



**MINUTES OF MEETING of the CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL held within the Council Chamber, Kilncraigs, Greenside Street, Alloa, FK10 1EB, on THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2017 at 9.30 am.**

**PRESENT**

Provost Tina Murphy (In the Chair)  
Councillor Donald Balsillie  
Councillor Martha Benny  
Councillor Dave Clark  
Councillor Chris Dixon

Councillor Kenneth Earle  
Councillor Phil Fairlie  
Councillor Ellen Forson  
Councillor Craig Holden  
Councillor Darren Lee  
Councillor Graham Lindsay  
Councillor Kathleen Martin  
Councillor Bill Mason  
Councillor Les Sharp  
Councillor Derek Stewart  
Councillor Mike Watson

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Elaine McPherson, Chief Executive  
Nikki Bridle, Depute Chief Executive  
Garry Dallas, Executive Director  
Stephen Coulter, Head of Resources and Governance  
Stuart Crickmar, Head of Strategy and Customer Services  
Celia Gray, Head of Social Services  
Ahsan Khan, Head of Housing and Community Safety  
Shiona Strachan, Chief Officer, Health and Social Care Integration  
Anne Pearson, Chief Education Officer  
Lindsay Sim, Chief Accountant  
Chris Alliston, Service Manager, Human Resources  
Jennifer Queripel, Service Manager, Housing Operations  
Marjorie McFarlane, Service Manager, Sports Development  
Leanne Ross, Active School Co-ordinator  
Lindsay Thomson, Service Manager, Legal and Democratic Services (Clerk to the Council)  
Gillian White, Committee Services

**Appointed Members (Religious Representatives)**

Pastor David Fraser, Scottish Baptist Church (Items 1-6)  
Father Michael Freyne, Roman Catholic Church (Items 1-6)

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### **Presentation: Leanne Ross, Active Schools Co-ordinator**

Anne Pearson, Chief Education Officer introduced Leanne Ross, Active Schools Co-ordinator. Leanne spoke about her football career from childhood through to playing with Glasgow City. She has earned 133 caps playing for Scotland, including during the recent UEFA European Championships. Leanne has recently retired from international football. At the end of her speech, Leanne presented the Leader of the Council, Councillor Les Sharp with a framed, signed Scotland shirt in recognition of the support the Council has offered her throughout her football career.

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### **Presentation: Jennifer Queripel, Service Manager, Housing Operations**

Councillor Craig Holden, Spokesperson for Environment and Housing, congratulated Jennifer Queripel, Service Manager, Housing Operations on her recent Excellence in Leadership Award 2017 received from the Chartered Institution of Housing Scotland and presented her with the award. The Provost also presented Jennifer with a basket of flowers on behalf of the Council in recognition of the Award.

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The Provost intimated that an additional paper entitled 'Resignation from Elected Member Positions and Appointments to Resultant Vacancies) had been submitted by the Chief Executive as an item of urgent business. In terms of Standing Order 11.6, the Provost agreed to accept this item onto the agenda to ensure that there were no gaps in political leadership or in respect of the Council's representation on external bodies. The Provost advised that this item would be taken as Item 10A on the agenda.

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### **CC.56 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Archie Drummond, Councillor George Matchett QPM and Rev Sang Y Cha (Religious Representative, Church of Scotland).

### **CC.57 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

### **CC.58 MINUTES OF MEETING: CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL 28 SEPTEMBER 2017**

The minutes of the meeting of the Clackmannanshire Council held on 28 September 2017 were submitted for approval.

#### **Decision**

The minutes of the meeting of the Clackmannanshire Council held on 28 September 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Provost.

### **CC.59 COMMITTEE MEETINGS CONVENED SINCE THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING ON 28 SEPTEMBER 2017**

The Council agreed to note the Committee meetings that had taken place since the last ordinary meeting on 28 September 2017

- (i) Scrutiny Committee on 19/10/2017
- (ii) Planning Committee on 26/10/2017

## **CC.60 EDUCATION GOVERNANCE: FORTH VALLEY AND WEST LOTHIAN IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE**

A report, which provided an update to Council on the Scottish Government's Education Governance Review and the progress made in establishing the Forth Valley and West Lothian Improvement Collaborative, was submitted by the Chief Education Officer.

### **Motion**

That Council endorses the establishment of the Forth Valley and West Lothian Improvement Collaborative and the active involvement of Clackmannanshire Council

Moved by Councillor Graham Lindsay. Seconded by Councillor Ellen Forson.

