

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held via Microsoft Teams on 10 March 2021

## **Chair:**

Councillor John Ross

## **Councillors Present:**

Councillor Alex Allison, Councillor John Anderson, Councillor John Bradley, Councillor Robert Brown, Councillor Stephanie Callaghan, Councillor Maureen Chalmers (Depute), Councillor Gerry Convery, Councillor Margaret Cooper, Councillor Poppy Corbett, Councillor Peter Craig, Councillor Maureen Devlin, Councillor Isobel Dorman, Councillor Joe Fagan, Councillor Allan Falconer, Councillor Lynsey Hamilton, Councillor Eileen Logan, Councillor Katy Loudon, Councillor Joe Lowe, Councillor Monique McAdams, Councillor Kenny McCreary, Councillor Jim McGuigan, Councillor Gladys Miller, Councillor Lynne Nailon, Councillor Richard Nelson, Councillor David Shearer, Councillor Jim Wardhaugh, Councillor Josh Wilson

## **Attending:**

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

C Sneddon, Chief Executive

### **Community and Enterprise Resources**

M McGlynn, Executive Director

### **Education Resources**

T McDaid, Executive Director; C McKenzie, Head of Education (Broad General Education)

### **Finance and Corporate Resources**

P Manning, Executive Director; T Little, Head of Communications and Strategy; P MacRae, Administration Adviser; G McCann, Head of Administration and Legal Services; K McLeod, Administration Assistant; N Reid, Improvement and Community Planning Manager

### **Housing and Technical Resources**

D Lowe, Executive Director

### **Social Work Resources/Health and Social Care**

V de Souza, Director

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## **1 Declaration of Interests**

No interests were declared.

Councillor Brown requested and received an update on progress in making recordings of Council and Committee meetings publicly available.

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## **2 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 10 February 2021 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

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

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## **3 Minutes of Special Meeting**

The minutes of the special meeting of the Executive Committee held on 24 February 2021 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

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

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#### **4 Capital Programme 2020/2021 – Monitoring for Period 11 – 1 April 2020 to 29 January 2021**

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A report dated 17 February 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the progress at 29 January 2021 of the various capital programmes.

At its meeting on 10 February 2021, the Committee had approved a General Fund Capital Programme totalling £80.648 million and noted the Housing Capital Programme of £48.172 million. No new adjustments were proposed for either the General Fund or the Housing Capital Programme.

The capital programme currently included an element of budget for capital costs associated with COVID-19, estimated at £7.891 million. Current estimates were anticipated at £6.600 million and included £4.600 million of costs from Property Services. In terms of the Resource position, removing the budget and costs associated with COVID-19, Housing and Technical Resources suggested an outturn of £65.700 million. Against the budget of £72.757 million, excluding the budget of £7.891million for COVID-19, this outturn meant an underspend across Resources of £7 million. The majority of the total £7 million outturn variance was due to the timing of the spend. Details of the main projects responsible for the underspend which would now complete in 2021/2022 were given in Appendix 3 to the report, together with anticipated completion dates.

In terms of the Housing Capital Programme, current estimates from Housing and Technical Resources suggested an outturn on budget of £48.172 million.

At 29 January 2021, £45.575 million had been spent on the General Fund Capital Programme and £31.578 million had been spent on the Housing Capital Programme.

The programme spend and funding for the General Fund for the period to 29 January 2021 was detailed in Appendices 1 to 3 to the report. Details of the position for the Housing Capital Programme at 29 January 2021 were provided in Appendix 4 to the report.

Officers responded to a member's question on land purchase for cemetery provision.

#### **The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the period 11 position of the General Fund Capital Programme, as detailed in Appendices 1 to 3 to the report, and the Housing Capital Programme, as detailed in Appendix 4 to the report, be noted; and
- (2) that the revised programmes be monitored by the Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum.

*[Reference: Minutes of 10 February 2021 (Paragraph 4)]*

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#### **5 Revenue Budget Monitoring for Period 11 - 1 April 2020 to 29 January 2021 and Probable Outturn**

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A report dated 11 February 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing an update on the 2020/2021 Revenue Budget for the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account for the period 1 April 2020 to 29 January 2021, taking account of the financial implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and a projection for the year to 31 March 2021.

