

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL.

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr,
on 14th December 2017 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Helen Moonie (Provost), Laura Brennan-Whitefield, Siobhian Brown, Andy Campbell, Douglas Campbell, Iain Campbell, Ian Cavana, Alec Clark, Ian Cochrane, Brian Connolly, Peter Convery, Chris Cullen, Ian Davis, Julie Dettbarn, Martin Dowe, Ian Fitzsimmons, William Grant, Peter Henderson, Hugh Hunter, Lee Lyons, Craig Mackay, Derek McCabe, Brian McGinley, Bob Pollock, Philip Saxton and Arthur Spurling.

Apologies: Councillors Mary Kilpatrick and Margaret Toner.

Attending: E. Howat, Chief Executive; V. Andrews, Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation; L. Bloomer, Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment; D. Hutchison, Director of Educational Services; T. Eltringham, Director of Health and Social Care; T. Baulk, Head of Finance and ICT; K. Leinster, Head of Community Health and Care Services; R. Riddiough, Head of Legal and Democratic Services; M. Baker, Head of Policy and Performance; K. O'Hagan, Head of Employee and Customer Services; D. McNeill, Treasury Manager; and J. McClure, Committee Services Lead Officer.

1. Provost.

The Provost

- (1) welcomed everyone to the meeting;
- (2) intimated that apologies had been received from Councillors Mary Kilpatrick and Margaret Toner; and
- (3) intimated that item 19 on the agenda entitled “Authority to Accept Tenders” had been withdrawn.

2. Sederunt.

The Chief Executive called the Sederunt for the meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest.

In terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct,

- (1) Councillor Brian Connolly declared an interest in item 4(c) on the agenda entitled “Golf Development Academy” as he was Chairman of the Ayrshire Golf Trust and advised that he would leave the room during consideration of this item; and
- (2) Councillor Laura Brennan-Whitefield declared an interest in Item 17(c) on the agenda, the Motion from Councillor Peter Henderson, seconded by Councillor Andy Campbell regarding Station 15 at Ayr Hospital as she was a representative on the NHS Board, however, as a Specific Exclusion applied to this appointment and she perceived there was no conflict of interest, she would not leave the room when this item was being considered and would take part in discussions on this matter.

4. **Minutes of previous meetings of Council and Panels.**

(1) **Minutes of previous meeting of Council.**

The Minutes of South Ayrshire Council of [5th October 2017](#) (issued) were submitted and authorised to be signed as a correct record of this meeting.

(2) **Minutes of previous meetings of Panels.**

The Minutes of the undernoted Panels were submitted for information:-

- (i) Appeals Panels of [5th September 2017](#).
- (ii) Audit and Governance Panel of [29th August](#) and [26th September 2017 \(Special\)](#).
- (iii) Leadership Panel of [19th September](#) and [31st October 2017](#).

In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation and Standing Orders for Meetings, Councillor Douglas Campbell, seconded by Councillor Brian McGinley, moved that Councillor Brian Connolly be the new representative on the Board of the Ayr Gaiety Partnership as contained in the "C" paragraph of the Leadership Panel minutes of 28th November 2017 entitled 'Support for Ayr Gaiety Partnership'.

Decided: to approve Councillor Brian Connolly as the new representative on the Board of the Ayr Gaiety Partnership.

- (iv) Local Review Body of [12th September](#), [3rd October](#) and [7th November 2017](#).
- (v) Partnerships Panel of [13th September 2017](#).
- (vi) Regulatory Panel – Licensing of [21st September](#) and [25th October 2017](#).
- (vii) Regulatory Panel – Planning of [31st August](#), [15th September \(Site Visit\)](#) and [4th October 2017](#).
- (viii) Service and Performance Panel of [12th September 2017](#).
- (ix) Ayrshire Shared Services Joint Committee of [8th September 2017](#).

Having previously declared an interest in the following, Councillor Brian Connolly left the meeting during consideration of this item.

(3) **Continued Item from Leadership Panel of 31st October 2017 – Golf Development Academy.**

There was submitted a report and minute excerpt (issued) considered at the meeting of the Leadership Panel of 31st October 2017 and continued to this meeting for further consideration.

Having heard the Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment advise that Council Officers were continuing to liaise with the Ayrshire Golf Trust and following a discussion on the options for the location of the Golf Development Academy, the requirement for public consultation and the importance of encouraging healthy living, the Council

Decided: to request that discussions continue with the Ayrshire Golf Trust, for further public consultation and fundraising to ensure a robust business plan be put forward and a revised report considered at a Leadership Panel meeting in early 2018.

