

**Record of Votes Taken at the Meeting of Falkirk Council
on Wednesday 6 December 2023**

Councillors not in attendance:- J Robertson.

Agenda Item No. 7	Standing Orders Review Group – Outcomes – Vote 1
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Motion

Council agrees a debate procedure which creates distinct ‘Question Time’ and ‘Debate Time’ periods.

Moved by: C Meiklejohn

Seconded by: P Garner

Amendment

Council agrees to delete all and insert "a procedure which creates distinct "Question Time" and "Debate Time" sections in which any elected member is free to participate; that this procedure protects the concept and makes clear the procedure for tabling of further amendments, including in circumstances where there was no division on the item at its introduction to the meeting”;

Moved by: L Murtagh

Seconded by: A Ritchie

VOTE

For the motion (11)

Provost R Bissett	S Devine
Depute Provost D Balfour	G Forrest
L Binnie	P Garner
G Bouse	C Meiklejohn
F Collie	I Sinclair
B Deakin	

For the amendment (18)

D Aitchison	B McCabe
M Anslow	L Murtagh
C Brown	A Nimmo
W Buchanan	S Paterson
J Bundy	S Patrick
J Flynn	J Redmond
A Hannah	A Ritchie
A Kelly	R Spears
J Kerr	E Stainbank

Decision: The amendment was carried.

Agenda Item No. 5	Standing Orders Review Group – Outcomes – Vote 2
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Motion

Council agrees that EC&YP substitutes be made available for care experienced and pupil representatives.

Moved by: C Meiklejohn

Seconded by: P Garner

Amendment

Council agrees to delete after "for" and insert "all non-directly elected representatives of the committee;"

Moved by: L Murtagh

Seconded by: A Ritchie

VOTE

For the motion (15)

Depute Provost D Balfour	J Flynn
L Binnie	G Forrest
G Bouse	P Garner
C Brown	J Kerr
J Bundy	C Meiklejohn
F Collie	S Patrick
B Deakin	I Sinclair
S Devine	

For the amendment (14)

Provost R Bissett	L Murtagh
D Aitchison	A Nimmo
M Anslow	S Paterson
W Buchanan	J Redmond
A Hannah	A Ritchie
A Kelly	R Spears
B McCabe	E Stainbank

Decision: The motion was carried.

Agenda Item No. 5	Standing Orders Review Group – Outcomes – Vote 3
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Motion

To agree the remaining amendments to Standing Orders, as recommended in the report, as set out in appendix 6 are adopted.

Moved by: C Meiklejohn

Seconded by: P Garner

Amendment

Council agrees to insert new point 11 and renumber accordingly: "to create a procedure which makes possible the substitution of elected members to committees of council, in circumstances which meet an appropriately exceptional threshold, respecting the maintenance of requirements on proportionality and where mandatory training is a requirement";

Moved by: L Murtagh

Seconded by: A Ritchie

VOTE

For the motion (14)

Depute Provost D Balfour	J Flynn
G Bouse	G Forrest
C Brown	P Garner
J Bundy	J Kerr
F Collie	C Meiklejohn
B Deakin	S Patrick
S Devine	I Sinclair

For the amendment (15)

Provost R Bisset	L Murtagh
D Aitchison	A Nimmo
M Anslow	S Paterson
L Binnie	J Redmond
W Buchanan	A Ritchie
A Hannah	R Spears
A Kelly	E Stainbank
B McCabe	

Decision: The amendment was carried.

Agenda Item No. 5

Standing Orders Review Group – Outcomes – Vote 4

Motion

Council agrees that a revised timetable of meetings is submitted which includes meetings of Council and the Executive(s) in the later part of the week.