Details of the COVID-19 pressures across Resources were included in Appendix 1 to the report. In terms of the 2020/2021 COVID probable outturn, while the costs associated with COVID across Resources had been refined, the net cost of COVID remained at the previously reported figure of £4.657 million. The revised shortfall due to COVID, after funding of £2.755 million for lost income, amounted to £1.902 million.

The potential to use Revenue COVID funds to cover some additional COVID costs, currently absorbed within the capital account, would continue to be monitored.

The probable outturn position on the General Fund Revenue Account, including the COVID shortfall of £1.902 million, showed a forecast underspend of £25.124 million before transfers to reserves totalling £24.863 million. After taking account of the transfers to reserves, as detailed in Appendix 4 to the report, the outturn position was an underspend of £0.261 million, as detailed in Appendix 3a to the report.

The forecast underspend position after transfers to reserves, excluding the COVID shortfall, of £2.163 million reflected an over recovery of council tax. This was partially offset by an overspend on the Resources' position and an overspend on Corporate Items – Non- COVID.

At 29 January 2021, the figures showed the position on the General Fund Revenue Account, including COVID-19 spend and funding and assuming approval of the proposed transfers to reserves, as an underspend of £2.213 million. At 29 January 2021, the Housing Revenue Account showed a breakeven position and the forecast to 31 March 2021 on the Housing Revenue Account was also a breakeven position.

The Scottish Government had announced that a further £15 million of Flexible Funding would be available to enable authorities to assist individuals during Level 4 lockdown in 2020/2021. This took the total Flexible Fund to £30 million. An update would be provided once the Council's allocation was known.

**The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the previously reported COVID-19 shortfall of £4.657 million, the additional Loss of Income Funding of £2.755 million and the revised COVID-19 shortfall of £1.902 million, be noted;
- (2) that, including Resources, Corporate Items and council tax, the Council's revised outturn underspend of £0.261 million, including the updated COVID shortfall position, be noted;
- (3) that an underspend of £2.213 million on the General Fund Revenue Account, after transfers, as at 29 January 2021 be noted; and
- (4) that the breakeven position on the Housing Revenue Account as at 29 January 2021 and the forecast to 31 March 2021 of breakeven be noted.

*[Reference: Minutes of 10 February 2021 (Paragraph 5)]*

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## **6 Additional Funding from Scottish Government and Other External Sources**

A report dated 9 February 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on additional revenue funding, totalling £10.209 million, and additional capital funding of £0.080 million which had been made available to the Council by the Scottish Government and other external sources.

The funding had been allocated as follows:-

### **Revenue Funding**

<b>Resource</b>	<b>2020/2021 (£m)</b>
<b>Finance and Corporate</b>	5.048
<b>Education</b>	5.161
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.209</b>

### **Capital Funding**

<b>Resource</b>	<b>2020/2021 (£m)</b>
<b>Social Work</b>	0.080
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.080</b>

**The Committee decided:** that the report be noted.

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## **7 Draft Community Wealth Building Strategy**

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A report dated 20 January 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the draft Community Wealth Building Strategy.

Community Wealth Building (CWB) represented an alternative approach to traditional economic development which aimed to develop resilient, inclusive local economies, with more local employment and a larger and more diverse business base. At a national level, it had been endorsed as an approach by the Scottish Government, with a range of community-led measures for economic development set out in the Programme for Government published on 1 September 2020. COSLA had also indicated its support for CWB as a means of delivery of place based, inclusive growth and had stated that it would work to support local authorities interested in taking forward CWB as a model for economic development.

Building on work undertaken at the end of 2020, officers from across the Council had prepared a draft CWB strategy for South Lanarkshire setting out high level aspirations in relation to CWB. A detailed action plan would be developed to support the delivery of those aspirations over an appropriate time period, estimated at 3 to 5 years.