Councillor Brian Connolly re-joined the meeting at this point.

5. Schedule of Meetings.

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 6th December 2017 by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation seeking approval of a timetable of Council and Panel meetings for the period August 2018 to June 2019. An updated draft Timetable was tabled for consideration, to reflect changes to certain Panel dates.

The Council

Decided: to approve the timetable of Council and Panel meetings for the period August 2018 to June 2019 as detailed below:-

Schedule of Meetings August 2018 to June 2019

2018			
Week 1			
Thursday 16 August	10.00 am	Licensing Board	County Hall
Week 2			
Tuesday 21 August	10.00 am	Leadership Panel	County Hall
Tuesday 21 August	2.00 pm	Local Review Body	Troon Room
Thursday 23 August	10.00 pm	Regulatory Panel – Licensing	County Hall
Week 3			
Wednesday 29 August	10.00 am	Audit and Governance Panel	County Hall
Week 4			
Wednesday 5 September	10.00 am	Appeals Panel	To be confirmed
Thursday 6 September	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel - Planning	County Hall
Friday 7 September	9.30 am	Ayrshire Shared Services	SAC
Week 5			
Tuesday 11 September	10.00 am	Service and Performance Panel	County Hall
Tuesday 11 September	2.00 pm	Local Review Body	Troon Room
Wednesday 12 September	10.00 am	Partnerships Panel	County Hall
Thursday 13 September	10.00 am	Licensing Board	County Hall

Week 6			
Tuesday 18 September	10.00 am	Leadership Panel (Education)	County Hall
Thursday 20 September	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel – Licensing	County Hall
<i>Friday 21 September – Public Holiday</i>			
<i>Monday 24 September – Public Holiday</i>			
Week 7			
Tuesday 25 September	10.00 am	Local Review Body	Troon Room
Wednesday 26 September	10.00 am	Audit and Governance Panel	County Hall
Week 8			
Tuesday 2 October	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel - Planning	County Hall
Wednesday 3 October	2.00 pm	Appeals Panel	To be confirmed
Thursday 4 October	10.00 am	South Ayrshire Council	County Hall
<i>Recess</i>			
<i>Schools close on Friday 12 October 2018 and re-open on Monday 22 October 2018 (in-service day) and Tuesday 23 October 2018 (pupils)</i>			
Week 1			
Thursday 25 October	10.00 am	Licensing Board	County Hall
Week 2			
Tuesday 30 October	10.00 am	Leadership Panel	County Hall
Thursday 1 November	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel – Licensing	County Hall
Week 3			
Tuesday 6 November	2.00 pm	Local Review Body	Troon Room
Wednesday 7 November	10.00 am	Audit and Governance Panel	County Hall
Friday 9 November	2.00 pm	Ayrshire Shared Services	SAC
Week 4			
Wednesday 14 November	10.00 am	Appeals Panel	To be confirmed
Thursday 15 November	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel - Planning	County Hall
Week 5			
Tuesday 20 November	10.00 am	Service and Performance Panel	County Hall
Wednesday 21 November	10.00 am	Partnerships Panel	County Hall
Thursday 22 November	10.00 am	Licensing Board	County Hall
Week 6			
Tuesday 27 November	10.00 am	Leadership Panel (Education)	County Hall
Tuesday 27 November	2.00 pm	Local Review Body	Troon Room
Thursday 29 November	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel – Licensing	County Hall

