



**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING of the CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL held within the Council Chamber, Greenfield, Alloa, FK10 2AD, on THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER 2012 at 2.15 pm.**

**PRESENT**

Provost Tina Murphy (In the Chair)  
Councillor Donald Balsillie  
Councillor Janet Cadenhead  
Councillor Alastair Campbell  
Councillor Archie Drummond  
Councillor Kenneth Earle  
Councillor Ellen Forson  
Councillor Irene Hamilton  
Councillor Craig Holden  
Councillor Kathleen Martin  
Councillor George Matchett, QPM  
Councillor Walter McAdam, MBE  
Councillor Bobby McGill  
Councillor Les Sharp  
Councillor Derek Stewart  
Councillor Graham Watt  
Councillor Gary Womersley

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Elaine McPherson, Chief Executive  
Nikki Bridle, Director of Finance and Corporate Services  
Lisa Simpson, Governance Manager  
David Thomson, Solicitor, Legal Services (Clerk to the Council)  
Sheila Graham, Interim Service Manager  
Val De Souza, Assistant Head of Social Services  
George Marshall, Accountant

**CC.58            APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jim Stalker.

**CC.59            DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**CC.60            CHILD CARE SERVICES - COUNCILLOR UPDATE AND PROPOSALS TO INCREASE CAPACITY**

The purpose of the report was to inform Council of significant under-capacity in the childcare service; to put forward for approval proposals to enhance capacity, primarily by increasing the establishment of the service; and to bring councillors up to date with ongoing activity in respect of childcare services.

## **Motion**

That Council:

- a. notes the significant under-capacity in the childcare service and the need for immediate additional investment;
- b. approves unbudgeted expenditure of £171,500 in 2012-13 (£686,000 in 2013-2014) to increase the establishment of the childcare service as set out in section 7 of this report;
- c. notes that an interim Assistant Head of Social Services is being recruited and that a number of temporary adjustments to management responsibilities are being made by the Chief Executive in response to current vacancies and absences in the service;
- d. notes the additional direct support which is being provided to the service by the Scottish Government and the Care Inspectorate;
- e. approves one-off costs of £60,000 and £24,000 recurring costs for the acquisition and implementation of a new information system for childcare as set out at section 8 of this report; and
- f. notes that further updates will be submitted to Council and the relevant Committee on an ongoing basis.

Moved by Councillor Gary Womersley. Seconded by Councillor Les Sharp.

## **Amendment**

"After paragraph 3.1(f), there shall be inserted a further paragraph, namely:-

- (g) censures Councillor Cadenhead who, as Council Leader/relevant Portfolio Holder, held political responsibility for the performance of Childcare Services and who, following this and previous reports at Special Meetings of the Council re Childcare Services, is deemed to have failed to discharge her political responsibilities in that regard."

Moved by Councillor Gary Womersley. Seconded by Councillor Les Sharp.

At 3.50 pm, the Provost agreed to a five minute adjournment to consider the amendment. When the meeting resumed at 3.55 pm, seventeen (17) members remained present.

## **Voting**

The voting on the amendment was as follows:

In terms of Standing Order 14.7, Councillor Alastair Campbell asked for a roll call vote. The Council agreed that a vote be taken by calling the roll and at this stage there were 17 members present who were eligible to vote. On the roll being called, the members present voted as follows:

### **For the Amendment (9)**

Provost Tina Murphy  
Councillor Gary Womersley  
Councillor Craig Holden  
Councillor Donald Balsillie  
Councillor Irene Hamilton  
Councillor Ellen Forson  
Councillor Les Sharp  
Councillor Walter McAdam, MBE  
Councillor Archie Drummond

**Against the Amendment (8)**

Councillor Alastair Campbell  
Councillor Kenneth Earle  
Councillor Derek Stewart  
Councillor Graham Watt  
Councillor Kathleen Martin  
Councillor Janet Cadenhead  
Councillor Bobby McGill  
Councillor George Matchett, QPM

**Abstain (Not voting) (0)**

On a division of 9 votes to 8 with 0 abstentions, the amendment was carried.

*Councillor Campbell withdrew from the meeting at this point in the proceedings.*

At 4.40 pm, the Provost called a two minute adjournment to consider a request from Councillor McGill to vote on item (g) separately. When the meeting resumed at 4.42 pm, sixteen (16) members remained present.

The Provost advised that voting would take place on the full motion as amended.

Councillor McGill asked that the minutes of the meeting record a note of his Group's disagreement with that decision.

The voting on the motion, as amended, was as follows:

For the motion (as amended)	9 votes
Against the motion (as amended)	0 votes
Not voting	7 abstentions

**Decision**

On a division of 9 votes to 0 with 7 abstentions, the Council agreed to:

- a. note the significant under-capacity in the childcare service and the need for immediate additional investment;
- b. approve unbudgeted expenditure of £171,500 in 2012-13 (£686,000 in 2013-2014) to increase the establishment of the childcare service as set out in section 7 of this report;
- c. note that an interim Assistant Head of Social Services is being recruited and that a number of temporary adjustments to management responsibilities are being made by the Chief Executive in response to current vacancies and absences in the service;
- d. note the additional direct support which is being provided to the service by the Scottish Government and the Care Inspectorate;
- e. approve one-off costs of £60,000 and £24,000 recurring costs for the acquisition and implementation of a new information system for childcare as set out at section 8 of this report;

- f. note that further updates will be submitted to Council and the relevant Committee on an ongoing basis; and
- g. censure Councillor Cadenhead who, as Council Leader/relevant Portfolio Holder, held political responsibility for the performance of Childcare Services and who, following this and previous reports at Special Meetings of the Council re Childcare Services, is deemed to have failed to discharge her political responsibilities in that regard.

**Action**

Chief Executive

Ends: 4.55 pm