

LEADERSHIP PANEL.

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr,
on 23rd November 2010 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Bill McIntosh (Chair), Douglas Campbell, Peter Convery, Hywel Davies, Nan McFarlane, Robin Reid and Margaret Toner.

Attending: D. Anderson, Chief Executive; H. Garland, Executive Director – Children and Community; E. Howat, Executive Director – Corporate Services; V. Andrews, Head of Legal and Administration; B. McInroy, Head of Service and School Management; M. Williamson, Head of Curriculum and Service Improvement; K. Leinster, Head of Community Care and Housing; M. Newall, Head of Planning and Enterprise; J. Cronin, Policy and Strategy Manager; W. Gray, Property and Asset Manager; C. McPhail, Business Engagement Development Officer; L. Jarvie, Sustainable Development Policy Officer; C. Bradshaw, Assistant Public Communications Officer; D. Knight, Committee Services Officer; and A. Gerrish, Committee Administrative Officer.

Also Present: Rev. David Gemmell, Mairi Raeburn and Pastor Alastair Simmons (in attendance for items 1 to 5 only).

Chair's Remarks.

The Chair, on behalf of the Panel, welcomed the Educational Representatives and members of the public to the meeting.

Community Services - Lifelong Learning.**1. Results of the Informal Consultation Exercise on Secondary Education in the Troon Area.**

Reference was made to the Minutes of 9th February 2010 (Page 90, paragraph 4) when that Panel had approved the informal consultation exercise on secondary education in the Troon area and there was submitted a report (issued) of 8th November 2010 by the Executive Director – Children and Community

- (1) outlining the results of the informal consultation exercise on secondary education in the Troon area; and
- (2) seeking approval to undertake a formal consultation on the following options:-
 - Option 1 – Refurbishment of the existing school buildings;
 - Option 2 – Retention, upgrade and extension of the original Marr College building to create a modern campus; and
 - Option 3 – The provision of a new secondary school built on the Marr playing fields.

Questions were raised by a Member of the Panel in relation to the costs of refurbishing the existing B listed main building and whether discussions had taken place with Historic Scotland regarding the refurbishment and the Head of Service and School Management responded accordingly.

Decided:

- (a) to note the outcome of the informal consultation exercise on secondary education in the Troon area;
- (b) to request the Executive Director - Children and Community to carry out a formal consultation with the Troon community on the three options outlined at paragraph 7 of the consultation report; and
- (c) to adopt Option 2 as the preferred option of the Council as it reflected the overwhelming response of the community.

2. Proposed Closure of Pinwherry Primary School.

Reference was made to the Minutes of 7th October 2010 (Page 526, paragraph 11) and there was submitted a report (issued) of 8th November 2010 by the Executive Director – Children and Community seeking approval

- (1) to formally consult on the proposed closure of Pinwherry Primary School; and
- (2) for the proposal document, attached as an Appendix to the report, to be issued for consultation.

A question was raised by a Member of the Panel in relation to the Christmas holidays being included in the consultation period and the Head of Service and School Management responded accordingly.

Decided:

- (a) to approve the proposal document on the closure of Pinwherry Primary School; 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.

C-I

3. Proposed Closure of Cairn Primary School, Maybole.

Reference was made to the Minutes of 7th October 2010 (Page 526, paragraph 11) and there was submitted a report (issued) of 8th November 2010 by the Executive Director – Children and Community seeking approval

- (1) to formally consult on the proposed closure of Cairn Primary School, Maybole; and
- (2) for the proposal document, attached as an Appendix to the report, to be issued for consultation.

Questions were raised by Members of the Panel enquiring whether the costs of transporting pupils to a new location had been taken into account and would any refurbishment be required to be undertaken to Carrick Academy and the Head of Service and School Management responded accordingly.

Decided:

- (a) to approve the proposal document on the closure of Cairn Primary School, Maybole; 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.