Week 7			
Tuesday 4 December	10.00 am	Local Review Body	Troon Room
Thursday 6 December	2.00 pm	Audit and Governance Panel <i>(only if required for purposes of considering a call-in from Leadership Panel)</i>	County Hall
Friday 7 December	9.30 am	Ayrshire Shared Services	SAC
Week 8			
Tuesday 11 December	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel - Planning	County Hall
Wednesday 12 December	10.00 am	Appeals Panel	To be confirmed
Thursday 13 December	10.00 am	South Ayrshire Council	County Hall
Recess <i>Schools close on Friday 21 December 2018 and re-open on Monday 7 January 2019</i>			
2019			
Week 1			
Tuesday 8 January	2.00 pm	Local Review Body	Troon Room
Thursday 10 January	10.00 am	Licensing Board	County Hall
Week 2			
Tuesday 15 January	10.00 am	Leadership Panel	County Hall
Thursday 17 January	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel – Licensing	County Hall
Week 3			
Wednesday 23 January	10.00 am	Audit and Governance Panel	County Hall
Week 4			
Tuesday 29 January	2.00 pm	Local Review Body	Troon Room
Wednesday 30 January	10.00 am	Appeals Panel	County Hall
Thursday 31 January	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel - Planning	County Hall
Week 5			
Tuesday 5 February	10.00 am	Service and Performance Panel	County Hall
Wednesday 6 February	10.00 am	Partnerships Panel	County Hall
Thursday 7 February	10.00 am	Licensing Board	County Hall
<i>Schools close on Friday 8 February 2019 and re-open on Tuesday 12 February 2019 (in-service day) and Wednesday 13 February 2019 (pupils)</i>			
Week 6			
Tuesday 12 February	10.00 am	Leadership Panel (Education)	County Hall
Thursday 14 February	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel – Licensing	County Hall
Week 7			
Tuesday 19 February	2.00 pm	Local Review Body	Troon Room
Wednesday 20 February	10.00 am	Audit and Governance Panel <i>(only if required for purposes of considering a call-in from Leadership Panel)</i>	County Hall

Week 8			
Tuesday 26 February	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel - Planning	County Hall
Wednesday 27 February	10.00 am	Appeals Panel	To be confirmed
Thursday 28 February	10.00 am	South Ayrshire Council	County Hall
Week 1			
Thursday 7 March	10.00 am	Licensing Board	County Hall
Week 2			
Tuesday 12 March	10.00 am	Leadership Panel	County Hall
Tuesday 12 March	2.00 pm	Local Review Body	Troon Room
Thursday 14 March	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel – Licensing	County Hall
Week 3			
Wednesday 20 March	10.00 am	Audit and Governance Panel	County Hall
Week 4			
Wednesday 27 March	10.00 am	Appeals Panel	To be confirmed
Thursday 28 March	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel - Planning	County Hall
Recess			
<i>Schools close on Friday 29 March 2019 and re-open on Monday 15 April 2019</i>			
Week 5			
Tuesday 16 April	10.00 am	Service and Performance Panel	County Hall
Tuesday 16 April	2.00 pm	Local Review Body	Troon Room
Wednesday 17 April	10.00 am	Partnerships Panel	County Hall
Thursday 18 April	10.00 am	Licensing Board	County Hall
Friday 19 April and Monday 22 April – Public Holidays			
Week 6			
Tuesday 23 April	10.00 am	Leadership Panel (Education)	County Hall
Thursday 25 April	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel – Licensing	County Hall
Week 7			
Tuesday 30 April	10.00 am	Local Review Body	Troon Room
Wednesday 1 May	10.00 am	Audit and Governance Panel <i>(only if required for purposes of considering a call-in from Leadership Panel)</i>	County Hall
Week 8			
Monday 6 May – Public Holiday			
Tuesday 7 May	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel - Planning	To be confirmed
Wednesday 8 May	10.00 am	Appeals Panel	County Hall
Thursday 9 May	10.00 am	South Ayrshire Council	County Hall

Week 1			
Thursday 16 May	10.00 am	Licensing Board	County Hall
Week 2			
Tuesday 21 May	10.00 am	Leadership Panel	County Hall
Thursday 23 May	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel - Licensing	County Hall
Week 3			
<i>Monday 27 May – Public Holiday</i>			
Tuesday 28 May	2.00 pm	Local Review Body	Troon Room
Wednesday 29 May	10.00 am	Audit and Governance Panel	County Hall
Week 4			
Tuesday 4 June	10.00am	Service and Performance Panel	county Hall
Wednesday 5 June	10.00 am	Appeals Panel	To be confirmed
Thursday 6 June	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel – Planning	County Hall
Week 5			
Tuesday 11 June	10.00 am	Leadership Panel (Education)	County Hall
Wednesday 12 June	10.00 am	Partnerships Panel	County Hall
Wednesday 12 June	2.00pm	Local Review Body	Troon Room
Thursday 13 June	10.00 am	Licensing Board	County Hall
Week 6			
Wednesday 19 June	10.00 am	Audit and Governance Panel <i>(only if required for purposes of considering a call-in from Leadership Panel)</i>	County Hall
Thursday 20 June	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel – Licensing	County Hall
Week 7			
Tuesday 25 June	10.00 am	Regulatory Panel - Planning	County Hall
Wednesday 26 June	10.00 am	Appeals Panel	To be confirmed
Thursday 27 June	10.00 am	South Ayrshire Council	County Hall
Recess			
<i>Schools close on Friday 28 June 2019 and re-open on Friday 16 August and Monday 19 August 2019 (in-service days) and Tuesday 20 August 2019 (pupils)</i>			

6. **Scheme of Delegation.**

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 6th December 2017 by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation seeking approval to amend the Scheme of Delegation following review.

