

MINUTES OF MEETING of the CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL held via MS Teams, on THURSDAY 21 OCTOBER 2021 at 9.30 am.

PRESENT

Provost Tina Murphy (In the Chair)
Councillor Donald Balsillie
Councillor Martha Benny
Councillor Dave Clark
Councillor Denis Coyne
Councillor Kenneth Earle
Councillor Ellen Forson
Councillor Craig Holden
Councillor Darren Lee
Councillor Helen Lewis
Councillor Graham Lindsay
Councillor Kathleen Martin
Councillor George Matchett QPM
Councillor Jane McTaggart
Councillor Les Sharp
Councillor Derek Stewart
Councillor Mike Watson

IN ATTENDANCE

Nikki Bridle, Chief Executive
Stuart Crickmar, Strategic Director (Partnership & Performance)
Lorraine Sanda, Strategic Director (People)
Pete Leonard, Strategic Director (Place)
Fiona Colligan, Strategic Director (Transformation)
Annemargaret Black, Chief Officer, Clackmannanshire & Stirling Health & Social Care Partnership
Lindsay Sim, Chief Finance Officer (Partnership & Performance)
Chris Alliston, Senior Manager – HR and Workforce Development (Partnership & Performance)
Emma Fyvie, Senior Manager – Development (Place)
Marjorie MacFarlane, Sports Development Manager (People)
Alison Mackie, Active Primary School Co-ordinator (People)
Alison Davidson, Team Leader – Economic Development (Place)
Fiona Grinly, Senior Manager (Transformation)
Toby Harling, Box Architects (Item 8)
Neil Richardson, Total Swimming (Item 8)
Lee Robertson, Legal Team Leader (Partnership & Performance) (Clerk to the Council)
Melanie Moore, Committee Services (Partnership & Performance)
Morgan Kerr, Member Services (Partnership & Performance)

CC.440 APOLOGIES

None

CC.441 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

CC.442 CONFIRM MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF:

- (i) **Clackmannanshire Council held on Thursday 19 August 2021; and**
- (ii) **Special Meeting of Clackmannanshire Council held on Friday 24 September 2021**

The minutes of the meeting of Clackmannanshire Council held on 19 August and the Special Meeting of Clackmannanshire Council held on 24 September 2021 were submitted for approval.

Decision

The minutes of the meeting of the Clackmannanshire Council held on 19 August 2021 and the Special Meeting of Clackmannanshire Council held on 24 September 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

CC.443 COMMITTEE MEETINGS CONVENED SINCE THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING ON 19 AUGUST 2021

The Council agreed to note the Committee meetings that had taken place since the last ordinary meeting on 19 August 2021.

- (i) Clackmannanshire Licensing Board Sub Committee 25/08/21
- (ii) Partnership and Performance Committee 26/08/21
- (iii) Place Committee 09/09/21
- (iv) People Committee 16/09/21
- (v) Regulatory Committee 23/09/21
- (vi) Education Appeals Committee 29/09/21
- (vii) Audit Committee 30/09/21
- (viii) Clackmannanshire Licensing Board 05/10/21

CC.444 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

The report, submitted by the Chief Executive, sought Council approval of recommendations which had been made by the Partnership and Performance Committee of 26 August, 2021 and Place Committee on 9 September 2021.

Motion

To agree the recommendations as set out in the report.

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

Decision

The Council agreed from the Partnership and Performance Committee of 26 August, 2021 in relation to the report entitled "HR Policies" to agree the revised policies and from Place Committee of 9 September 2021 in relation to the report entitled "Affordable Housing Update" approve the find mix for Primrose Street, Alloa and approve the funding for the demolition at 28-38 Engelen Drive, Alloa.

Action

Strategic Directors (Partnership and Performance) and (Place)

CC.445 BUDGET STRATEGY UPDATE

The report, submitted by the Chief Finance Officer, provided an update on the Councils Budget strategy and the proposed process for setting the 2022/23 General Fund and HRA Revenue and Capital Budgets to ensure a balanced position.