The draft Strategy committed to:-

- ◆ publication of annual reports on progress
- ◆ development of a dashboard of suitable indicators to track the direction and pace of change

If approved, officers would take forward the draft Community Wealth Building Strategy for discussion with community planning, social enterprise and voluntary sector partners.

There followed a full discussion during which officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report and undertook to investigate ways in which local businesses could become involved in bidding for Council contracts.

**The Committee decided:** that the draft Community Wealth Building Strategy, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

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## 8 Participatory Budgeting

A report dated 1 March 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted:-

- ◆ providing an update on Participatory Budgeting
- ◆ seeking agreement to progress areas of Participatory Budgeting in due course

At its meeting on 24 June 2020, the Committee agreed that consideration of proposals on Participatory Budgeting be deferred to a future meeting.

The timescales for delivery of Participatory Budgeting were that, by 2021, councils would see 1% of their budgets delivered through Participatory Budgeting. In view of COVID-19 and the impact this had made on councils' ability to meet the 1% Framework Agreement by the end of March 2021, the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) had indicated that it would work with local authorities to review progress, at March 2021, on Participatory Budgeting Activity.

Details were given on:-

- ◆ areas proposed for Participatory Budgeting, contained in Appendix 1 to the report
- ◆ engagement with the community in the proposals for Participatory Budgeting
- ◆ Participatory Budgeting Charter update
- ◆ the role of elected members in Participatory Budgeting

There followed a full discussion during which members raised issues on Participatory Budgeting in relation to:-

- ◆ community engagement
- ◆ diversity of community groups both in type and location
- ◆ the balance between representative and participatory democracy
- ◆ the role of Area Committees

Consideration would also be given to opportunities to build and expand on the current engagement around Environmental Works and Estate Improvements, wherever possible.

### **The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the information be noted; and
- (2) that the Participatory Budgeting areas, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

*[Reference: Minutes of 24 June 2020 (Paragraph 14)]*

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## 9 Review of Current Parking Management Arrangements

A report dated 21 January 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted providing an update on the findings of the Member/Officer Working Group established to review current parking management arrangements.

On 15 September 2020, the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee considered a report which provided feedback on the Parking Demand Management Review (PDMR) and a Parking Impact Assessment. The report also recommended reinstatement of all parking charges at previous tariff levels, following suspension due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Community and Enterprise Resources Committee had referred the report to a future meeting of the Executive Committee, however, it was also agreed that the report be referred to a future meeting of the Recovery Board prior to the meeting of the Executive Committee.

On 21 October 2020, the Recovery Board agreed that on street parking charges be reinstated, as soon as reasonably practicable, and that a Member/Officer Working Group be established to consider off street parking arrangements.

The purpose of the Member/Officer Working Group was to review current parking arrangements, including charging practices, in relation to:-

- ◆ whether current arrangements remained appropriate
- ◆ whether current arrangements required to be further developed and, if so, in which areas
- ◆ interim arrangements for the reinstatement of off street car parking charges, if considered appropriate

The inaugural meeting of the Member/Officer Working Group was held on 20 November 2020 and the Terms of Reference, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, had been formally approved by the Executive Committee at its meeting on 16 December 2020.

The Group met on 5 occasions and details of the key matters discussed were contained in the report. Overall, it was considered that 11 options merited formal assessment and consideration, and those were detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.

The Group proposed a number of recommendations, as detailed in paragraph 6.10 of the report. Details were given on the timescales for the introduction of the recommendations, if approved, together with an indication of which were to be introduced on a permanent, phased or trial basis.

There followed a full discussion, during which the Committee indicated its support for the recommendations proposed by the Working Group with the exception of the reintroduction of off street parking charges from 1 April 2021. It was proposed that the reintroduction of those charges be deferred until non-essential retail had reopened following Scottish Government guidance on restrictions.