C-I

4. Proposed Closure of St. Ann's Primary School, Mossblown.

Reference was made to the Minutes of 7th October 2010 (Page 526, paragraph 11) and there was submitted a report (issued) of 8th November 2010 by the Executive Director – Children and Community seeking approval

- (1) to formally consult on the proposed closure of St. Ann's Primary School, Mossblown; and
- (2) for the proposal document, attached as an Appendix to the report, to be issued for consultation.

A question was raised by a Member of the Panel enquiring why the school roll had fallen from 44 pupils in 2000 to 14 pupils in 2010 and the Head of Service and School Management responded accordingly.

Decided:

- (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.

5. School Holidays Arrangements 2011/12.

Reference was made to the Minutes of 13th April 2010 (Page 214, paragraph 3) and there was submitted a report (issued) of 8th November 2010 by the Executive Director – Children and Community

- (1) advising that both North and East Ayrshire Councils had recently amended their October school holiday week for 2011 to reflect Glasgow City Council's dates;
- (2) reporting
 - (a) that the Scottish Government had indicated that the Queen's Diamond Jubilee would be celebrated as a National holiday on Tuesday, 5th June 2012 and to accommodate this holiday, it was proposed that the late May Bank Holiday was moved to Monday, 4th June 2012; and
 - (b) that in order to consolidate the school break, it was further proposed that the teachers' in-service day was moved from Thursday, 24th May to Friday, 1st June 2012; and
- (3) seeking approval to amend the school holiday arrangements for session 2011/12 as detailed in the Appendix of the report to reflect the changes outlined above.

Decided: to approve the amended school holiday arrangements for 2011/12 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

Community Services – Housing and Customer First.**6. Strategic Housing Investment Plan.**

Reference was made to the Minutes of the Community Services Standing Scrutiny Panel of 3rd November 2010 (Page 577, paragraph 3) when that Panel, having considered the terms of a call-in from the meeting of the Leadership Panel of 26th October 2010 (Page 544, paragraph 1) in relation to the Strategic Housing Investment Plan, had decided following review, that this matter should be referred back to this Panel to reflect on the wording regarding the 100 replacement houses within the total of 232 as detailed in the report and as contained within the Single Outcome Agreement and there was submitted a report (issued) of 11th November 2010 by the Executive Director – Children and Community

- (1) advising that the content of the SHIP and associated call-in questions had been discussed at the Community Services Standing Scrutiny Panel on 3rd November 2010 and that Section 12.1 of the SHIP stated “South Ayrshire Council exceeded its target of 200 affordable homes in 2009/10 by delivering 232 units” and that the Scrutiny Panel had recommended that this be referred back to Leadership Panel to reflect the wording within the Single Outcome agreement, agreed by the Council at its meeting on 7th October 2010; and
- (2) recommending that, to reflect the SOA, the wording for Section 12.1 of the SHIP be amended as follows:-

“In South Ayrshire, 232 affordable housing completions were delivered in 2009/10. 100 of these were built as replacement homes for a number of houses demolished in the Lochside area.”

Decided: to accept the recommendation of the Community Services Standing Scrutiny Panel that the wording for Section 12.1 of the SHIP be amended, prior to submission to the Scottish Government, as follows:-

“In South Ayrshire, 232 affordable housing completions were delivered in 2009/10. 100 of these were built as replacement homes for a number of houses demolished in the Lochside area.”

Development and the Environment – Sustainability and the Environment.

C-I

7. Renewal of on-Street Parking Charging Method.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 15th November 2010 by the Executive Director – Development and Environment

- (1) outlining the options available to the Council for applying on-street parking charges which included Pay-and-Display machines, pre-purchased vouchers or scratch cards or Pay-by-Phone;
- (2) advising that the Council was developing a Parking Charter, a key element of which would be the Decriminalisation of Parking Enforcement (DPE) and that once in place the DPE would provide greater opportunities to integrate the on-street purchase of parking spaces with enforcement and back-office penalty charge processing, to provide a more effective and efficient parking management system and that, although still subject to further Council approval, Officers were working towards implementing the DPE by 2012;
- (3) seeking approval to use parking vouchers, in the short term, as the method of applying parking charges;
- (5) recommending the introduction of a pilot project for the use of Pay-by-Phone as a method of applying parking charges.

