

FC81. THE HELIX

With reference to the Minute of the Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 10 March 2009 (Paragraph PR117 refers) there was submitted Report (circulated) dated 16 January 2012 by the Chief Executive (a) advising of the progress to date of the Helix Project, (b) advising of a request by the Helix Trust Board that Council consider a revised governance structure for the Project and specifically that the Falkirk Community Trust be nominated as the successor to the Helix Futures Trust and (c) summarising the implications of the proposal.

Councillor C Martin, seconded by Councillor Mahoney, moved the recommendations as detailed in the Report.

By way of an Amendment, Councillor Alexander, seconded by Councillor McNally, moved that:-

“Council notes not only the failure of the current Administration to remain even close to the original delivery timetable and project specification but also to properly consult with the architects of the Helix project, opposition SNP and non aligned Independent Councillors.

Members are particularly concerned that a decision is being rushed in this matter without all facts being known and it would appear more for the benefit of Falkirk Leisure Trust than the Helix Project.

Council therefore agrees to defer a decision on this matter until all parties within Falkirk Council have had the opportunity to meet both Trust Boards to assess the long terms implications for all concerned.”

Following discussion on the background to the proposal by the Helix Trust, Council agreed to continue consideration of this item of business until later in the agenda to allow the Chief Executive of Falkirk Community Trust and the interim Chief Executive of the Helix Trust to be contacted and given the opportunity to attend the meeting and address questions from Members.

FC85. THE HELIX (Continued)

With reference to item FC81 earlier in the agenda, the Chief Executive advised that the Chief Executive of Falkirk Community Trust, Maureen Campbell, was now in attendance but that the interim Chief Executive of the Helix Trust was unable to attend due to prior engagements.

Council then resumed its consideration of the proposal by the Helix Trust.

Following discussion and, in terms of Standing Order 21.4 (i), a vote was taken by roll call on the Motion and Amendment made earlier in the meeting. There being 30 members present, the voting was as undernoted:-

For the Motion (16) – Provost Reid; Depute Provost Black; Councillors Blackwood, Buchanan, Goldie, Gow, C MacDonald, Mahoney, C Martin, C R Martin, McLuckie, McNeill, Nicol, Nimmo, Patrick and Waddell.

For the Amendment (14) – Councillors Alexander, Carleschi, Coleman, Hughes, Jackson, Kenna, A MacDonald, McNally, Meiklejohn, Oliver, Ritchie, Spears and Thomson and Turner.

Accordingly **AGREED**:-

- (1) in principle, to the proposals contained in Appendix 2 to the Report, as supplemented by the terms of section 4 and Appendix 3 which include the dissolution of Helix Trust and the assumption by Falkirk Council and Falkirk Community Trust of the services to be delivered by Helix Trust and Helix Futures Trust;
- (2) that, subject to all necessary approvals and consents being agreed by the various stakeholders detailed at paragraph 5.1 in the Report, to authorise the Chief Executive or her nominee take forward work required to implement these proposals, and
- (3) to instruct the Chief Executive to report back to the Council meeting in March for final approval of the detailed proposal for transition, noting that, in the event that the work referred to at recommendation (2) above results in any significant changes being made to the proposals, such changes will be specifically drawn to the attention of Members.