Motion

That Council agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

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

Decision

The Council agreed to note:

1. the financial impact of the Covid19 pandemic on projected revenue outturns;
2. the 2022/23 indicative budget gap and illustrative Low, Medium and High scenarios;
3. the approach to setting the 2022/23 budget to ensure a balanced position;
4. the expected timing of the 2022/23 UK Spending Review and the draft Scottish budget and Local Authority Settlement;
5. the ongoing commitment to Participatory Budgeting (PB), and;
6. progress on the GF and HRA budget process for 2022/23 and timeline of key activities.

The Council agreed to approve:

1. the allocation of the remaining 2020/21 earmarked Covid19 discretionary funding after commitments, to offset the General Fund projected overspend attributable to Covid19 (paragraph 3.4).

Action

Chief Finance Officer

CC.446 BE THE FUTURE UPDATE

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Transformation), provide Council with an update on progress on the Be the Future Programme.

Motion

That Council agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

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

Decision

The Council agreed to note:

1. The work on the budget strategy and the position that the Be the Future programme will have within the strategic narrative for the budget (paragraph 3.1).
2. The work on developing fully-costed business cases for the priority projects associated with the budget strategy which provides the context for the resource requests that are outlined in paragraphs 3.2 – 3.5.

3. The progress in completing work on establishing the governance and deliver model approved at the June Council meeting, including the progress on setting up the first three working groups in the Be the Future programme (paragraphs 3.42 – 3.44).
4. The progress on the Capacity analysis and Skills Audit tender and the next steps in the process as outlined in paragraph 3.12.
5. The work with Scottish Futures Trust (SfT) to develop the rapid scoping assessment and associated 'prospectus' for the Transformation Zones in Alloa (paragraphs 3.13 – 3.31).
6. The opportunity to accelerate the development of Scotland's international Environment Centre to maximise the impact of the Transformation Zones (paragraphs 3.9 – 3.31).
7. The direction of travel for future funding bids and grants that relate to the Be the Future programme as outlined in paragraphs 3.34 – 3.37.

The Council agreed to approve:

8. Repurposing the £467k previously approved budget from the Transformation Fund as set out in paragraph 3.8.
9. Subject to approval of 8. above, that £203k of the £467; repurposed funds are used to fund the resources outlined in paragraph 3.7 and the remaining balance be added to the delegated flexible resourcing fund (paragraphs 3.8 – 3.10).
10. The repurposing of £300k from the approved 2021/22 Capital Plan to accelerate Scotland's International Environment Centre as outlined in paragraph 3.30; and.
11. The principal of spending up to £145,500 at risk for two City Region Deal Skills and inclusion projects relating to Digital and Active travel skills which would be met from uncommitted reserves if funding was not approved (paragraph 3.33).

Action

Strategic Director (Transformation)

CC.447 WELLBEING HUB

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (People), provided Council with an update on the progress of the development of a new wellbeing Hub and Pool for Clackmannanshire and on the development of the interim arrangements (hire of a swimming pool) until the new development is fully operational. Toby Harling from Box Architects and Neil Richardson from Total Swimming presented a presentation to Council on the set up of a temporary swimming pool and answered any questions from members.

Motion

That Council agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Craig Holden. Seconded by Councillor Graham Lindsay.

Decision

The Council:

1. Noted the outcome of RIBA Stage 0 and the Engagement to date (paragraph 3);
2. Agreed to progressing the RIBA Stage 1 to take forward a detailed Options Appraisal to inform the Business Case (paragraph 3.7);