- (4) reporting
- (a) that the current on-street voucher parking contract generated net income of £134,096 during 2009/10 and that the current off-street pay-and-display system in operation at three Ayr car parks had generated net income of approximately £103,000 during 2009/10;
 - (b) retendering of the on-street voucher contract could be accommodated within existing revenue budgets; and
 - (c) that it was anticipated that the costs of the pilot (i.e. signage and call surcharge) would be negligible and could be met from existing resources and that the cost of signage would be met by the supplier, while the anticipated uptake in the pilot (100 calls per week) would result in a total surcharge cost of £240 over the pilot period.

Questions were raised by Members of the Panel in relation to the timescales for the contract for the parking vouchers; the parking, access and delivery issues in Newmarket Street and the concerns of retailers; the relaxation of restrictions on parking on the four Saturdays prior to Christmas, and the timescales for the pilot project for the use of Pay-by-Phone and the Head of Planning and Enterprise responded accordingly and advised that he was working closely with the Ayr Renaissance team regarding traffic management within the town centre including the issues that had been raised concerning Newmarket Street.

Decided:

- (i) to approve the award of a contract for the distribution and collection of parking vouchers and associated income for a period of two years and to note that the contract would be reviewed after one year;
- (ii) to approve the introduction of a pilot project for the use of Pay-by-Phone as a method of applying parking charges and to note that a progress report would be submitted on this matter to a meeting of this Panel in six months; and
- (iii) to agree that the Executive Director – Development and Environment consult local Elected Members on the on-street parking charging method.

C-I

8. **Vehicular Access to High Street, Ayr.**

Reference was made to the Minutes of 27th October 2009 (Page 571, paragraph 5) and there was submitted a report (issued) of 10th November 2010 by the Executive Director – Development and Environment

- (1) outlining the effects of the experimental Traffic Regulation Order that was in operation in Ayr High Street;

- (2) advising
 - (a) that consultation had also taken place with groups concerned with mobility issues, the visually impaired and sensory impairment including the undertaking of a street audit, which had highlighted the need for consideration of further improvements in High Street, Ayr in terms of additional guidance infrastructure such as tactile paving, a consistency of footway surfacing materials and an additional controlled pedestrian crossing facility; and
 - (b) that proposals for improvements to the public realm would be carried out in collaboration with Ayr Renaissance;
- (3) reporting that the estimated cost of promoting a permanent Traffic Regulation Order to give the same effect as the Experimental Order was £2,000 which would span over financial years 2010/11 and 2011/12 and would be contained within current budget streams; and
- (4) seeking approval to commence the process to implement a permanent Traffic Regulation Order to the same effect as the experimental Order.

A question was raised by a Member of the Panel in relation to the pedestrianisation of Newmarket Street and the Head of Planning and Enterprise responded accordingly.

Decided: to authorise the Executive Director – Development and Environment to arrange for the implementation of a permanent Traffic Regulation Order before the experimental Traffic Regulation Order expired in May 2011.

Development and the Environment – Economic Development, Tourism and Leisure.