**The Committee decided:**

- (1) that off street parking charges be reintroduced once non essential retail had reopened following Scottish Government guidance on restrictions;
- (2) that “Pay on Foot” be introduced in Duke Street, Hamilton;
- (3) that “Free after 3” parking be introduced in Duke Street, Hamilton;
- (4) that a “One Hour Free” initiative, both on and off street, be introduced in The Village, East Kilbride;
- (5) that RingGo be fully implemented at existing charging locations;
- (6) that a communication plan be developed to demonstrate surplus revenue reinvestment in transportation maintenance and network improvements;
- (7) that opportunities be explored to enhance parking management using Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) as part of the recently introduced RingGo Cashless Parking Solutions;

- (8) that an approach be made to the Scottish Government, with support of British Parking Association (BPA), Society of Chief Officers of Transportation (SCOTS), and other councils for the implementation of the necessary legislation to allow ANPR enforcement; and
- (9) that officers undertake a local parking review of the Phase 3 town centres.

*[Reference: Minutes of the Executive Committee of 16 December 2020 (Paragraph 8)]*

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## **10 Glasgow City Region City Deal - Stewartfield Way/East Kilbride Sustainable Transport Capacity Enhancements, Strategic Business Case**

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A report dated 25 February 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on:-

- ◆ the augmented Strategic Business Case (SBC) for the Stewartfield Way/East Kilbride Sustainable Transport Capacity Enhancement project
- ◆ the next steps in developing and delivering the project

The Council was 1 of 8 local authorities which, together with the UK Government and the Scottish Government, were signatories to the £1.13 billion Glasgow City Region City Deal. The City Deal initiative comprised 20 key projects which were intended to collectively drive economic growth across the City Region.

The proposed Stewartfield Way/East Kilbride Sustainable Transport Capacity Enhancements project was 1 of 4 South Lanarkshire Council City Deal funded projects

At its meeting on 25 March 2020, the Committee received an update on the development of the project design. The report set out the results of the extensive consultation exercise undertaken during November/December 2019 and the way in which this informed the design parameters for the project before moving into the next stage of the business case. A summary of the consultation exercise was provided in the report together with details of the key elements of the proposal which reflected those approved by the Committee on 25 March 2020 and those which had emerged from the consultation exercise. As a result, an augmented Strategic Business Case had been produced and provided the basis for the continued development of the project. If approved, the SBC would be submitted to the City Deal Executives' Group and, subsequently, the City Deal Cabinet for consideration and approval.

Indicative timescales for delivery were referred to in the report and would be refined as the project progressed through the business case process and elements became more defined.

A consultation stage involving all members of the Council had been built into the Executive Committee arrangements. Any comments received through the consultation process were made available at the relevant meeting of the Committee to assist the members of the Committee in their deliberations. Issues raised in comments received from Councillor Watson regarding the project, together with the responses received from the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) were referred to at the meeting and circulated for Members' information.

There followed a discussion during which members expressed concern regarding the lack of:-

- ◆ dual carriageway along the entire length of the road
- ◆ clarity on what was being proposed

Councillor Ross, seconded by Councillor Chalmers, moved approval of the recommendations contained in the report. Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Fagan, moved as an amendment that consideration of the proposal be continued to allow an awareness session to be held and further information to be provided on the project, including traffic modelling.

On a vote being taken by roll call, members voted as follows:-

**Motion**

Alex Allison, John Anderson, John Bradley, Stephanie Callaghan, Maureen Chalmers, Poppy Corbett, Peter Craig, Isobel Dorman, Katy Loudon, Kenny McCreary, Jim McGuigan, Gladys Miller, Lynne Nailon, Richard Nelson, John Ross, David Shearer, Josh Wilson

**Amendment**

Robert Brown, Gerry Convery, Margaret Cooper, Maureen Devlin, Joe Fagan, Allan Falconer, Lynsey Hamilton, Eileen Logan, Joe Lowe, Monique McAdams, Jim Wardhaugh

11 members voted for the amendment and 17 for the motion, which was declared carried.

**The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the augmented Strategic Business Case for Stewartfield Way/East Kilbride Sustainable Transport Capacity Enhancements be approved;
- (2) that the proposed next steps in developing and delivering the project be approved; and
- (3) that the Outline Business Case be developed for presentation and future submission to the Executive Committee.

