

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held via Microsoft Teams on 26 May 2021

Chair:

Councillor John Ross

Councillors Present:

Councillor Alex Allison, Councillor John Anderson, Councillor John Bradley, Councillor Robert Brown, Councillor Maureen Chalmers, 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 Ian Harrow (*substitute for Councillor Richard Nelson*), Councillor Eileen Logan, Councillor Katy Loudon, Councillor Hugh Macdonald (*substitute for Councillor Jim McGuigan*), Councillor Monique McAdams, Councillor Kenny McCreary, Councillor Gladys Miller, Councillor Lynne Nailon, Councillor David Shearer, Councillor Jim Wardhaugh, Councillor Josh Wilson

Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor Stephanie Callaghan, Councillor Joe Lowe, Councillor Jim McGuigan, Councillor Richard Nelson

Attending:

Chief Executive's Service

C Sneddon, Chief Executive

Community and Enterprise Resources

M McGlynn, Executive Director

Education Resources

T McDaid, Executive Director

Finance and Corporate Resources

P Manning, Executive Director; R Leith, Community Engagement Manager; T Little, Head of Communications and Strategy; P MacRae, Administration Adviser; G McCann, Head of Administration and Legal Services; K McLeod, Administration Assistant; K McVeigh, Head of Personnel Services

Housing and Technical Resources

D Lowe, Executive Director

Social Work Resources/Health and Social Care

L Purdie, Head of Children and Justice Services

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 28 April 2021 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

In response to requests from members, officers provided updates on the following matters:-

- ♦ progress with livestreaming and subtitling of Council and Committee meetings and recordings
- ♦ timescales for the members' presentation on the Stewartfield Way/East Kilbride Sustainable Transport Capacity Enhancement which, it was anticipated, would be held in autumn 2021

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

3 Additional Funding from Scottish Government and Other External Sources

A report dated 30 April 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on additional revenue funding, totalling £8.565 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

Resource	2021/2022 (£m)
Finance and Corporate	8.565
Total	8.565

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

4 Expansion of Newton Farm Primary School

A report dated 7 May 2021 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on expansion proposals at Newton Farm Primary School, Newton

Newton Farm Primary School's school roll of 489 mainstream pupils exceeded its capacity of 420 pupils and was predicted to rise to 805 pupils in future years. To provide additional accommodation for the increased pupil numbers, funding of £0.170 million had been approved in the 2020/2021 capital programme to undertake initial design work on an extension to the school.

The extension had been limited to 7 classrooms, resulting in provision of a total of 21 mainstream classrooms which, based on a planning capacity of 30 pupils per classroom, would result in a school capacity of 630 pupils. The extension had been limited to a maximum of 7 classrooms to ensure sufficient space remained for assembly, PE, dining and outdoor space requirements.

To manage future pupil numbers at Newton Farm Primary School, catchment alterations would require to be considered and a proposal on this matter would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

The Council had been successful in obtaining funding for the extension from the Scottish Government through the Learning Estate Improvement Programme (LEIP), an outcomes based revenue funding model. Details of the funding model were provided in the report.

The capital cost of the extension was £4.390 million. Taking account of funding of £0.170 million already provided for design work and a contribution of £0.790 million from the Newton Farm Community Growth Area, the Council's contribution was £3.430 million. It was proposed that the Council borrow to fund those costs and this would be reported to the Executive Committee on 23 June 2021 as part of the capital programme report.

Provision of the extension would result in an increase in annual revenue costs for property and staffing, as well as additional borrowing costs. Those costs, which would be in the region of £0.730 million, would be considered as part of the Council's budget setting process for 2022/2023. Subject to capital approval for 2021/2022, it was proposed that construction commence in July 2021, with completion scheduled for August 2022.

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

The Committee decided:

- (1) that it be noted that, due to projected pupil numbers, a 7 classroom extension was required to Newton Farm Primary School, as detailed at section 3.3 in the report, allowing work to begin in July 2021 in time for completion by August 2022;
- (2) that it be noted that a catchment review would be required and a proposal would be submitted to a future meeting of the Executive Committee to allow statutory consultation to take place;
- (3) that it be noted that the Council had been successful in obtaining funding for the extension from the Scottish Government's Learning Estate Improvement Programme (LEIP), an outcomes-based revenue funding model;
- (4) that it be noted that, as a result of the LEIP revenue funding provided, the Council was responsible for the upfront cost of building the extension required to deliver the agreed outcomes, as detailed in Section 7 of the report;
- (5) that it be noted that the capital costs of the project would be included as part of the capital programme report to the Executive Committee in June 2021; and
- (6) that it be noted that the associated annual revenue property costs and increasing annual costs, such as staffing, would require to be considered as part of the Council's budget setting process for 2022 onwards.