Moved by: C Meiklejohn

Seconded by: P Garner

Amendment

Council agrees to delete all and insert: "that papers for all council committees be published 10 days in advance of the published date of the meeting"

Moved by: L Murtagh

Seconded by: A Ritchie

VOTE

For the motion (15)

Depute Provost D Balfour	J Flynn
L Binnie	G Forrest
G Bouse	P Garner
C Brown	J Kerr
J Bundy	C Meiklejohn
F Collie	S Patrick
B Deakin	I Sinclair
S Devine	

For the amendment (14)

Provost R Bissett	L Murtagh
D Aitchison	A Nimmo
M Anslow	S Paterson
W Buchanan	J Redmond
A Hannah	A Ritchie
A Kelly	R Spears
B McCabe	E Stainbank

Decision: The motion was carried.

Agenda Item No. 5	Standing Orders Review Group – Outcomes – Vote 5
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Motion

Council agrees that a review of the 'Implications' section be undertaken to consider implementation of:-

- (i) Full Equality and Poverty Impact Assessments to be appended to reports with a summary provided under 'Equalities' heading;
- (ii) Risks to be linked to the Corporate Risk Register and outlined under the 'Risk' heading along with information on the risk of agreeing/not agreeing recommendations;
- (iii) Impacts arising from decisions to be linked to the Council Plan and outlined under a new 'Council Plan' heading, and
- (iv) Climate Statement/Carbon Budgeting to be moved to the 'Implications' section;

Moved by: C Meiklejohn

Seconded by: P Garner

Amendment

Council agrees to delete point (iv) of the motion.

Moved by: L Murtagh

Seconded by: A Ritchie

VOTE

For the motion (15)

Depute Provost D Balfour	J Flynn
L Binnie	G Forrest
G Bouse	P Garner
C Brown	J Kerr
J Bundy	C Meiklejohn
F Collie	S Patrick
B Deakin	I Sinclair
S Devine	

For the amendment (13)

Provost R Bissett	A Nimmo
D Aitchison	S Paterson
M Anslow	J Redmond
W Buchanan	A Ritchie
A Hannah	R Spears
A Kelly	E Stainbank
L Murtagh	

Abstention (1): B McCabe.

Decision: The motion was carried.

Agenda Item No. 5	Standing Orders Review Group – Outcomes – Vote 6
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Motion

Council agrees that the Appointments and Appeals Committees be excluded from a hybrid format unless otherwise requested by the appointee/employee or union representative and approved by the convener.

Moved by: C Meiklejohn

Seconded by: P Garner

Amendment

Council agrees to delete after "from" and insert: "an automatic presumption of hybrid format and will normally be conducted in person unless otherwise requested by any person involved in the committee's proceedings".

Moved by: L Murtagh

Seconded by: A Ritchie

VOTE

For the motion (26)

Provost R Bissett	B Deakin	C Meiklejohn
Depute Provost D Balfour	S Devine	A Nimmo
D Aitchison	J Flynn	S Paterson
M Anslow	G Forrest	S Patrick
L Binnie	P Garner	J Redmond
G Bouse	A Hannah	I Sinclair
C Brown	A Kelly	R Spears
J Bundy	J Kerr	E Stainbank
F Collie	B McCabe	

For the amendment (3)

W Buchanan
L Murtagh
A Ritchie

Decision: The motion was carried.

Agenda Item No. 9	Appointments – Forth Green Freeport Board
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Nominations as Forth Green Freeport Board Member

P Garner nominated Councillor Meiklejohn.

E Stainbank nominated Councillor Nimmo.

S Patrick nominated Councillor Bundy.

B McCabe nominated Councillor Spears.

VOTE

For Cllr Meiklejohn (10)	For Cllr Nimmo (10)	For Cllr Bundy (5)	For Cllr Spears (3)
Depute Provost D Balfour	Provost R Bissett	C Brown	B McCabe
L Binnie	D Aitchison	J Bundy	A Ritchie
G Bouse	M Anslow	J Flynn	R Spears
F Collie	W Buchanan	J Kerr	
B Deakin	A Hannah	S Patrick	
S Devine	A Kelly		
G Forrest	A Nimmo		
P Garner	S Paterson		
C Meiklejohn	J Redmond		
I Sinclair	E Stainbank		

Abstention (1) – L Murtagh.