Questions were raised and responded to by the Chief Executive and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services in relation to the reporting mechanism to Members when the Chief Executive had exercised her powers to amend the Scheme of Delegation in conjunction with the Monitoring Officer; and in relation to the delegated powers to acquire housing properties, and the Council

Decided: to approve the proposed revisions to the Scheme of Delegation as contained in Appendix 1 to the report, with effect from 15th December 2017.

7. **Standing Orders Relating to Contracts.**

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 6th December 2017 by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation seeking approval to amend the Standing Orders Relating to Contracts following review, in accordance with good governance.

A question was raised and responded to by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services regarding the delegated power to accept a bid that is not the lowest priced tender subject to certain limitations.

Having welcomed the introduction of the Dynamic Purchasing System within the Standing Orders and the expected benefits for local businesses, the Council

Decided: to approve the revised Standing Orders Relating to Contracts, contained in Appendix 1 to the report, with effect from 15th December 2016.

8. **Treasury Management Mid-Year Report - 2017/18.**

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 6th December 2017 by the Head of Finance and ICT providing a mid-year Treasury Management update for the financial year 2017/18.

The Council, having noted that the mid-year report had been scrutinised at the Audit and Government Panel of 8th November 2017 and having thanked the Head of Finance and ICT and his staff for the work undertaken on this report,

Decided: to approve the Treasury Management mid-year report, attached as Appendices 1 and 2 to the report.

9. **General Services 2018/19 Revenue Budget.**

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 6th December 2017 by the Head of Finance and ICT advising of issues to be considered in setting the General Services Revenue Budget for 2018/19.

A full discussion took place in relation to public consultation regarding budget spending; and the impact on communities of budget cuts and following questions from a Member, the Chief Executive confirmed that a report would be submitted to all Members on the results of the public consultation at the conclusion of the consultation period in mid February 2018.

Having heard the Head of Finance and ICT advise that the Scottish Budget was being set later that day which would provide further clarity for the Council and that the budget consultation exercise was planned for January 2018 to allow for setting the budget in March 2018, the Council

Decided:

- (1) to note the March 2017 indicative budget gap of £16.919m for 2018/19 and to further note the significant uncertainty surrounding this estimated gap; and
- (2) to note the planned public budget savings consultation set to take place in January/February 2018.

10. Corporate Charging Policy.

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 7th December 2017 by the Head of Finance and ICT seeking approval of the Council's Corporate Charging Policy.

Members raised a number of issues in relation to the proposed concessions as set out in the report, including possible staff concessions, general concessions for older people, and young person concessions for access to leisure facilities and activities, and noted the need to undertake public consultation on this Policy.

Following a question from a Member on a procedural matter of whether Standing Orders required to be suspended to consider the use of pre-school and after-school clubs as this had been considered at a recent meeting, the Chief Executive outlined the position and advised that it was appropriate to consider this matter.

The Council, having thanked the Head of Finance and ICT and his staff for their work on this Policy,

Decided:

- (1) to approve the Corporate Charging Policy, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, subject to appropriate concessions being agreed at the Council meeting on 1st March 2018;
- (2) to agree that implementation of the policy would take effect once the applicable concessions had been approved by Council; and
- (3) to agree the further planned action at paragraph 4.4 of the report following implementation of the policy.

11. Debt Charge Review.

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 6th December 2017 by the Head of Finance and ICT seeking agreement to revise the current and future debt charge repayment profile based on a prudent financial management approach.