9. Public Sector Climate Change Duties : Draft Guidance Response.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3rd November 2010 by the Executive Director – Development and Environment

- (1) outlining the public sector duties and associated draft guidance arising from the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and setting out the Council's position in relation to this;
- (2) informing that the Act was a key commitment of the Scottish Government and was the most far-reaching environmental legislation considered by the Parliament during the first ten years of devolution, and that reducing greenhouse gas emissions and transitioning to a low carbon economy would help create a more successful country, with potential opportunities for South Ayrshire, through increasing sustainable economic growth;
- (3) reporting
 - (a) that implementation of the duties and guidance as with other aspects of the transition to a low carbon economy would require to be resourced, but it was not yet clear which aspects of change and transition would require to be resourced by this Council in order to make the required appropriate contribution to meeting the Scottish 80% target by 2050; and

- (b) that failure to take forward the public sector duties and the recommendations set out within the finalised guidance had the potential to leave the Council open to legal challenge on this matter; and
- (4) seeking approval to submit the response as appended to the report on behalf of the Council to the Scottish Government.

Decided:

- (i) to note the general content of the report on this rapidly developing policy area; and
- (ii) to approve the response on behalf of the Council to the Scottish Government by 26th November 2010.

10. Scotland's Climate Change Declaration : South Ayrshire Council Annual Progress Report 2010.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 10th November 2010 by the Executive Director – Development and Environment

- (1) advising
 - (a) that on 15th January 2007, this Council became the first local authority to sign Scotland's Climate Change Declaration (as contained in Appendix 2 of the report);
 - (b) that the declaration officially acknowledged for the first time, the reality of climate change and the threats and opportunities this presented to South Ayrshire;
 - (c) that it committed South Ayrshire Council to take action and to publically report in relation to this;
 - (d) that the report reflected progress in South Ayrshire over the past year in relation to the template provided for these purposes via COSLA and the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN); and
 - (e) that it also set out the key points for moving the climate change agenda forward over the year ahead; and
- (2) seeking approval for the South Ayrshire Council Annual Progress Report 2010 in relation to the Council's commitments under Scotland's Climate Change Declaration and the forthcoming climate change duties as introduced by the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 as contained in Appendix 1 of the report.

Decided: to approve the South Ayrshire Council's Annual Progress Report 2010 and for its submission to COSLA to make it publically available.

11. **Planning Service: Development Management and Business Change Service Standard.**

Reference was made to Minutes of

- (1) the Council of 17th December 2009 (Page 16, paragraph 18) when it had been decided to approve the review of the Planning Service as set out in Appendix A of the report entitled "Modernisation of the Planning Service – An Agenda for Delivering Planning Reform"; and
- (2) the Leadership Panel of 9th March 2010 (Page 172, paragraph 5) and

there was submitted a report (issued) of 10th November 2010 by the Executive Director – Development and Environment

- (a) advising
 - (i) of the preparation of a Service Standard for planning applications falling within the definition of "Local Development";
 - (ii) that it was intended that the Service Standard for Development Management would better inform and guide prospective applicants on how their applications would be processed by the Planning Service;
 - (iii) that the standard should assist applicants in understanding the key stages and timescales in determining their planning application; and
 - (iv) that it provided for fuller engagement with those applicants seeking statutory planning permissions; and
- (b) seeking approval of the Standard for operation as contained within Appendix A of the report.

Decided: to approve the content of the Service Standard as set out in Appendix A of the report entitled "Service Standard: Development Management and Business Change".

12. **Proposed Local Development Plan and Review of Existing Supplementary Guidance.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 10th November 2010 by the Executive Director – Development and Environment seeking approval

- (1) for the headline content of the Proposed Local Development Plan, noting the consultation responses submitted to the Main Issues Report as a robust basis upon which to proceed to confirm the content of the Proposed Local Development Plan; and
- (2) to commence a review of existing supplementary guidance to ensure that standing planning policy guidance reflected national and local planning policies, as well as recent planning appeal decisions.

A question was raised by a Member of the Panel in relation to the definition of low and medium priorities within Appendix 1 of the supplementary guidance and the Head of Planning and Enterprise responded accordingly.

Decided:

- (a) to approve the headline content of the Proposed Local Development Plan, as detailed in Section 4 of the report; and
- (b) to agree the priorities for the review of existing supplementary guidance, as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report.

