

## **SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL.**

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr,  
on 29th June 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, Ian Fitzsimmons, William Grant, Peter Henderson, Hugh Hunter, Mary Kilpatrick, Lee Lyons, Derek McCabe, Brian McGinley, Bob Pollock, Philip Saxton, Arthur Spurling and Margaret Toner.

Apologies: Councillors Martin Dowey and Craig Mackay.

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; K. Leinster, Head of Community Health and Care Services; R. Riddiough, Head of Legal and Democratic Services; D. Burns, Head of Housing and Facilities; M. Baker, Head of Policy and Performance; A. Valenti, Quality Improvement Manager (Early Years); 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 Martin Dowey and Craig Mackay; and
- (3) advised that she had written, on the Council's behalf, to express the Council's warmest congratulations to Dr John Pender McClure of Ayr who had been awarded the MBE for his services to paediatric healthcare.

### **2. Sederunt.**

The Chief Executive called the Sederunt for the meeting.

### **3. Declarations of Interest.**

There were no declarations of interest by Members of the Council in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

### **4. Minutes of previous meeting of South Ayrshire Council.**

The Minutes of South Ayrshire Council of 18th May 2017 ([issued](#)) were submitted and authorised to be signed as a correct record of this meeting.

5. **Refresh of the Service and Improvement Plans for 2017/18.**

There was submitted a report (**issued**) of 20th June 2017 by the Head of Policy and Performance seeking approval of the Council's Service and Improvement Plans (SIPs) for 2017/18.

Clarification was provided by the Head of Policy and Performance in response to a question about the reduction in performance indicators in a number of the Service & Improvement Plans; and an observation was made regarding the need to improve consultation with local residents; and the Council

**Decided:** to approve the refreshed Service and Improvement Plans for 2017/18, attached as Annex 1 to the report.

6. **Standing Orders Relating to Meetings.**

There was submitted a report (**issued**) of 21st June 2017 by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation seeking approval to amend the Standing Orders Relating to Meetings following review. The Opposition members indicated that they would provide nominations at a later date\*; and the Council

**Decided:**

- (1) to approve the proposed revisions to Standing Orders Relating to Meetings, contained in Appendix 1 to the report, with effect from 30th June 2017; and
- (2) to request the Opposition Party to nominate two of its members to sit on the Leadership Panel and, if required, in order to comply with Standing Order 35.3 (3), to make alternative nominations for Scrutiny Panel membership.

\* The Opposition Party subsequently confirmed to the Chief Executive that it would not be nominating any of its members to be members of the Leadership Panel.

7. **Scheme of Delegation.**

There was submitted a report (**issued**) of 21st June 2017 and a further amendment (**tabled**) by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation seeking approval to amend the Scheme of Delegation following review.

The Council

**Decided:**

- (1) to approve the proposed revisions to the Scheme of Delegation contained in Appendix 1 to the report, with effect from 30th June 2017;
- (2) to agree the further amendment regarding the role of the Chief Education Officer; and
- (3) to request the Chief Executive to commence a further review of the Scheme of Delegation to consider changes in delegations to officers.

## 8. Financial Regulations.

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 21st June 2017 by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation seeking approval of the revised Financial Regulations.

The Council

**Decided:** to approve the revised Financial Regulations, as contained in Appendix 1 to the report, to be effective from 30th June 2017.

## 9. Representation on Outside Bodies.

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 22nd June 2017 by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation seeking approval to appoint or nominate representatives to the List of Outside Bodies following the outcome of the South Ayrshire Council election on 4th May 2017.

Having heard the Head of Legal and Democratic Services in relation to the appointment to the CK Marr Trust which had been approved by this Council at its meeting of 18th May 2017 and the Provost advise that, as an appointee was representing another organisation, this was a material change of circumstances and therefore, this could be reconsidered in terms of Standing Order 22, the Council

### **Decided:**

- (1) to appoint or nominate representatives to the organisations listed in Appendix 1 to the report as follows:-

Ayrshire Engineering Alliance	Brian McGinley (as an observer)
Ayrshire Housing	Ian Cavana and Chris Cullen
CK Marr Educational Trust	Conservative Member * (as a trustee) * subsequently confirmed as Bob Pollock
Energy Agency – South Ayrshire	Ian Cochrane (Chair), Philip Saxton and one Conservative Member * (as Directors) * subsequently confirmed as Peter Convery
Industrial Communities Alliance	Brian McGinley and Peter Henderson
Scottish Council Committee on Radioactive Substances	Ian Cochrane and Gordon Lauder, Team Leader (Trading Standards and Environmental Health)
South Ayrshire Crime Prevention Panel (formerly known as Carrick Crime Prevention)	Conservative Member * * subsequently confirmed as Ian Fitzsimmons
South Ayrshire Sports Council Executive	Ian Cavana and a Conservative Member * * subsequently confirmed as Derek McCabe
Town Twinning Forum	Helen Moonie (as Provost) and William Grant, Depute (as Depute Provost)