The Council, having considered the details of the review undertaken of both the General Services and the Housing Revenue Account Loans fund advances (or debt) repayments, and its conclusions, as outlined in Appendix 1,

Decided: to agree to amend the loans fund advances repayment mechanism and resultant debt charges profile for current and future loans repayments, using the following criteria:-

- (1) forty years being considered the most appropriate length of repayment for general property, infrastructure and housing stock related expenditure advances, which is consistent with a prudent expectation of estimated benefit received over the life of these types of assets;
- (2) the current five per cent annuity rate methodology is appropriate and should continue; and
- (3) the prior year repayment methodologies should be revised and reset based on (1) and (2) above to ensure consistency and prudence going forward (Appendix 1 ref: 1.3.13).

12. Council House Rents and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Revenue and Capital Estimates 2018/19.

There was submitted a joint [report](#) (issued) of 29th November 2017 by the Head of Housing and Facilities and the Head of Finance and ICT seeking approval to set an appropriate level for Council house rents, lock-up rents, garage site rents, garden maintenance charges, communal heating and amenity charges for 2018/19 – 2020/21 and to approve the 2018/19 HRA Revenue and Capital Budget.

Clarification was sought from and provided by the Head of Housing and Facilities in relation to the demolition of the 162 lock-ups; and the Council, having congratulated the Head of Housing and Facilities on the extensive consultation carried out with tenants on this report,

Decided:

- (1) to apply a fixed Council house rent increase of 2% per annum for three years from 2018/19 to 2020/21 to all mainstream housing stock;
- (2) to freeze the rent of all Council new build properties for the period 2018/19 to 2020/21;
- (3) to reduce the rent of one bedroom new build properties to match the one bedroom Local Housing Allowance cap from the beginning of the 2018/19 financial year;
- (4) to increase other rental rates (lock-up, garage site rents, garden maintenance charges, communal heating and amenity charges) by 2% per annum for three years from 2018/19 to 2020/21;
- (5) to freeze the rent of all homeless temporary accommodation until further clarification on housing benefit subsidy had been provided by the UK Government;
- (6) that a total of £2.329m of uncommitted HRA surplus be earmarked towards double glazing window replacement, general environmental improvements in and around Council housing and environmental/footpath improvements in the vicinity of the Council's sheltered housing complexes, as outlined in Section 4.2 of the report, by 31st March 2020;

- (7) to agree to the demolition of the 162 lock-ups at various sites across South Ayrshire, as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report by 31st March 2020; and
- (8) to approve the 2018/19 HRA revenue budget and five year Capital Programme as outlined in Section 4 of the report.

13. South Lodge Care Home Care Inspectorate Report.

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 4th December 2017 by the Head of Community Health and Care Services advising of progress made in delivering the requirements and recommendations made by the Care Inspectorate in respect of South Lodge Care Home.

A question was raised and responded to by the Head of Community Health and Care Services in relation to the proposals for the new management structure and, having thanked the Head of Community Health and Care Services and his staff for the work undertaken to meet the requirements of the inspection, the Council

Decided: to note the progress and actions implemented following the inspection of South Lodge.

14. Proposals for Delivery of Key Priorities for Children and Families Services.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 14th December 2017 by the Head of Children's Health, Care and Criminal Justice Services seeking approval of proposals to support the prevention of accommodation for children and provide housing and supported accommodation for vulnerable young care leavers.

A full discussion took place in relation to the requirement to have the five new members of staff in post as soon as possible; the support mechanism for independent living; and the need for more foster carers in South Ayrshire and, having congratulated the Head of Children's Health, Care and Criminal Justice Services and her staff on this report, the Council

Decided:

- (1) to agree to a £0.223m investment from the Change Fund (profile of investment outlined in 6.1 of report) to enable establishment of an enhanced team to provide robust supports to families to reduce the risk of young people aged 10+ becoming accommodated away from home;
- (2) to approve the permanent establishment of 1 FTE Team Leader post graded at Level 12 and 4 FTE Family Support Worker posts graded at Level 6;
- (3) to note the development of proposals for the establishment of housing and support service for care leavers with complex needs; and
- (4) that an update report confirming the outcomes achieved be submitted to a future meeting of South Ayrshire Council by June 2019.

Adjournment.

The time being 12.10 p.m., the Council adjourned for fifteen minutes.

Resumption of Meeting.

The Council resumed at 12.25 p.m.

15. Development of the Council Plan 2018-22.

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 6th December 2017 by the Head of Policy and Performance seeking approval of the next steps in developing the Council Plan for 2018-22.