Councillor Spears, having received the fewest votes, was struck out from further rounds of voting. Councillor Bundy withdrew his nomination.

Vote

For Cllr Meiklejohn (12)		For Cllr Nimmo (13)	
Depute Provost D Balfour	G Forrest	Provost R Bissett	A Kelly
L Binnie	P Garner	D Aitchison	A Nimmo
G Bouse	J Kerr	M Anslow	S Paterson
F Collie	C Meiklejohn	C Brown	J Redmond
B Deakin	I Sinclair	W Buchanan	A Ritchie
S Devine	R Spears	J Flynn	E Stainbank
		A Hannah	

Abstentions (4): J Bundy, B McCabe, L Murtagh and S Patrick.

Decision: Councillor Nimmo was appointed.

Agenda Item No. 17(d)	Motion – Michael Matheson MSP
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Motion

Council notes that the highest level of integrity and trust is required of those who hold elected office to serve our communities.

Council notes the significant concerns in the local community at the issues surrounding Michael Matheson's use of his Parliament issued Ipad and that those concerns have been heightened by his changing account of what happened during the course of his explanations to the media and parliament.

Council agrees that the loss of confidence in Michael Matheson as a representative of the communities of Falkirk West as a result of his handling of this issue is so significant that Council calls on him to resign as Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care and as Member of the Scottish Parliament for Falkirk West.

Moved by: J Redmond

Seconded by: A Hannah

Amendment

Falkirk Council acknowledges that since his election 24 years ago Mr Matheson has been an exemplary MSP and has held a number of roles in Government at a senior level and has done so with honesty and integrity throughout.

Council recognises that there has been heightened level of public interest following a recent statement in the Scottish Parliament by Michael Matheson MSP in relation to the use of data from his iPad, he has also provided a clear explanation of the events and ensured that the Parliament was reimbursed for the full cost.

Moved by: C Meiklejohn

Seconded by: P Garner

VOTE

For the motion (15)

Provost R Bissett	J Kerr
D Aitchison	B McCabe
C Brown	A Nimmo
W Buchanan	S Paterson
J Bundy	S Patrick
J Flynn	J Redmond
A Hannah	E Stainbank
A Kelly	

For the amendment (12)

Depute Provost D Balfour	G Forrest
L Binnie	P Garner
G Bouse	C Meiklejohn
F Collie	L Murtagh
B Deakin	I Sinclair
S Devine	R Spears

Abstention (1) – A Ritchie.

Decision: The motion was carried and became the substantive motion against which the further amendment was considered.

Further Amendment

Council agrees to adjust the terms of the final paragraph in the motion to read:-

Council agrees that the loss of confidence in Michael Matheson as a representative of the communities of Falkirk West as a result of his handling of this issue is so significant that Council calls on him to resign as Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care **and asks him to consider his position** as Member of the Scottish Parliament for Falkirk West.

Moved by: J Bundy
Seconded by: J Flynn

VOTE

For the motion (9)		For the further amendment (6)	
Provost R Bissett	A Nimmo	C Brown	J Kerr
D Aitchison	S Paterson	J Bundy	B McCabe
W Buchanan	J Redmond	J Flynn	S Patrick
A Hannah	E Stainbank		
A Kelly			

Abstentions (13) – Depute Provost D Balfour; L Binnie, G Bouse, F Collie, B Deakin, S Devine, G Forrest, P Garner, C Meiklejohn, L Murtagh, A Ritchie, I Sinclair and R Spears.

Decision: The motion was carried

Notes

1. This voting record is subject to approval of the formal minute at the meeting of Falkirk Council on 27 March 2024.
2. Only those items where a vote was taken are recorded here. For information about decisions reached on any other items considered at this meeting, please contact Brian Pirie, 01324 506110.