- (2) to agree that the organisations listed in Appendix 2 to the report, other than Ayrshire Housing, be removed from the List of Outside Bodies;
- (3) to agree that, notwithstanding the appointments to the Energy Agency, that the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation should undertake the necessary steps to bring about an orderly withdrawal of the Council from membership of the Energy Agency by not later than 30th June 2018 and then confirm the resignations of the Council's appointees to the Board of the Energy Agency; and
- (4) to agree that the Council should make temporary appointments to the Board of Ayrshire Housing, but notwithstanding that, the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation should undertake the necessary steps to bring about an orderly withdrawal of the Council from membership of Ayrshire Housing by not later than 30th June 2018 and then confirm the resignations of the Council's appointees to the Board of Ayrshire Housing.

#### 10. **Appointments to Convention of Scottish Local Authorities.**

There was submitted a report **(issued)** of 21st June 2017 by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation requesting that the Council nominate and appoint Members to COSLA's Policy Boards.

The Council

**Decided:** to approve the undernoted membership of each of the COSLA Policy Boards:-

##### **Policy Board**

Community Wellbeing  
Economy and Environment  
Education and Children  
Health and Social Care

##### **Member**

Conservative Member \*  
Brian McGinley  
William Grant  
Julie Dettbarn

\* subsequently confirmed as Ian Davis

#### 11. **Ayr Renaissance Board Membership.**

There was submitted a report **(issued)** of 22nd June 2017 by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services seeking approval of an amendment to the Paragraph 13.2 of the Ayr Renaissance LLP Agreement, increasing the maximum number of Ayr Renaissance Board members from 9 to 11.

The Council

**Decided:**

- (1) to approve the amendment to Paragraph 13.2 of the Ayr Renaissance LLP Agreement to increase the maximum number of Board members from 9 to 11; and
- (2) to nominate an additional Council appointee to the Board, to take effect once the additional external appointment was confirmed by the Council, to be a Conservative Member to be confirmed after the meeting\*

\*subsequently confirmed as Martin Dowey.

## 12. Annual Accounts 2016/17.

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 22nd June 2017 by the Head of Finance and ICT

- (1) providing an overview of the figures contained in the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2017;
- (2) outlining the significant variations from budget; and
- (3) detailing how the 2016/17 out-turn impacted on the Council's overall financial position.

Observations were made in relation to the shortfall in Building Warrant fees and the underspend on roads in South Ayrshire; and a question was raised regarding how underspends would impact on communities and the Head of Finance and ICT advised that it was incumbent on Directorates to examine all underspends and the Council, having congratulated the Head of Finance and ICT and his staff on this report,

### Decided:

- (a) to note the unaudited Annual Accounts, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report, circulated under separate cover, prior to their submission to the auditor and also to note that all figures remained subject to audit;
- (b) to note the out-turn position for each Directorate/service for 2016/17 as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report;
- (c) to approve the new earmarking of funds of £1.860m across all Directorates/services to be carried forward for utilisation in 2017/18, as outlined in Appendix 3 to the report;
- (d) to approve the £1.316m employee related provision, returned to revenue in 2016/17, be earmarked to provide additional funding to support workforce change; and
- (e) to request that, in order to inform the 2018/19 budget setting process, the Head of Finance and ICT undertake a review of
  - (i) the 2016/17 underspends contained in the service out-turn reports and reports back to the Leadership Panel in August 2017; and
  - (ii) the General Services committed reserves and reports back to the Leadership Panel in August 2017.

## 13. General Services Capital Programme 2016/17 : Monitoring Report as at 31st March 2017 and Future Years' Capital Allocation.

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 21st June 2017 by the Head of Property and Risk outlining the actual capital expenditure and income, together with progress made on the General Services Capital Programme projects as at 31st March 2017; and seeking approval of the changes to budgets in 2017/18 and future years.

Having heard the Head of Property and Risk outline the major projects recently completed; respond to a question on the present position with the public conveniences at Barassie; and agree to provide future reports on a ward-by-ward basis following a request from a Member, the Council, having congratulated the Head of Property and Risk and his staff on this report

**Decided:**

- (1) to note the progress made on the delivery of the General Services Capital Programme to 31st March 2017, resulting in spend of £54,195,752 or 102.24% of the revised budgeted expenditure;
- (2) to approve the adjustments contained in Table 2 of Appendix 1, attached to the report; and
- (3) to approve the revised budget for 2017/18 at £30,257,909 and 2018/19 at £30,779,210, as highlighted in Table 3 of Appendix 1.

**14. Housing Capital Programme 2016/17 : Monitoring Report as at 31st March 2017.**

There was submitted a joint report ([issued](#)) of 21st June 2017 by the Head of Housing and Facilities and the Head of Property and Risk outlining the actual capital expenditure and income, together with progress made on the Housing Capital Programme projects as at 31st March 2017; and seeking approval of the changes to budgets in 2017/18 and further years.