The Council

Decided:

- (1) to approve the development of the next Council Plan as detailed in 4.1 to 4.5 of the report, based on the draft strategic objectives and outcomes outlined in Appendix 1 to the report; and
- (2) to agree that the finalised Council Plan be presented to the Council at its meeting on 1st March 2018 for approval.

16. Progress Against the Council Plan During 2017-18.

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 6th December 2017 by the Head of Policy and Performance outlining the progress made between 1st April and 30th September 2017 towards the strategic objectives contained within the existing Council Plan.

Decided: having reviewed the progress made against the Council's strategic objectives as set out in Appendix 1, to note the contents of the report.

17. Notice of Motions.

- (a) A Notice of Motion having been submitted in accordance with Council Standing Order No. 18, Councillor Chris Cullen, seconded by Councillor Alec Clark, moved:-

“That South Ayrshire Council will prohibit all intentional helium balloon and Chinese/sky lantern releases on Council owned land and property and at events endorsed or supported by the Council, including those **released** on non-Council land.

South Ayrshire Council will raise awareness of environmental consequences of helium balloon and Chinese/sky lantern releases and promote alternatives.”

The Mover, in agreement with the seconder made an addition to the Motion as outlined in bold above.

A full debate then took place regarding the terms of the Motion, including the proposed systems in place for enforcing the prohibition and the proposals for raising awareness in relation to this and the Council

Decided: unanimously, to agree the terms of the Motion as set out above.

- (b) A Notice of Motion having been submitted in accordance with Council Standing Order No. 18, Councillor Peter Henderson, seconded by Councillor Ian Cavana moved:-

“That South Ayrshire Council through the Chief Executive inform the DWP, UK Government and Scottish Government of our grave concern of the impact that the roll out of universal credit is having on individuals and Council services due to the delays in payment to constituents. The misery and hardship caused, stress and demands on vital services due to the inefficiency and mismanagement of the implementation of the system by the Department of Work and Pensions. The changes announced in the Budget do not go far enough to stop the genuine distress and anxiety that is and is continuing to be caused. The fact that waiting times are reduced to five weeks will only be introduced in February, the advances system in January and additional support for Housing support in April, ensures that the winter will indeed be miserable for recipients.

This Council is calling for a pause in delivering the system until it is fit for purpose.”

A full debate then took place regarding the terms of the Motion and the Council

Decided: unanimously, to agree the terms of the Motion as set out above.

- (c) A Notice of Motion having been submitted in accordance with Standing Order No. 18, Councillor Peter Henderson, seconded by Councillor Andy Campbell moved:-

“That the Chief Executive expresses South Ayrshire Council’s opposition in the strongest terms to the Ayrshire and Arran Health Board and Scottish Government regarding the threat to Station 15 at Ayr Hospital to change Oncology services.

The provision of the cancer services at Ayr Hospital must be retained in order to serve the people of South Ayrshire for the future.

Change to the provision of these services in a large rural constituency would be extremely detrimental to the patients and public in South Ayrshire. Travelling distances and times with inadequate provision of public transport will have a severely adverse effect on patients and families. In the South, East and North of South Ayrshire, the time taken to travel to and from Ayr can be several hours. A proposal to extend this time by in excess of two hours for our village patients is unreservedly opposed. Provision of patient transport is often by multiple pick up and returns of patients by mini bus taking many most of the day. Volunteer patient transport is often provided by private car again to extend the length of journey to a facility without adequate parking, increased expense and discomfort is unacceptable and is against the patient charter.

While we are aware of public finance pressure etc. the proposed alternative in Kilmarnock is not in our opinion a reasonable option.

This Council calls for the retention of services and a commitment to the sadly growing number of patients that require the services provided.

It is also noted that without consultation several clinics provided at Ayr have now been unilaterally moved elsewhere causing stress, discomfort and extended travelling to many patients.”

A full debate then took place regarding the terms of the Motion and the Council

Decided: unanimously, to agree the terms of the Motion as set out above.

- (d) A Notice of Motion having been submitted in accordance with Council Standing Order No. 18, Councillor Craig Mackay, seconded by Councillor Philip Saxton, moved:-

“Council recognises the importance of walking and cycling, and the significant benefits to health, the environment and congested town centres that can result from modal shift from private cars towards active forms of travel.

Council welcomes the 100% increase in Scottish Government funding for active travel from £40m to £80m from 2018-19 and the appointment of an Active Nation Commissioner to help make Scotland a healthier and more active nation.