Corporate and Community Planning – Resources and Performance.**13. Council Tax Collection Statistics – Cash at 31st October 2010.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 10th November 2010 by the Head of Corporate Resources advising

- (1) of the collection levels which had been achieved in respect of Council Tax to 31st October 2010 and the action which had been taken to achieve Best Value in the collection thereof;
- (2) that the position as at 31st October 2010 for the current year was outlined in Appendix 1 of the report and showed that the collection rate was 64.70 per cent against the target collection of 64.70 per cent; and
- (3) that in order to address increased customer demand due to the economic recession, Corporate Services staff were working controlled periods of overtime to ensure accurate benefit awards together with prompt rebilling and recovery of Council Tax and that, in the event of non-payment, Council Tax arrears would be passed earlier to Stirling Park, Sheriff Officers, to maximise recovery and minimise the impact of the economic downturn upon collections.

Decided:

- (a) to approve the contents of the report; and
- (b) to request the Head of Corporate Resources to provide updated figures to the next meeting of this Panel.

14. Housing and Council Tax Benefit – Performance Monitoring – Position at 30th September 2010.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 10th November 2010 by the Head of Corporate Resources

- (1) advising of the service improvements being undertaken to help achieve the full range of national housing and Council Tax benefit performance standards;
- (2) detailing the position as at 30th September 2010 which highlighted the benefits service performance in key target areas; and

(3) informing

- (a) that due to the economic recession, the Council's benefits service had experienced an increase in benefit claims of 3.4 per cent between October 2009 and October 2010, resulting in 22,395 cases in payment;
- (b) that between October 2009 and October 2010, the number of benefit recipients in employment had increased by 33.7 per cent whilst the number of Jobseeker allowance claimants (available for work but receiving benefit) had increased by 19.7 per cent;
- (c) that as at 30th September 2010, recovery of 77 per cent of housing benefit overpayments identified in the current year had been achieved which slightly exceeded the target of 75 per cent and that the amount recovered during the financial year also represented 17 per cent of the total housing benefit overpayments which were outstanding, including those identified both during and prior to the current financial year and that this was on target to achieve recovery levels of 25 per cent by the end of this financial year; and
- (d) that workloads remained particularly challenging, and the closure of the benefits offices each day until 10.00 am and all day Wednesday was allowing staff, on a weekly basis, to process 46 per cent of claims/ adjustments whilst progressing a further 32 per cent of other aspects of claim-associated work and that this, in turn, was enabling staff to provide a more focused and responsive service to benefits claimants.

Decided:

- (i) to approve the contents of this report; and
- (ii) to request the Head of Corporate Resources to provide a further quarterly report on service delivery to a future meeting of this Panel.

15. Variation in order of business.

In terms of Council Standing Order No. 10, the Panel agreed to vary the order of business as hereinafter minuted.

16. Treasury Management Quarter 2 Report 2010/11.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 10th November 2010 by the Head of Corporate Resources

- (1) advising that the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) had issued a revised Code of Practice for Treasury Management in November 2009, following consultation with Local Authorities during the summer of 2009 and that the revised Code required that Members should be provided with regular monitoring reports on Treasury Management activities, and that the Council was undertaking this on a quarterly basis to ensure the Council was embracing Best Practice in accordance with CIPFA's revised Code of Practice;

- (2) presenting
 - (a) an update of the economic background from July to September 2010; and
 - (b) a forecast for interest rates (Sector Treasury Services);
- (3) outlining the following within the Treasury Management Investment Strategy:-
 - (a) investments;
 - (b) credit ratings definition;
 - (c) borrowing and borrowing in advance of need;
 - (d) prudential indicators; and
 - (e) an update with regard to Icelandic Deposits; and
- (4) detailing the resource implications for General Services and Housing Revenue Account.

Decided: to approve the contents of the Treasury Management Quarter 2 Report for 2010/11.