5 Community Wealth Building Commission

A report dated 6 May 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the Community Wealth Building Commission.

At its meeting on 10 March 2021, the Committee approved the draft Community Wealth Building Strategy. In terms of the Strategy, a Community Wealth Building Commission, chaired by the Council Leader, required to be established to drive forward progress on Community Wealth Building across the Council and with wider regional institutions.

Details of the Terms of Reference for the Commission, as contained in the Strategy, were provided in the report.

It was proposed that, in addition to the Council Leader, membership of the Commission comprise the following:-

- ◆ Leader of each of the Council's Political and Independent Groups
- ◆ Chair of the Community Planning Partnership
- ◆ Chair of the Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board
- ◆ Chief Executive of South Lanarkshire Council
- ◆ Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
- ◆ Director, Health and Social Care
- ◆ 4 nominations in total from Community Planning Partners

It was proposed that the Chief Executive, in liaison with the political and independent group leaders, be authorised to finalise membership of the Commission and that a report on the finalised membership be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee for noting. The Commission would meet on a quarterly basis and decision-making would be by consensus.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the requirement to form a Community Wealth Building Commission, as set out in the approved Community Wealth Building Strategy, be noted;
- (2) that the proposed membership of the Community Wealth Building Commission, as set out in the Community Wealth Building Strategy and section 5 of the report, be approved; and
- (3) that the Chief Executive be authorised to finalise the membership of the Community Wealth Building Commission, in liaison with political and independent group leaders, as set out in paragraph 5.3 of the report, with a report on the finalised membership being submitted to a future meeting of the Executive Committee for noting.

[Reference: Minutes of 10 March 2021 (Paragraph 7)]

6 Recommendations Referred from Climate Change and Sustainability Committee

A report dated 5 May 2021 by the Chief Executive was submitted on recommendations referred to this Committee by the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee.

The recommendations of the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee in relation to staffing proposals in respect of the Climate Change South Lanarkshire Fund were as follows:-

- ◆ that the proposed establishment of the following 6 posts for a 23 month period, as detailed in the report, be approved:-

Post	Proposed Number of Posts (FTE)	Grade	SCP Range	Annual Salary
Development Officer - (Sustainable Development Support)	1	Grade 3, Level 2 to Level 4	SCP63-74	£32,994 to £38,779
Development Officer - (Sustainable Development Funding)	1	Grade 3, Level 2 to Level 4	SCP63-74	£32,994 to £38,779
Development Officer - (Green Economy)	1	Grade 3, Level 2 to Level 4	SCP63-74	£32,994 to £38,779
Strategy Officer (Built Environment)	2	Grade 3, Level 2 to Level 4	SCP63-74	£32,994 to £38,779
Strategy Team Leader (Built Environment)	1	Grade 3, Level 8	SCP78-80	£41,771 to £42,410

- ◆ that the proposed recruitment of a PhD student to the post of Project Support Assistant - Placement (Sustainable Development), Grade 2, Level 1 to Level 2, SCP34-40 (£22,725 to £24,809), for a period of 3 years, jointly funded by Glasgow Caledonian University's Centre for Climate Justice, as detailed in the report, be approved

In response to a member's comment regarding the possibility of expediting similar recommendations in future, officers advised that a report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Council proposing an amendment to the Terms of Reference of the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee to allow the Committee to take decisions in respect of proposals for which budgetary provision decisions had already been taken.

The Committee decided: that the recommendations referred by the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee in relation to staffing proposals in respect of the Climate Change South Lanarkshire Fund be approved.

[Reference: Minutes of Climate Change and Sustainability Committee of 28 April 2021 (Paragraph 6)]

Councillor McAdams joined the meeting during consideration of this item

7 Neighbourhood Planning Update

A report dated 13 May 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing an update on local community plans.

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 placed a statutory duty on Community Planning Partnerships (CPP) to identify smaller areas within the local authority area which experienced the poorest outcomes and to prepare and publish locality plans to improve outcomes on agreed priorities for those communities. Following a statistical exercise undertaken in 2017, areas within 9 of the Council's 20 wards had been identified as being potential neighbourhood planning areas. Details were given on the local community plans in development and the forward programme for 2021 to 2023 which highlighted that:-