Council agrees that South Ayrshire has a role to play in contributing towards the Government’s vision of 10% of everyday journeys being undertaken by bicycle, and resolves to put active travel at the heart of our transport planning to take full advantage of the increased Government funding on offer.”

A full debate then took place regarding the terms of the Motion and the Council

Decided: unanimously, to agree the terms of the Motion as set out above.

- (e) A Notice of Motion having been submitted in accordance with Council Standing Order No. 18, Councillor Peter Henderson, seconded by Councillor Brian McGinley, moved:-

“Since Britain joined the European Union, Structural Funds have co-financed a vast range of initiatives to promote economic growth. With Brexit, that source of funding will disappear. South Ayrshire Council therefore welcomes the UK Government’s commitment to establishing a UK Shared Prosperity Fund as a potential source of new funding.

However, several issues are unresolved that could play a pivotal role in delivering growth and jobs in the places that need this most. The Industrial Communities Alliance has proposed that:

The Shared Prosperity Fund’s budget should be set at a level that not only compensates for the loss of EU funding (£1.5 bn a year) but also provides additional resources to match the scale of the challenge to deliver growth and prosperity across Britain.

The Fund should focus on narrowing local and regional differences in economic well-being.

Local authorities should have a strong hand in the management of the new Fund. Local authorities are most closely attuned to local needs and should take the key decisions about spending priorities.

As such it is agreed to ask the Chief Executive to write to the Chancellor, and Secretaries of State for Business and Communities, with copies to local MPs and MSPs, calling on the UK Government to incorporate these proposals into the structure of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.”

A full debate then took place regarding the terms of the Motion and the Council

Decided: unanimously, to agree the terms of the Motion as set out above.

- (f) A Notice of Motion having been submitted in accordance with Council Standing Order No. 18, Councillor Martin Dowey, seconded by Councillor Peter Convery, moved:-

“Council agrees to fly the Union Flag and Saltire from County Buildings from 1/11/18 to 30/11/18 to commemorate 100 years since the ending of the Great War in 1918, and for said flags to be flown every November thereafter from County Buildings.”

By way of Amendment, Councillor Laura Brennan-Whitefield, seconded by Councillor Andy Campbell, moved:-

“Council agrees to continue to fly the National flags to conform with the UK and Scottish flag flying protocols”.

A full debate then took place regarding the terms of the Motion and the Amendment.

A Member of the Council requested a roll call vote.

The Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation then took the vote by calling the roll as follows:-

Helen Moonie	Amendment
William Grant	Abstain
Laura Brennan-Whitefield	Amendment
Siobhian Brown	Amendment
Andy Campbell	Amendment
Douglas Campbell	Amendment
Iain Campbell	Motion
Ian Cavana	Amendment
Alec Clark	Abstain
Ian Cochrane	Amendment
Brian Connolly	Abstain
Peter Convery	Motion
Chris Cullen	Amendment
Ian Davis	Motion
Julie Dettbarn	Amendment
Martin Dowey	Motion
Ian Fitzsimmons	Motion
Peter Henderson	Amendment
Hugh Hunter	Motion
Lee Lyons	Motion
Craig Mackay	Amendment
Derek McCabe	Motion
Brian McGinley	Amendment
Bob Pollock	Motion
Philip Saxton	Amendment
Arthur Spurling	Motion

Thirteen Members voted for the Amendment and ten for the Motion with three Members abstaining. The Amendment was accordingly declared carried and the Council

Decided: to continue to fly the National flags to conform with the UK and Scottish flag flying protocols.

Time of Meeting.

During consideration of the above item, the time being 1.58 p.m., the Provost asked the Council if they would be willing to agree to continue the meeting beyond 2.00 p.m. as the business of the meeting was not likely to be completed by 2.00 p.m., in accordance with Standing Order No. 6.2. The Council so concurred.

- (g) A Notice of Motion having been submitted in accordance with Standing Order No. 18, by Councillor Martin Dowe and seconded by Councillor Iain Campbell, the Council heard Councillor Dowe advise that this Motion was now withdrawn.

18. Formal Questions.

In terms of Council Standing Order No. 26(2), there were submitted (tabled) Formal Questions from Councillor Hugh Hunter, details of which, together with the Answers, are outlined below:-

- (1) When will work start on reinstating the steeple in its original form, including the clock?

