared Wark

Attending:

Education Resources

L Mitchell, Quality Improvement Manager

Finance and Corporate Resources

R Leith, Community, Participation and Development Manager; P MacRae, Administration Adviser; K McLeod, Administration Assistant; L O'Hagan, Finance Manager (Strategy)

Also Attending:

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Jim Sneddon, Station Commander

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area Committee held on 10 August 2021 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

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

3 Detector Legislation

J Sneddon, Station Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, gave a presentation on the requirements of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987 (Tolerable Standard) (Extension of Criterion) Order 2019 which was due to be implemented in February 2022.

The legislation now included smoke and heat alarms and the presence, type and condition of smoke and heat alarms in a house would be considered when deciding if the house met the tolerable standard.

The presentation provided information in relation to the legislation including:-

- ◆ the tragic events at Grenfell Tower which led to a change in the legislation
- ◆ implementation of the legislation
- ◆ requirements of the legislation
- ◆ types of alarms to be fitted
- ◆ responsibility for installation of the detectors/alarms

- ◆ measures which the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service would take to ensure that a home was not left unprotected

Station Commander Sneddon, having responded to members' questions, was thanked for his informative presentation.

The Committee decided: that the presentation be noted.

4 Common Good Update Report

A report dated 24 August 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing an update on the Rutherglen Common Good Fund.

Common Good comprised a fund of money, assets or both which was administered by a Scottish local authority in respect of each former burgh within the local authority area. Common Good property was owned by the local authority and administered separately from other local authority assets for accounting purposes.

The Common Good funds held within South Lanarkshire Council were Lanark, Biggar, Hamilton and Rutherglen. Finance Services administered the Common Good Account and accounts were prepared on an annual basis, as part of the Council's year end process.

The position on the Rutherglen Common Good fund at 31 March 2021 was detailed in Appendix 1 to the report which showed that the fund had cash balances amounting to £0.128 million. The Rutherglen Common Good Account held cash balances only and had no physical assets.

Decisions on the Common Good Account were taken by the Finance and Corporate Resources Committee. A report on the management of the Rutherglen Common Good fund would also be provided annually to the Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area Committee.

There followed a full discussion on potential uses of the Rutherglen Common Good Fund during which officers responded to members' questions and undertook to provide further information in relation to the operation of the Common Good, particularly in relation to legal issues.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

5 Neighbourhood Planning Update

A report dated 17 September 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing an update on work undertaken in relation to neighbourhood planning in the Cambuslang and Rutherglen area.

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 placed a statutory duty on Community Planning Partnerships (CPP), of which the Council was a statutory partner, to identify areas within the local authority which experienced the poorest outcomes and prepare and publish locality plans to improve outcomes on agreed priorities for those communities. The plans were required to set out clear priorities for improving local outcomes and tackling inequalities agreed by the CPP and community. In South Lanarkshire, the plans were referred to as neighbourhood plans.

At its meeting on 14 July 2017, the Community Planning Partnership Board considered the results of a statistical exercise which identified the areas which experienced the poorest outcomes in South Lanarkshire relative to the South Lanarkshire average position. This had resulted in areas within 9 of the Council's 20 wards being identified as potential neighbourhood planning areas.

The Community Planning Partnership Board, at its meeting held on 11 October 2017, agreed to pilot the use of neighbourhood planning activity in South Lanarkshire and recognised that this approach required a longer investment of time with engagement, involvement of people and the production of the neighbourhood plans. The first 3 neighbourhood plans, for the pilot areas of Hillhouse/Udston/Burnbank, Whitlawburn and Springhall, and Strutherhill and Birkenshaw were published in January 2019.

Learning points from the phase 1 areas included the recognition that each area was individual in its capacity and the priorities which it identified and that the work carried out in neighbourhoods, as a result, required to be individualised. In September 2019, the Community Planning Partnership Board agreed that the neighbourhood planning process be rolled out in further areas, including Burnhill and Cambuslang East. Plans for those areas were produced in March 2020 and published just as the COVID-19 pandemic began. The annual plans for Whitlawburn and Springhall, Cambuslang East and Burnhill areas 2021/2022 were attached to the report at appendices 1 to 3.