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17. **ICT Strategy.**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 11th November 2010 by the Head of Corporate Resources

- (1) advising
 - (a) that the aim of the proposed strategy would be to build on investment and innovation, define how the organisation made best use of ICT, how it was managed, developed and applied;
 - (b) that this updated strategy would ensure that ICT assisted business transformation, with the business priorities forming the main drivers to change and the ICT team providing support for the changes;
 - (c) that consultation and integration with service planning and delivery was key to this changing focus and that to this end the ICT team had, and would continue to consult with services to ensure ICT delivered service improvements through forums such as the ICT Strategy Group, the SWIS development group and the Education ICT User group;
 - (d) that the ICT team would undertake an annual survey with the internal users of the service to ensure that the quality of the ICT service itself met with expectations and enabled them to work efficiently and effectively; and

- (e) that the strategy identified the areas of progress made, defined on-going projects and those planned for the future, highlighting areas that needed to be considered and defining the challenges ahead; and

- (2) seeking approval to adopt a revised ICT Strategy.

A question was raised by a Member of the Panel in relation to accessing personal information, links to Asset Management and optimum use of free telephone calls through Prism and the Head of Corporate Resources responded accordingly.

Decided: having recorded their appreciation of the work undertaken by the Head of Corporate Resources and his staff, to approve the adoption of the revised ICT Strategy as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

18. Strategic Risk Management.

Reference was made to the Minutes of the Corporate and Community Planning Standing Scrutiny Panel of 4th November 2010 (Page 586, paragraph 7) when it had been decided, having considered a report of 26th October 2010 by the Head of Corporate Resources in relation to the Strategic Risk Register, that a report on the management of Strategic Risk be taken to this meeting of the Leadership Panel for endorsement and there was submitted a report (issued) of 11th November 2010 by the Head of Corporate Resources providing an update to the Strategic Risk Register as at October 2010 in line with the reporting requirements of the approved Risk Management Strategy.

Decided: to approve the seventeen key risks and to endorse the work currently being undertaken or proposed by risk owners to mitigate these risks.

19. Council Tax Rebates for Energy Efficiency – Update.

Reference was made to the Minutes of 9th March 2010 (Page 175, paragraph 11) and there was submitted a joint report (issued) of 8th November 2010 by the Executive Director – Development and Environment and Executive Director – Corporate Services advising

- (1) that the Council had been recently awarded £500,000 from the Scottish Government to implement a large energy efficiency project to be completed by 31st March 2011 and that the Energy Agency was currently managing this project, mainly insulation, on behalf of the Council and that given staff and other resources available, this Project had been prioritised in terms of delivery over the Council Tax Rebate Scheme;
- (2) that in terms of the Council Tax Rebate Scheme, Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) had agreed, in principle, to provide the funding towards the cost of the external wall insulation that would cover the cost of the Council Tax rebate to be given to eligible householders taking up the Scheme and that the legislation stated that the rebate should be at least £50 with the value of SSE's funding varying depending on the type of house (e.g. detached, mid-terraced etc.) and the type of heating fuel but would exceed £50 per property;

- (3) that there were still a number of details to be finalised before the Scheme could be launched including selecting the different types of external wall insulation systems to be offered, the value of the funding SSE was prepared to offer for each house type, the selection of contractors able and willing to carry out this work and the indicative cost to the householder and that each property would require a survey to obtain an accurate price;
- (4) that since the report to the Leadership Panel in March, when it was believed that the legislation required to be enacted by the end of 2010, COSLA had reported “no time is specified for the scheme to be introduced, although section 66 requires an annual review starting from 31 March 2012. This can be interpreted to mean that a scheme is not required until the tax year 2011/12” and proposing that the Council’s Scheme would be fully developed and launched by 1st April 2011 so meeting the requirements of the legislation; and
- (5) that the Energy Agency, as managing agents, would promote the Scheme whenever they had communication with the public including direct mailing and also encompassing energy advice, running surgeries and stands at public events.