### **Decision**

The Council, including Appointed Members, agreed unanimously to endorse the establishment of the Forth Valley and West Lothian Improvement Collaborative and the active involvement of Clackmannanshire Council.

## **CC.61 EXPANSION OF EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE**

A report, which provided the Council with the background and relevant information to inform the planned expansion of Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) from 600 to 1140 hours from August 2020 for all eligible 2, 3 and 4 year olds, was submitted by the Chief Education Officer.

### **Motion**

That Council notes the draft ELC Expansion Plan and notes that there will be further meetings with the Administration relating to how this plan links to the overall education estates strategy.

Moved by Councillor Graham Lindsay. Seconded by Councillor Ellen Forson.

### **Decision**

The Council agreed to note the draft ELC Expansion Plan and that there will be further meetings with the Administration relating to how this plan links to the overall education estates strategy.

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*Pastor David Fraser and Father Michael Freyne, Appointed Members (Religious Representatives) withdrew from the meeting at 1030 hours following the conclusion of the previous education items.*

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## **CC.62 BUDGET STRATEGY UPDATE**

A report which maintained the Council's regular update on the approved Budget Strategy, was submitted by the Depute Chief Executive. The report provided an update on the fiscal outlook, updated financial planning assumptions, and provided an update on the delivery of approved savings in 2017/18. The report also included a fuller update on the preparation of the Budget and consultation arrangements for 2018/19.

### **Motion**

That Council agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Les Sharp. Seconded by Councillor Ellen Forson.

## **Decision**

The Council agreed to note:

- a. the fiscal outlook set out in paragraphs 3.1 to 3.7 of the report;
- b. the refined median financial planning scenario set out in Exhibit 1, based on the financial planning assumptions set out in paragraph 4.2 of the report;
- c. the high levels of uncertainty which currently prevail with regards the likely level of local government funding and how this potentially impacts the accuracy of the indicative forecast gap (paragraphs 4.3 to 4.5 of the report);
- d. the planned dates for the UK Autumn Budget (22 November 2017) and Scottish Draft Budget (14 December 2017);
- e. the scheduled all member briefing on 20<sup>th</sup> December following the local government individual settlement announcement (paragraph 4.5 of the report);
- f. progress in implementing 2017/18 approved savings, including Targeted Voluntary redundancy (paragraphs 4.6 to 4.12 of the report);
- g. work currently in hand to support the preparation of the 2018/19 budget (paragraphs 4.14 to 4.15 of the report);
- h. the Council's targeted Budget consultation activity running from November 2017 to February 2018 (paragraphs 4.16 to 4.18 of the report);
- i. Budget preparation feedback and milestones planned for October and November member briefings (paragraphs 4.14 and 4.16 of the report); and
- j. the Budget Consultation insert in the annual residents' newsletter, Focus (paragraph 4.16 and Appendix D of the report).

## **CC.63 CONSOLIDATION OF FORTHBANK AND KELLIEBANK DEPOTS**

A report which sought to agree amendments to the budgets for depot consolidation and approved savings was submitted by the Head of Housing and Community Safety.

### **Motion**

That Council agrees to approve the recommendations set out in the report

Moved by Councillor Craig Holden. Seconded by Councillor Donald Balsillie.

### **Amendment**

The Council is asked to agree the following:

Remove recommendation 2.1 (incorporating recommendations 2.1.1 to 2.1.4 inclusive), and replace with:

Council is asked to agree that:

- 2.1.1 The Head of Housing and Community Safety undertakes an options appraisal of the current circumstances concerning the financial, operational and staffing factors of Forthbank Depot, Kelliebank Depot and Ward Street Stores, and submit his recommendations based on the review to the Council meeting in December 2017.
- 2.1.2 The urgent and necessary health and safety improvements to both Forthbank and Kelliebank Depots are undertaken up to a maximum value of £225k (based on the proposals included in paragraphs 5.1 to 5.4 only, excluding the heating system replacement at this stage).
- 2.1.3 These works (to the value of £225k) are to be financed from the Council's current projected underspend in the 2017/2018 capital programme, with future years' capital projects being reviewed, refreshed and reprioritised to ensure that the overall programme remains within approved limits.

Moved by Councillor Bill Mason. Seconded by Councillor Martha Benny.