Having heard the Head of Housing and Facilities outline the recent improvements made to the Council house stock; respond to questions on housing being constructed for people with supported needs and the commitment from the Scottish Government of £35m of additional funding over the life of the Parliament, the Council, having congratulated the Head of Housing and Facilities and his staff on this report

**Decided:**

- (1) to note the progress made on the delivery of the Housing Capital Programme to 31st March 2017, resulting in spend of £13,084,987 or 93.07%;
- (2) to approve the adjustments contained in Table 2 of Appendix 1, attached to the report; and
- (3) to approve the revised budget for 2017/18 at £19,063,060 and 2018/19 at £20,139,000, as highlighted in Table 3 of Appendix 1.

**15. Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 10th May 2017 by the Director of Educational Services updating the Council on the expansion of early learning and childcare; and seeking approval of the strategic approach to the delivery of the Scottish Government policy of 1140 hours funded early learning and childcare by the summer of 2020.

Having heard the Director of Educational Services explain how officers planned to progress the requirement to provide the increased provision in early learning and childcare; respond to questions on the contingency plans of a major overspend on the new builds and extensions and the membership of the Strategic Planning Group; and having heard the Chief Executive in response to a question on working in collaboration with the IJB and Health Board, the Council, having welcomed the proposals set out in the report;

**Decided:**

- (1) to note the implications to deliver the expansion of early learning and childcare by 2020;
- (2) to note the arrangements in place to deliver 1140 hours by 2020;
- (3) to approve the staffing requirements;
- (4) to request the Director of Educational Services to submit the Implementation Plan to the Leadership Panel for approval prior to submission to the Scottish Government by 29th September 2017; and
- (5) to approve the continuation of the current pilot at the Space Place Early Years Centre and two additional pilots at Newton and Ballantrae Primary School Early Years Centres.

**16. Notice of Motions.**

- (a) A Notice of Motion having been submitted in accordance with Standing Order 18, Councillor Hugh Hunter, seconded by Councillor Iain Campbell (in the absence of Councillor Martin Dowey), moved as follows:-

“Council agrees to reinstate the grounds maintenance ‘events’ budget and increase it to the sum of £30,000 to allow stalls and other equipment to be provided, erected and removed at no cost to local groups organising community events, in line with previous practice.

Council further agrees to provide the Ayrshire Roads Alliance with a budget of £30,000 to allow Christmas lighting in the towns and villages outside of Ayr to be erected and removed without charge to the local organising groups. This budget may also allow road closures and diversions, for Christmas lighting switch-on events, to be put in place without charge to the local organising groups. It will also allow for the replacement of some of the poorer quality Council owned Christmas lighting in these communities.

This decision to be funded, in 2017/18, by drawing on the Council’s uncommitted reserves. Future funding of these initiatives to be considered as part of the budget setting process for 2018/19.”

**By way of Amendment,** Councillor Peter Henderson, seconded by Councillor Alec Clark, moved as follows:-

“This administration welcomes the endeavours and activities of local residents in organising local fun and gala days. The administration notes with concern the withdrawal of the limited Council support funding of £15,000 in the financial year 2016/17 and 2017/18. It is proposed to include within the 2018/19 budget the amount of £20,000 from uncommitted reserves to support communities and organisations to provide such historic galas and to request that officers, following consultation with communities and organisations, bring forward options for sustainable long term funding models to a future Leadership Panel meeting and further consideration as part of the budget process.”

A full discussion then took place on the terms of the Motion and the Amendment.

On a vote being taken by a show of hands, fifteen Members voted for the Amendment and eleven for the Motion.

**Decided:** to agree the terms of the Amendment as outlined above.

(b) A Notice of Motion having been submitted in accordance with Standing Order 18, by Councillor Hugh Hunter and Councillor Martin Dowey, the Council heard Councillor Hunter advise that, as a result of discussions since he had submitted his Motion he would withdraw this Motion, and accordingly the Motion was not moved.

(c) A Notice of Motion having been submitted in accordance with Standing Order 18, Councillor Peter Henderson, seconded by Councillor Ian Cochrane, moved as follows:-

“The administration recognises representation from communities to seek the introduction of 20mph speed limits in all villages, following consultation and agreement with communities in the villages of South Ayrshire and Police Scotland; on the grounds of public safety and traffic management, environmental and infrastructure concerns. Officers to initially report back to the Leadership Panel by 28th November 2017.”

A full discussion then took place on the terms of the Motion.

**Decided:** unanimously, to agree the terms of the Motion as outlined above.

(d) A Notice of Motion having been submitted in accordance with Standing Order 18, by Councillor Hugh Hunter and Councillor Peter Convery, the Council heard Councillor Hugh Hunter advise that, as a result of discussions since he had submitted his Motion he would withdraw this Motion, and accordingly the Motion was not moved.

**17. Formal Questions.**

The Provost advised that no formal questions had been submitted.

The meeting ended at noon