3. Noted the outcome of both initial and detailed Feasibility Studies for the fire of an Interim Swimming Pool at Marshall, Alloa as outlined by officers at the Council meeting (paragraph 4.4);
4. Agreed that plans progress to Design stage for an Interim Swimming Pool with a procurement exercise in line with procurement guidelines (paragraph 4.3);
5. Agreed that a detailed Business Case for the hire of an Interim Swimming Pool at Marshall, Alloa should be also progressed (paragraph 4.5);
6. Subject to satisfactory full Business Case, agreed that officers initiate the appropriate procurement journey for the hire of an Interim Swimming Pool on the basis that estimated costs do not exceed budget levels already approved by Council for the provision of Leisure services (paragraph 4.5);
7. Agreed the Interim Business Case and project progress is reported to Council on 16 December 2021 (paragraph 4.5);
8. Noted that should estimated costs within the Business Case exceed approved Leisure service provision budget levels, that officers will seek Council consideration and approval before initiating procurement for the hire of an Interim Swimming Pool (paragraph 4.5);
9. Noted that officer are exploring the costs of re-introducing swimming lessons for all P5 school pupils, and that detailed proposals and budget implications will come back to Council for consideration in December (paragraph 4.3).

Action

Strategic Director (People)

The Provost agreed to a 10 minute comfort break at 11.55 am until 12.05 pm

CC.448 COUNCIL RESPONSE TO THE NATIONAL CARE CONSULTATION

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (People), sought agreement on the approach to a Council response to the National Care Service Consultation which was launched by the Scottish Government in August 2021.

Motion

That Council agrees the recommendation as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Les Sharp. Seconded by Councillor Graham Lindsay.

Decision

The Council agreed to the proposal in paragraph 3.7 that a response to the Consultation is submitted by the required deadline.

Action

Strategic Director (People)

CC.449 SENIOR MANAGER RECRUITMENT

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (People), invited Council to agree the ongoing recruitment process for vacant Senior Manager posts with the People Directorate.

Motion

That Council agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Graham Lindsay. Seconded by Councillor Les Sharp.

Decision

The Council:

1. Agreed that, notwithstanding the previous Council decision and current terms of the Scheme of Delegation which provide that recruitment of senior managers is delegated to the Appointments Committee, that the recruitment to vacant Senior Manager posts within the People Directorate, not including final interview, is delegated to the Strategic Director (People);
2. Agreed that for final interviews a politically balanced Appointments Committee, supported by relevant officers, be convening comprising:
 - 2 SNP members (Portfolio Holder and Depute of the People Committee)
 - 1 Labour member
 - 1 Conservative member
3. Noted the considerations outlined in the paper

Action

Strategic Director (People)

CC.450 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE: SHORT TERM ACTION PLAN (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICE) AND EMPLOYABILITY UPDATE

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Place), presented a short term Action Plan of activity within the Economic Development Team which will contribute to a wider Economic Recovery Plan for Clackmannanshire, highlighted new and extensions to current Employability programmes that the Council is being asked to deliver, updated on Covid business grants, including an update on Discretionary Fund Phase 3, highlighted current Partnership working and also highlighted key challenges that will need to be considered in relation to the implementation and delivery of a range of new Employability programmes which will have capacity and resource implication for the Economic Development Team.

Motion

That Council agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Craig Holden.

Decision

The Council agreed to :

- Note and agree the Economic Development team short term Action Plan (attached as Appendix A to this report);

- Note the activities currently being undertaken within Economic Development, in particular the update to the range of current and new employability programmes delivered through Clackmannanshire Works;
- Note the proposals for Young Persons Guarantee Activity 2021/22 (full detail at Appendix B to this report);
- Note the extension to the current European Social Fund (ESF) programme to end of March 2023, in line with the end of the Fair Start programme;
- Note the spend on the Discretionary Fund to date, and arrangements now in place for use of the underspend (Discretionary Fund Phase 3);
- Note the current Partnership working, and opportunities for and examples of Regional Working;
- Note the challenges faced by the Economic Development Team in terms of capacity and capabilities to be able to respond to the rapidly moving employability agenda and a changing set of immediate employability priorities for Local Government;
- Note that a team redesign is planned during the next 18 months in order to be able to respond to the new delivery model which will be required through No-one Left Behind, aligned to the end of our ESF and Fair Start programmes early in 2023.

Action

Strategic Director (Place)

Ends 12:43 hrs

