

**LEADERSHIP PANEL (SPECIAL)**

Minutes of special meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr,  
on 14th December 2010 at 11.00 a.m.

- Present: Councillors Bill McIntosh (Chair), Douglas Campbell, Peter Convery, Hywel Davies, Nan McFarlane, Robin Reid and Margaret Toner.
- Attending: H. Garland, Executive Director - Children and Community; E. Howat, Executive Director – Corporate Services; V. Andrews, Head of Legal and Administration; B. McNroy, Head of Service and School Management; C. Bradshaw, Assistant Public Communications Officer and D. Knight, Committee Services Officer.
- Also Present: Phil Davey and Mairi Raeburn.
- Apologies: Rev. David Gemmell and Pastor Alastair Simmons.
- Also Attending: Councillors Brian Connolly, Ian Douglas, Ann Galbraith, Sandra Goldie, John McDowall, Helen Moonie and Philip Saxton.

**Community Services - Lifelong Learning.**

**1. Item for Call-in (two) – Proposed Closure of Cairn Primary School, Maybole.**

Reference was made to the Minutes of the Community Services Standing Scrutiny Panel of 7th December 2010 (Page 4, paragraph 1) when that Panel, having considered the terms of a call-in from the Leadership Panel of 23rd November 2010 (Page 599, paragraph 3) in relation to the proposed closure of Cairn Primary School, Maybole, had decided to refer this item back to the Leadership Panel recommending that the proposal to close Cairn Primary School be reconsidered.

A full discussion then took place and a number of comments were raised by Elected Members and the teachers' representative in relation to the Asset Management Plan and the School Estate, budget cuts, educational provision in the Carrick area and the consultation process and the Head of Service and School Management responded accordingly.

**Decided:**

- (1) to accept the recommendations of the Community Services Standing Scrutiny Panel that the proposal document relating to Cairn Primary School, Gardenrose Primary School and Carrick Academy required further consideration;
- (2) to request that Officers initiate an informal consultation with the Maybole community and the communities of the Carrick Academy feeder Primary Schools on the development of a 3-18 campus on the Carrick Academy site; and
- (3) that a report on the informal consultation should be presented to the Leadership Panel by the end of 2011.

**2. Item for Call-in – Proposed Closure of St. Ann’s Primary School, Mossblown.**

Reference was made to the Minutes of the Community Services Standing Scrutiny Panel of 7th December 2010 (Page 7, paragraph 2) when that Panel, having considered the terms of a call-in from the Leadership Panel of 23rd November 2010 (Page 599, paragraph 4) in relation to the proposed closure of St. Ann’s Primary School, Mossblown, had decided to refer this item back to the Leadership Panel recommending that the proposal to close St. Ann’s Primary School be reconsidered as it is the only joint denominational/non-denominational campus in South Ayrshire.

A full discussion then took place and a number of comments were raised by an Elected Member in relation to financial issues and the educational representative in relation to the consultation process and the proposed closure of St. Ann’s, and the Head of Service and School Management responded accordingly.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the recommendation of the Community Services Standing Scrutiny Panel should not be accepted;
- (2) to re-confirm the decision taken at the Leadership Panel meeting on 23rd November 2010 as follows:-
  - (a) to approve the proposal document on the closure of St. Ann’s Primary School, Mossblown; and
  - (b) to request the Executive Director – Children and Community to issue the proposal document for consultation to all interested parties and to report the results of the consultation to a future meeting of the Council; and
- (3) therefore, that the matter be referred to the Council on 16th December 2010 for ultimate determination.

The meeting ended at 11.30 a.m.