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*The Provost adjourned the meeting at this point in the proceedings (1125 hours) to allow members the opportunity to consider the amendment. When the meeting resumed at 1135 hours, sixteen (16) members remained present.*

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Councillor Mason, having sought further information during the adjournment, indicated he wished to withdraw the amendment. The withdrawal of the amendment was unanimously agreed.

### **Decision**

The Council agreed:

- 1.1 To remove saving DAE 178 011 from this year's approved budget.
- 1.2 That the £600K capital budget identified for the consolidation of depots is not required and should be released;
- 1.3 That the Forthbank depot remains open;
- 1.4 That a capital budget of £315K should be made available to fund necessary improvements at the Kelliebank and Forthbank depots, to be funded from savings on depot consolidation; and
- 2.1 To note that overspend on budget saving DAE 178 011 will be offset by cash savings made through disposal of Lime Tree House.

### **Action**

Head of Housing and Community Safety

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*The Provost agreed to bring forward Item 10 Chief Social Work Officer's Annual Report 2016-17 to allow the Head of Social Services to attend a further meeting.*

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#### **CC.64 CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017**

A report, which provided an overview of the key priorities, challenges and achievements related to the delivery of the social work and social care services in Clackmannanshire in 2016-2017, was submitted by the Head of Social Services (Chief Social Work Officer). The report also met the statutory requirement to report annually on Social Services complaints.

#### **Motion**

That the Council note the report as set out in Appendix 1 and provide comment and challenge of the report as appropriate.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Les Sharp.

#### **Decision**

Having commented on and challenged the report, the Council agreed to note the report as set out in Appendix 1.

#### **CC.65 CLACKMANNANSHIRE AND STIRLING HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

A report, which presented the Clackmannanshire and Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership's first Annual Performance Report (APR), was submitted the Chief Officer, Health and Social Care Integration. The report, covering the financial year 2016/17, which was approved in draft form by the Integration Joint Board (IJB) on 27 June 2017, is a statutory document which was required to be published before the end of July 2017.

#### **Motion**

That Council notes the Clackmannanshire and Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership's Annual Performance Report for 2016/17 set out in Appendix 1.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Les Sharp.

#### **Decision**

The Council agreed to note the Clackmannanshire and Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership's Annual Performance Report for 2016/17 set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

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*The Provost adjourned the meeting for 30 minutes at this point in the proceedings (1230 hours).*

*When the meeting resumed at 1305 hours, sixteen (16) members remained present.*

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## **CC.66 RESIGNATION FROM ELECTED MEMBER POSITIONS AND APPOINTMENTS TO RESULTANT VACANCIES**

A report, which advised Council of resignations from certain elected member positions and asked Council to make appointments to the resultant vacancies, was submitted by the Chief Executive.

### **Motion**

To agree the recommendations set out in the report and nominate members to the vacant positions:

Depute Leader of the Council	Councillor Ellen Forson
Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee	Councillor Phil Fairlie
Council Representation on Falkirk Pensions Committee	Councillor Donald Balsillie

Moved by Councillor Les Sharp. Seconded by Councillor Craig Holden.

There were no other nominations.

### **Decision**

The Council agreed to:

- a) Note Councillor Drummond's resignation from the positions
- b) Elect Councillor Ellen Forson as Depute Leader of the Council
- c) Appoint Councillor Phil Fairlie as Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee
- d) Appoint Councillor Donald Balsillie as the Council's representative on the Falkirk Pensions Committee.

The Clerk advised that as Councillor Fairlie had been appointed as Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee, this would leave a consequential vacancy for the position of Vice Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee.

### **Motion**

To nominate Councillor Les Sharp as Vice Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee.

Moved by Councillor Phil Fairlie. Seconded by Councillor Ellen Forson.

### **Decision**

The Council agreed to appoint Councillor Les Sharp as Vice Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee.

## **EXEMPT INFORMATION**

The Council resolved in terms of Section 50(A) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973, that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as detailed in Schedule 7A, Part 1, Paragraph 9.

### **CC.67 ANNUAL PROPERTY REVIEW 2017/18**

Following Council approval of the Annual Property Review for 2017/18 at its meeting on 31 August 2017, the report, submitted by the Development Services Manager, identified additional properties that are recommended for disposal. It also provided an overview of applications received to date for Community Asset Transfer under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

#### **Motion**

That Council agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Les Sharp. Seconded by Councillor Donald Balsillie.

#### **Decision**

The Council agreed the recommendations set out in the report.

#### **Action**

Development Services Manager

Ends 1330 hours