A question was raised by a Member of the Panel in relation to the financial implications of the rebate and the Property and Asset Manager responded accordingly.

Decided: to note the progress and to agree to the implementation of the Scheme during 2011.

20. Authority to extend the current five year CCTV Maintenance Contract provided by Scotshield.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 11th November 2010 by the Executive Director – Development and Environment

- (1) advising
 - (a) that Scotshield currently provided the existing five year contract for the maintenance of all public space and remote CCTV which linked to South Ayrshire Monitoring Station (SAMS);
 - (b) that the Scheme involved the maintenance of the CCTV installations along with the monitoring equipment at SAMS at the John Pollock Centre, King Street Police Station and Girvan Police Station including maintenance of the Scoot system at Burns House which was part of the road service equipment; and
 - (c) that the current contract would come to an end in November 2010 and that the process had been initially started earlier this year to tender for renewal of this five year contract and that before the tendering process was fully underway it had become apparent that there were several reasons for not completing the process before the existing contract was due to end;
- (2) outlining the reasons for the delay in the current renewal process;
- (3) recommending that Scotshield’s contract be extended to 31st May 2011 to allow the shared services agenda and the Council’s own property and intruder alarm service to be progressed; and

- (4) reporting that the cost of the existing contract with Scotshield was £38,360 with £27,893 being met from the Community Safety budget and £10,467 being recharged to other services and that the extension of the existing contract with Scotshield would continue to be met from the current budgets allocated for this purpose and that in addition a reduction in the overall cost of the current contract would be negotiated.

Decided: to approve the extension of the current CCTV maintenance contract provided by Scotshield until 31st May 2011.

21. Exclusion of press and public.

The Panel resolved, in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, that the press and public be excluded during consideration of the remaining items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information in terms of paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Development and the Environment - Economic Development, Tourism and Leisure.

22. Application for Loan Funding from the West of Scotland Loan Fund Ltd.

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 11th November 2010 by the Executive Director – Development and Environment providing an update on the approval of loan funds under delegated authority from this Council's Ayrshire Development Funds held by West of Scotland Loan Fund Ltd.

Decided: to note the approval under delegated powers of a loan of £50,000 to a Company repayable over 60 months at 7.5% interest and that the loan would be conditional on satisfactory securities being agreed.

Corporate and Community Planning - Resources and Performance.

23. Space Place Request for Grant from Prestwick Common Good Fund.

Reference was made to the Minutes of 17th August 2010 (Page 402, paragraph 13) when it had been decided

- (1) to approve in the meantime, an interim grant funding of £3,000 from the Prestwick Common Good Fund for the financial year 2010/2011; and
- (2) to agree that the Executive Director – Development and Environment submit a further report to a future meeting of this Panel taking into account and responding to the questions and concerns raised by Elected Members, and

there was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 12th November 2010 by the Executive Director – Development and Environment providing an update on the current situation regarding the Space Place and making a number of recommendations.

Decided: to agree

- (a) that Officers would continue to support the Space Place in their efforts to attract external funding to confirm the future sustainability of the organisation and activities; and
- (b) that no further funding be allocated from the Prestwick Common Good due to the financial circumstances as outlined in 3.2 of the report.

Community Services – Social Services.

24. Outcome of the Complaints Review Committee.

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 3rd November 2010 by the Head of Legal and Administration informing of the outcome of the Complaints Review Committee which had been held on 11th October 2010 and

- (1) outlining how the Complaints Review Committee had reached its conclusions as detailed in the Appendix of the report; and
- (2) reporting that on the basis of these conclusions, the Complaint was not upheld and the Committee saw no need to make any recommendations on this matter.

Decided: to note the conclusions reached by the Complaints Review Committee following the Hearing on 11th October 2010 as detailed in the Appendix of the report.

The meeting ended at 11.05 a.m.