

**MINUTES OF MEETING of the CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL held within the Council Chamber, Kilncraigs, Greenside Street, ALLOA, FK10 1EB, on THURSDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2017 at 10.00 am.**

**PRESENT**

Provost Derek Stewart (In the Chair) (10.00-11.45 am) (Items 01-06)  
Depute Provost Jim Stalker (In the Chair) (11.50-3.35 pm) (Items 07-10)  
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 Bobby McGill  
Councillor Tina Murphy  
Councillor Les Sharp  
Councillor Graham Watt  
Councillor Gary Womersley

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Elaine McPherson, Chief Executive  
Nikki Bridle, Depute Chief Executive  
Garry Dallas, Executive Director  
Ahsan Khan, Head of Housing and Community Safety  
Gordon McNeil, Head of Development and Environment  
Andrew Wyse, Acting Legal Services Manager (Clerk to the Council)  
Margaret Summers, Committee Services Officer

**CC(17)008 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Walter McAdam, MBE.

**CC(17)009 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**CC(17)010 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 12 JANUARY 2017**

The minutes of the meeting of the Clackmannanshire Council held on 12 January 2017 were submitted for approval.

Moved by Provost Derek Stewart. Seconded by Councillor George Matchett, QPM.

The minutes of the meeting of the Clackmannanshire Council held on 12 January 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Provost.

**CC(17)011 COMMITTEE MEETINGS CONVENED SINCE THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING ON 12 JANUARY 2017**

The Council agreed to note the Committee meetings that had taken place since the last ordinary meeting on 12 January 2017.

- (i) Audit and Finance Committee on 19 January 2017
- (ii) Clackmannanshire Licensing Board on 24 January 2017
- (iii) Planning Committee on 26 January 2017
- (iv) Regulatory Committee on 31 January 2017

**CC(17)012 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS REFERRED TO COUNCIL**

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive which sought Council approval of recommendations which had been made by the Audit and Finance Committee on 19 January 2017 and by the Regulatory Committee on 31 January 2017.

**Decision**

The Council agreed:

- (1) From the Audit and Finance Committee of 19 January 2017 in relation to the report entitled, "Consortium Audit Arrangements"
  - To approve the development of consortium Internal Audit arrangements with Falkirk Council.
- (2) From the Regulatory Committee of 31 January 2017 in relation to the report entitled, "Approval of Statutory Post and Role of Civic Licensing Standards Officer"
  - That paragraph 13.1 of the Council's Scheme of Delegation in relation to the statutory appointment of officers be amended to include the entry detailed in paragraph 3.2 of the report to the Regulatory Committee of 31 January 2017.

**Action**

Chief Executive

**CC(17)013 PROMOTING FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY – SEVERANCE AND REDEPLOYMENT**

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive which briefed Council on issues of financial sustainability in the context of its immediate and longer term budget strategy and proposed a change in its approach to employee severance to mitigate the pressures faced. The report covered matters which were considered at three all member briefings held over December 2016 and January 2017.

**Motion**

That Council agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Bobby McGill. Seconded by Councillor Jim Stalker.

**Voting**

In terms of Standing Order 14.8, Councillor Les Sharp 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 Motion** (9 votes)

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

**Against the Motion** (8 votes)

Councillor Les Sharp  
Councillor Donald Balsillie  
Councillor Gary Womersley  
Councillor Archie Drummond  
Councillor Ellen Forson  
Councillor Craig Holden  
Councillor Tina Murphy  
Councillor Irene Hamilton

The motion was carried by 9 votes to 8.

**Decision**

Accordingly, on a division of 9 votes to 8, the Council agreed:

- (a) To note the issues of financial sustainability set out in Section 4 of the report.
- (b) That in light of these issues and in order to progress a managed contraction of the organisation's workforce, that compulsory redundancy can be used as a last resort once alternative approaches to severance have been exhausted as set out in Section 5 of the report.
- (c) To change its policies on severance and redeployment as also set out in Section 5 of the report; and
- (d) To note that consequential changes to associated procedures will be made to reflect these policy decisions.