Answer:

A report was submitted to Leadership Panel on 3rd December 2013 advising that the costs of rebuilding the Steeple were estimated at £426,000. It was noted within the report that Prestwick Common Good fund has reserves of £35,000 in Capital and £286,000 in revenue and that the revenue reserves are funding an annual deficit of approximately £5,000 in relation to annual operating costs. The Leadership Panel of 3rd December 2013 decided not to proceed with the Prestwick Steeple rebuilding due to considerable affordability issues association with the Prestwick Common Good fund at the level required. This decision of the Council has never been reconsidered and accordingly there are no plans currently to commence works to reinstate the steeple.

- (2) When will work start on upgrading the historic Freemans Hall to present day building standards, including make it DDA compliant to allow it to be brought back into use for the benefit of the residents of South Ayrshire?

Answer:

The Freemans Hall is compliant with present day building standards. In terms of DDA, the Freemans Hall is linked to the Prestwick Customer Service Centre. The public areas are accessed through the Prestwick Customer Service Centre which has a ramped access and automatic doors. The public areas are all on one level and there is an induction loop at the reception area and an accessible WC. In terms of the Equalities Act 2010, we are bound by works that are reasonably practical to be carried out to the building. In this regard, the connectivity between the Freemans Hall and Prestwick Customer Service Centre works well from an accessibility perspective.

Councillor Hunter raised a supplementary question to which the Leader responded accordingly.

19. Exclusion of press and public.

The Council 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 item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information in terms of paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

20. Authority to Accept Tenders.

As previously intimated, the Council noted that this item had been withdrawn.

21. Review of Management Structure.

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 7th December 2017 by the Chief Executive outlining proposals for a revised Chief Officer structure for the Council (excluding officers from the Health and Social Care Partnership).

A full discussion took place and questions were raised and responded to the Chief Executive.

Councillor Douglas Campbell, seconded by Councillor Brian McGinley, moved the recommendations as outlined in the report.

By way of Amendment, Councillor Hugh Hunter, seconded by Councillor Martin Dowe moved the direct negative to the recommendations contained in the report and that the current managerial structure remain in place.

A Member of the Council requested a roll call vote.

The Chief Executive then took the vote by calling the roll as follows:-

Helen Moonie	Motion
William Grant	Motion
Laura Brennan-Whitefield	Motion
Siobhian Brown	Motion
Andy Campbell	Motion
Douglas Campbell	Motion
Iain Campbell	Abstain
Ian Cavana	Motion
Alec Clark	Motion
Ian Cochrane	Motion
Brian Connolly	Motion
Peter Convery	Abstain
Chris Cullen	Motion
Ian Davis	Abstain
Julie Dettbarn	Motion
Martin Dowe	Abstain
Ian Fitzsimmons	Abstain
Peter Henderson	Motion
Hugh Hunter	Amendment
Lee Lyons	Abstain
Craig Mackay	Motion
Derek McCabe	Abstain
Brian McGinley	Motion
Bob Pollock	Abstain
Philip Saxton	Motion
Arthur Spurling	Abstain

One Member voted for the Amendment and sixteen for the Motion with nine Members abstaining. The Motion was accordingly declared carried and the Council

Decided:

- (1) to approve the revised staffing and structural arrangements in respect of Chief Officers, as outlined in Appendix 2 to the report;
- (2) to agree the implementation/recruitment process to be followed for Council Chief Officers;
- (3) to agree that the Director of Health and Social Care should prepare a report for consideration by the Leadership Panel in March 2018, outlining the structural and operational arrangements to be put in place to achieve the objectives of the Programme for Effective Governance and the methods by which these will be monitored, measured and reported to Council;
- (4) to agree that a further review of the role and remits of the support service Heads of Service (Employee and Customer Services, Finance and ICT, and Regulatory Services) should be undertaken by December 2019 to identify opportunities to further refine and rationalise arrangements;
- (5) to agree that further work should be undertaken to identify the necessary third and fourth tier manager arrangements as a result of changes at Chief Officer level for consideration by the Leadership Panel in March 2018;
- (6) to agree that the operational management of Ayr Renaissance transfer to the Council in accordance with the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (TUPE); and
- (7) to approve any consequential revisions to the Scheme of Delegation.

22. Consideration of Disclosure of the above Confidential Reports.

Having heard the Chief Executive, the Council

Decided: to authorise the disclosure of the following report falling under Standing Order 32.4:-

- Review of Management Structure.

The meeting ended at 2.30 p.m.