

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2013 UPDATE
Meeting: EXECUTIVE
Date: 19 NOVEMBER 2013
Author: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the outcome of the extended nomination period for community council elections.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Executive considered a report, at its last meeting on 8 October, on the outcome of the community council elections nomination process.

2.2 The Executive noted the formation of community councils at Airth Parish, Banknock Hags and Longcroft, Bo'ness and Maddiston, where the number of nominations had equalled the number of vacancies.

2.3 For those community councils where nominations for at least two thirds of the vacancies had been received, the Executive allowed the councils to form and to co-opt members to fill the remaining vacancies (this being the minimum proportion of members required to allow councils to operate). These were the community councils at:-

Avonbridge and Standburn	5 nominations for 6 places
Brightons	4 nominations for 6 places
Denny and District	8 nominations for 10 places
Falkirk South	5 nominations for 7 places
Grahamston, Middlefield and Westfield	7 nominations for 8 places
Larbert, Stenhousemuir and Torwood	8 nominations for 11 places
Reddingmuirhead and Wallacestone	4 nominations for 6 places
Shieldhill and California	5 nominations for 7 places

2.4 In the case of community councils where nominations for fewer than two thirds of the vacancies had been received, the Executive agreed to extend the nomination period to 30 October 2013. These were:-

Blackness	0 nominations for 6 places
Bonnybridge	3 nominations for 8 places
Camelon, Bantaskine and Tamfourhill	0 nominations for 9 places
Carron and Carronshore	0 nominations for 7 places
Falkirk Central	0 nominations for 7 places
Grangemouth	1 nominations for 12 places
Langlees, Bainsford and New Carron	4 nominations for 8 places
Lower Braes	0 nominations for 7 places
Polmont	0 nominations for 7 places
Slamannan and Limerigg	0 nominations for 6 places
Whitecross	0 nominations for 6 places

2.5 At the close of the period, further nominations had been received for; Blackness (4), Bonnybridge (3), Langlees, Bainsford and New Carron (2), Lower Braes (3), Grangemouth (1) and Polmont (7). Following the close of nominations a further 3 nominations were received for Lower Braes.

2.6 The table below shows the updated position for those community councils which were unable to form after the initial nomination period:-

Blackness	4 nominations for 6 places
Bonnybridge	6 nominations for 8 places
Camelon, Bantaskine and Tamfourhill	0 nominations for 9 places
Carron and Carronshore	0 nominations for 7 places
Falkirk Central	0 nominations for 7 places
Grangemouth	2 nominations for 12 places
Langlees, Bainsford and New Carron	6 nominations for 8 places
Lower Braes	3 nominations for 7 places
Polmont	7 nominations for 7 places
Slamannan and Limerigg	0 nomination for 6 places
Whitecross	0 nominations for 6 places

2.7 In the case of Polmont, the number of nominations now equals the number of vacancies and the council is formed.

2.8 For Blackness, Bonnybridge and Langlees, Bainsford and New Carron community councils, the additional nominations received means that nominations have now been received for at least two thirds of the vacancies and the Executive may wish to allow the community councils to form and co-opt members to the remaining places.

2.9 However for Camelon, Bantaskine and Tamfourhill, Carron and Carronshore, Falkirk Central, Grangemouth, Lower Braes, Slamannan and Limerigg, and Whitecross community councils the number of nominations received remains fewer than two thirds of the vacancies and, as such, these community councils remain unable to form. If the Executive was minded to accept the late nominations for Lower Braes then the community council could be formed. Previously in such situations Council has, as a pragmatic measure, accepted late nominations. For the remaining 6 community councils the Executive may wish to extend further the nomination process or it could determine that the outcome of the extended nomination process is that the communities are not minded to form community councils in these areas. It remains available for elections to be held at any time if an application is made from 20 electors in a community council area.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Executive is invited to:

- (i) note the formation of Polmont community council;**
- (ii) allow the 3 community councils at paragraph 2.8 to form and to allow these community councils to co-opt members to fill the remaining vacancies;**
- (iii) consider accepting the late nominations received in respect of the Lower Braes community council; and**
- (iv) determine how it wishes to proceed with those 6 community councils which are unable to form as set out in paragraph 2.9.**

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Date: 1 November 2013

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Background papers – Community Council elections 2013 correspondence