**Action**

Chief Executive

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Provost Derek Stewart withdrew from the meeting at this point in the proceedings (11.45 am). The meeting was adjourned for five minutes.

When the meeting resumed at 11.50 am, Depute Provost Jim Stalker took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting. Sixteen members remained present.

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**CC(17)014      PROMOTING FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY – ORGANISATIONAL REDESIGN**

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive which set out for Council the rationale for a whole organisation redesign in the context of ongoing budget pressures, future financial projections and other matters of financial sustainability which were outlined in a separate report to Council titled "Promoting Financial Sustainability – Severance and Redeployment".

## **Motion**

That Council agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janet Cadenhead. Seconded by Councillor George Matchett, QPM.

## **Amendment**

To delete paragraph 3.9 of the report as this results in a confusion of the respective responsibilities of members and officers.

Moved by Councillor Les Sharp. Seconded by Councillor Archie Drummond.

## **Voting on the Amendment**

In terms of Standing Order 14.8, Councillor Les Sharp asked for a roll call vote. The Council agreed that a vote be taken by calling the roll and at this stage there were 16 members present who were eligible to vote. On the roll being called, the members present voted as follows:

### **For the Amendment (8 votes)**

Councillor Les Sharp  
Councillor Donald Balsillie  
Councillor Archie Drummond  
Councillor Gary Womersley  
Councillor Ellen Forson  
Councillor Craig Holden  
Councillor Tina Murphy  
Councillor Irene Hamilton

### **Against the Amendment (8 votes)**

Depute Provost Jim Stalker  
Councillor Bobby McGill  
Councillor Graham Watt  
Councillor George Matchett, QPM  
Councillor Janet Cadenhead  
Councillor Kathleen Martin  
Councillor Kenneth Earle  
Councillor Alastair Campbell

There were 8 votes for the amendment and 8 votes against the amendment.

The amendment was defeated on the casting vote of the Depute Provost.

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The Depute Provost adjourned the meeting for 30 minutes at this point in the proceedings (1.35 pm).

Councillor Gary Womersley withdrew from the meeting at this point in the proceedings (1.35 pm).

When the meeting resumed at 2.05 pm, fifteen (15) members remained present.

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## **Voting on the Motion**

In terms of Standing Order 14.8, Councillor Les Sharp asked for a roll call vote. The Council agreed that a vote be taken by calling the roll and at this stage there were 15 members

present who were eligible to vote. On the roll being called, the members present voted as follows:

**For the Motion (8 votes)**

Depute Provost Jim Stalker  
Councillor Bobby McGill  
Councillor Graham Watt  
Councillor George Matchett, QPM  
Councillor Janet Cadenhead  
Councillor Kenneth Earle  
Councillor Kathleen Martin  
Councillor Alastair Campbell

**Against the Motion (7 votes)**

Councillor Les Sharp  
Councillor Donald Balsillie  
Councillor Archie Drummond  
Councillor Ellen Forson  
Councillor Craig Holden  
Councillor Tina Murphy  
Councillor Irene Hamilton

The motion was carried by 8 votes to 7.

**Decision**

Accordingly, on a division of 8 votes to 7, the Council agreed:

- (a) To take forward a whole organisation review based on the strategic change framework and within the framework and within the parameters set out at Section 3 of the report.
- (b) To commission external capacity to undertake that review as set out at Section 3 of the report, and;
- (c) To fund the review from the Spend to Save Fund.

**Action**

Chief Executive

**CC(17)015 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) FINANCIAL BUSINESS PLAN 2013-18**

A report was submitted by the Head of Housing and Community Safety which asked Council to set the budget and rent levels for the Housing Revenue Account for 2017/18 based on the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Financial Business Planning Model 2013-2018 and the consultation that has been completed with tenants and their representatives.