Highlights of the work undertaken in relation to the neighbourhood plans in Springhall and Whitlawburn, Burnhill and Cambuslang East were outlined in the report and indicated that progress had been made on delivering actions against the top priorities of all areas.

A neighbourhood plan was under development within the Fernhill area. Work had been slower than anticipated due to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions in place. However, a local survey was open and would remain so until 40% of all households in the area had participated. As restrictions had relaxed, some face-to-face engagement had resumed using safe systems of working. Work continued in the existing areas to make certain that priorities remained correct and that progress was being made towards achieving them.

As the number of neighbourhood plans increased, locality priorities would begin to be developed by identifying key shared priorities across localities and linking them to the Community Planning process in a more strategic manner.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

6 Participatory Budgeting - Finance and Corporate Resources - Place Based Programme

A report dated 20 September 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on Participatory Budgeting in relation to the Place Based Programme.

Stakeholders' groups from the following areas had taken part in the Place Based Programme for Participatory Budgeting (PB) in the Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area:-

- ♦ Springhall and Whitlawburn
- ♦ Fernhill

Stakeholders had considered a range of potential processes for PB and the report detailed the process each group had followed, including how they had engaged with their communities. The report also detailed potential PB investment by each group based on the priorities of their neighbourhood plans, together with a list of projects which had been funded.

Participant engagement in the process was provided in the report. Two groups in the Fernhill area, which had not been successful in achieving funding, were being supported to find other sources of funding for their projects.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

7 Participatory Budgeting - Education Resources - Pupil Equity Funding

A report dated 23 September 2021 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on Participatory Budgeting in relation to Pupil Equity Funding (PEF).

Schools within the Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area had allocated £127,352.78 of their £1.470 million PEF allocation for participatory budgeting (PB). A breakdown of the allocation for each learning community was provided in Appendix 1 to the report. Appendix 2 to the report summarised the percentage of PEF allocation that schools had allocated for participatory budgeting. A further school-by-school breakdown was outlined in Appendix 3 to the report. Schools were now undertaking their consultation and voting processes.

Examples of the ways in which stakeholder views and ideas had been collected by schools were provided in the report and schools were now exploring ways to engage stakeholders in the voting processes. Electronic and paper-based voting, as well as more hands-on options, were being considered by establishments, based on their own knowledge in meeting the needs of their stakeholders.

To support the process, a Microsoft Teams group for school PB Leads was available to signpost schools to good practice. Practitioners had begun sharing good practice within the Teams area and this was supported by the central Equity Team which also assisted schools in navigating any challenges they faced to ensure a full spend before the end of the financial year.

The PB consultation process for all schools would be completed and spend agreed by 8 October 2021. Schools would report outcomes of the PB consultation process via a Google form. This would be collated and the information shared at a future meeting of the Area Committee. Schools would progress their spend to ensure the minimum 5% was spent in full by the end of March 2022.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

8 Community Grant Applications

A report dated 20 September 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on applications for community grant.

As previously reported, the 2020/2021 year-end report, considered by the Executive Committee on 23 June 2021, included a recommendation to carry forward the unspent monies from the 2020/2021 community grants budget. This recommendation had been approved and, in relation to this Area Committee, the unspent monies amounted to £15,680, which resulted in a revised total allocation for community grants for 2021/2022 of £41,430.

The Committee decided:- that community grants be awarded as follows:-

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|-----|-------------------|---|
| (a) | Applicant: | Cambuslang Community Council (CR/7/21) |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Environmental project |
| | Amount Awarded: | £600 |
| (b) | Applicant: | Enable (Rutherglen and District Branch) (CR/8/21) |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Entrance fees |
| | Amount Awarded: | £486 |

(c)	Applicant:	Cambuslang Remembrance Garden Group (CR/9/21)
	Purpose of Grant:	Equipment
	Amount Awarded:	£350

[Reference: Minutes of the Executive Committee of 23 June 2021 (Paragraph 3)]

9 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.