*[Reference: Note of Delegated Decisions taken by the Chief Executive, in consultation with Group Leaders, on items of business relating to the Executive Committee on 25 March 2020 (Paragraph 10)]*

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## **11 Land and Property Transfers and Disposals**

A report dated 1 March 2021 by the Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources) was submitted on actions required in respect of land and property transactions.

The recommendations had been made in terms of agreed procedures.

**The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the land and property detailed in Appendix A to the report be transferred between Resources; and
- (2) that the land, as detailed in Appendix B to the report, be declared surplus to Council requirements.

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## **12 Former Vogue Bingo Site Hamilton – Proposed Sale to Clyde Valley Housing Association**

A joint report dated 25 February 2021 by the Executive Directors (Community and Enterprise Resources) and (Housing and Technical Resources) was submitted on the proposed sale of the site of the former Vogue Bingo Club, Keith Street, Hamilton to Clyde Valley Housing Association.



The Council took ownership of the property in 1998 as part of a land consolidation exercise under the Hamilton Ahead initiative. Despite a number of planned projects, no development had taken place and the site remained vacant and derelict.

In June 2008, the rear section of the building, including the internal “auditorium”, was demolished to enable redevelopment. Stabilisation of the façade was undertaken by the Council in 2012 and, since that time, the site had been a challenge to maintain.

Previous reports to the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee in 2019 and 2020 in relation to the Scottish Government Town Centre Capital Fund, allocated £440,000 to work with the Hamilton BID and Clyde Valley Housing Association (CHVA) to deliver a housing led development solution for the site.

CVHA proposed a 5 storey development for 23 homes which would contain a mix of one and 2 bedroom flats with the retained façade used as the entrance to the flats. It was currently anticipated that works on this development would commence in summer 2021 and be completed by late 2022.

It had been concluded that the site had no market value in its current condition as a result of the extensive preparatory works required to bring forward development. In order to ensure delivery of the project in the timescales required to secure town centre funding, it was proposed that the Council make the site available to CVHA for the sum of £1 as an additional economic development contribution to the project. Details were given on the key benefits the development of the site would bring to the town centre and wider economy.

**The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the site of the former Vogue Bingo Club, Hamilton be sold to Clyde Valley Housing Association at a price of £1, subject to the terms and conditions outlined in section 5 of the report; and
- (2) that the Executive Directors (Community and Enterprise Resources) and (Housing and Technical Resources), in conjunction with the Head of Administration and Legal Services, be authorised to conclude all matters in respect of the sale and enter into the necessary legal agreements on terms which were in the best interests of the Council.

*[Reference: Minutes of Community and Enterprise Resources Committee of 15 September 2020 (Paragraph 16)]*

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### **13 Representation on Outside Bodies – Carluke Development Trust**

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A report dated 11 February 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on a proposed amendment to the elected member representation on the Carluke Development Trust.

**The Committee decided:** that Councillor Corbett be replaced by Councillor Logan as a member of the Carluke Development Trust.

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### **14 South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Business Plan 2021/2022**

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A report dated 1 March 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Limited (SLLC) Business Plan 2021/2022.

The SLLC Business Plan 2021/2022 took cognisance of the Council Plan “Connect”, the strategic themes of the Community Planning Partnership and the Council’s Community Learning and Development Plan. Priorities for 2021/2022 included:-

- ◆ recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic
- ◆ implementing the outcomes of the Cross-Party Working Group (CPWG) in partnership with the Council
- ◆ improved partnership working and maximising income whilst controlling expenditure

The majority of SLLC’s services closed to the public on 18 March 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and, consequently, many of the actions within the 2020/2021 Business Plan were unable to be progressed. However, SLLC continued to make an effective contribution to the achievement of the Council’s corporate policy objectives both in terms of the Council’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the continued support of South Lanarkshire’s communities.

**The Committee decided:** that the South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Limited Business Plan for 2021/2022 be noted.

*[Reference: Note of Delegated Decisions taken by the Chief Executive, in consultation with Group Leaders, on items of business relating to the Executive Committee of 25 March 2020 (Paragraph 11)]*

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## **15 Urgent Business**

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There were no items of urgent business.