**Motion**

That Council agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Kathleen Martin. Seconded by Councillor Kenneth Earle.

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Councillor Janet Cadenhead withdrew at this point in the proceedings (2.45 pm). Fourteen (14) members remained present.

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**Decision/**

## **Decision**

The Council agreed unanimously to approve:

- (1) The revenue budget as set out at Appendix 1 of the report based on the HRA business plan.
- (2) The capital budget as detailed at Appendix 2 of the report.
- (3) A 2% rent increase for 2017/18 to be applied across all HRA stock, including residential properties, lockups and garage sites.
- (4) A 2% increase for 2017/18 too be applied to all HRA related service charges.

## **Action**

Head of Housing and Community Safety

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Councillor Kathleen Martin withdrew at this point in the proceedings (3.00 pm). Thirteen (13) members remained present.

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## **CC(17)016      SESTRAN – CONSULTATION ON A PROPOSAL TO MOVE TO A MODEL 3 REGIONAL TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP**

A report was submitted by the Head of Development and Environment which set out a response to a consultation by SEStran on moving from a Model 1 Regional Transport Partnership to a Model 2 Regional Transport Partnership.

## **Motion**

That Council agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Kenneth Earle.    Seconded by Councillor George Matchett, QPM.

## **Decision**

The Council agreed unanimously to:

- (i) Respond to the consultation stating that the Council reserves its position on moving to a Model 3 Partnership as the case for a Model 3 Regional Transport Partnership has not been made at this time and to seek a detailed business case to enable the Council to make an informed decision.
- (ii) Note that Council will be updated on the outcome to the consultation after the SEStran Board Meeting in March 2017 and that a further report will be brought to Council to consider a detailed appraisal of model options available to the Council, including moving to a Model 3 Partnership, remaining as a Model 1 partner and joining or creating another Regional Transportation Partnership.

## **Action**

Head of Development and Environment

**CC(17)017 NOTICE OF MOTION IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 16.0**

A notice of motion in terms of Standing Order 16.0 was submitted by Councillor Ellen Forson.

**Motion**

That Council welcomes the recent figures from VisitScotland showing that, in 2015, the number of people employed in the tourist industry rose by 11% and that the sector made up 9% of the total jobs in Scotland, making it a key employer for many areas; notes that the figures show that employment in this sector decreased by 8 percent in Clackmannanshire at the same time our neighbours in Stirling saw a 12 percent increase, Falkirk saw an 8 percent increase and Fife saw a 10 percent increase; is concerned that in fact Clackmannanshire is the only local authority in Scotland where the number of people employed in the tourist industry fell; recognises that Clackmannanshire has much to offer visitors from home and abroad and that the City Deal offers an opportunity to maximise our tourism potential; and instructs the Chief Executive to engage, as a matter of urgency, with VisitScotland to address this issue.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Donald Balsillie.

**Decision**

The Council agreed unanimously to support the motion and to instruct the Chief Executive to engage as a matter of urgency with VisitScotland to address this issue.

**Action**

Chief Executive

**CC(17)018 NOTICE OF MOTION IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 16.0**

A notice of motion in terms of Standing Order 16.0 was submitted by Councillor Ellen Forson.

**Motion**

That Council notes recent correspondence from the Clydesdale Bank announcing its intention to close branches in Alloa and Tillicoultry; expresses concern that this will leave Clackmannanshire without a branch of the Bank; understands that customers affected will have to travel into Stirling for their nearest branch; recognises the considerable impact that this will have on local businesses, older people, those with mobility issues and those who are unable to use the internet to access online banking facilities; instructs the Chief Executive to urgently open a dialogue with the Clydesdale Bank to determine whether a solution can be found to retain access to vital banking services for local people.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Archie Drummond.

**Decision**

The Council agreed unanimously to support the motion and to instruct the Chief Executive to urgently open a dialogue with the Clydesdale Bank to determine whether a solution can be found to retain access to vital banking services for local people.

**Action**

Chief Executive

Ends 3.35 pm