- ◆ 3 neighbourhood plans had been produced in January 2019 covering Phase 1 communities, namely Springhall and Whitlawburn; Hillhouse, Uddingston and Burnbank; and Strutherhill and Birkenshaw. Annual reports detailing year 1 progress on those plans had been produced in September 2020
- ◆ in September 2019, the neighbourhood planning process had been rolled out to communities in Burnhill; Halfway, Westburn, and Circuit (Cambuslang East); Auchinraith, Blantyre, High Blantyre and Springwells; and Fairhill. Plans for Burnhill, Cambuslang East and Fairhill had been produced in April 2020, while a plan for Blantyre had already been produced by the community in conjunction with Coalfields Regeneration Trust
- ◆ many of the communities in Clydesdale had worked with consultants to produce their own plans
- ◆ Westwood in East Kilbride had worked with the Council's Community Engagement Team to deliver its own planning process
- ◆ communities proposed for neighbourhood planning in 2021/2022 were Fernhill; Whitehill; and Eddlewood, Cadzow, Laighstonehall, Arden, The Glebe and The Bent
- ◆ communities proposed for neighbourhood planning in 2022/2023 were Rutherglen Central and North; Greenhills, Whitehills and Crosshouse; and Lanark

Details of existing local community plans were provided in Appendix 1 to the report.

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

The Committee decided:

- (1) that progress regarding the development of the new Neighbourhood Plans be noted;
- (2) that the forward work plan for developing new Neighbourhood Plans be noted; and
- (3) that the list of communities which had developed or were currently developing plans be noted.

8 Elected Members' Return to Office Accommodation

A report dated 6 May 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the proposals for elected members' return to office accommodation.

Restrictions imposed as a result of COVID-19 had begun to ease as the spread of the virus was suppressed. The Scottish Government had published an indicative timetable to move Scotland through the various restriction levels and an anticipated move to Level 0 in late June 2021 would be kept under review. While working from home remained the default position in Level 0, a phased and limited return to office accommodation would be permitted.

The numbers who would be able to attend the office at any time would depend on the office accommodation and the mitigation measures which the Council would require to put in place in terms of the Coronavirus Regulations and guidance.

COVID-19 risk assessments and safe systems of work for the elected members' accommodation would be prepared in consultation with Health and Safety officers by 4 June 2021. Those would be shared with elected members in advance of their return to the Council Offices. Following discussion, members expressed a preference for a booking system, as opposed to a rota, to be developed to allow them to return to the office on a phased basis once the restrictions were eased to Level 0 and this would be devised in consultation with elected members.

Council and Committee meetings would continue to be held virtually until after the summer recess, at the earliest.

The Committee decided: that the proposals for elected members' return to office accommodation, on a phased basis, once COVID restrictions were eased to Level 0, be noted.

9 Equalities Mainstreaming - Progress Report

A report dated 4 May 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on progress achieved in meeting the Council's equality outcomes in the period 2019 to 2021, including the production of a Mainstreaming Equalities Outcomes Report for the period 2021 to 2025, setting out the Council's commitment to its equality duties.

The equalities outcomes were included in the Council Plan, "Connect" to ensure equalities duties were mainstreamed into the culture of the Council. A number of actions, which had been undertaken to progress the equality outcomes, were detailed in the report, including information on the workforce profile and the gender pay gap. The Mainstreaming Equalities Report had been published on the Council's website. The Equality and Human Rights Commission would now begin a process of checking compliance.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the draft Progress Report for the period 2019 to 2021 be noted; and
- (2) that the draft Mainstreaming Report for the period 2021 to 2025 be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 29 May 2019 (Paragraph 10)]

10 Strategic Environmental Assessment Progress

A report dated 7 May 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on progress achieved in carrying out Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) on the Council's policies, plans, programmes and strategies.

The Council had a statutory duty to consider and carry out an SEA for all of its policies, plans programmes and strategies as they were being developed or refreshed and an update was provided on Assessments carried out in 2020/2021 as follows:-

- ◆ 3 where pre-screening had been carried out
- ◆ 3 where a full SEA and Environmental Reports were being progressed

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the statutory requirement for Strategic Environmental Assessments to inform the development of Council led policies, plans, programmes and strategies be noted; and
- (2) that progress in conducting Strategic Environmental Assessments be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 29 May 2019 (Paragraph 9)]

11 Amendments to Working Group, Divisional Licensing Board and Committee Memberships

A report dated 10 May 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on action taken, in terms of Standing Order No 36(c), due to the timescales involved, by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair and an ex officio member, to amend the memberships of the:-

- ◆ South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture (SLLC) Cross Party Working Group
- ◆ Hamilton Divisional Licensing Board
- ◆ Recruitment Committee

The Committee decided:

that the following action taken in terms of Standing Order No 36(c) by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair and an ex officio member, to amend the memberships of the SLLC Cross Party Working Group, the Hamilton Divisional Licensing Board and the Recruitment Committee be noted:-

- ◆ the replacement of Councillor Burns by Councillor Wardhaugh as a member of the SLLC Cross Party Working Group

- ♦ the replacement of Councillor Burns by Councillor Lowe as a member of the Hamilton Divisional Licensing Board
- ♦ the appointment of Councillor Greenshields to the Independent Group's vacant position of substitute member of the Recruitment Committee

12 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.