

**DRAFT****FALKIRK COUNCIL****MINUTE of MEETING of FALKIRK COUNCIL held in the MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, FALKIRK on WEDNESDAY 6 DECEMBER 2006 at 10.30 AM.**

**PRESENT:** Provost Johnston; Depute Provost R Wilson; Councillors Alexander, Anderson, Bryson, Buchanan, Coleman, H Constable, J Constable, Eaglesham, Fowler, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow, Hamid, Rev. Jenkinson, Kenna, A MacDonald, C MacDonald, McCafferty, McNally, Martin, Miller, Patrick, Pollock, Reid, Spears, Speirs, Williamson and J Wilson.

**CONVENER:** Provost Johnston

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Graham and Nicol

**ATTENDING:** Chief Executive; Directors of Community Services, of Corporate and Commercial Services, of Development Services, of Education Services and of Finance Services; Acting Director of Law and Administration Services; Development Plan Co-ordinator (C Hemfrey); Project Director (B Smail); Service Manager, Community Care (M Reddie) and Democratic Services Manager.

**FC27. MINUTES AND INFORMATION BULLETIN**

- (a) There was submitted (circulated) and **APPROVED** Minute of Meeting of Falkirk Council held on 4 October 2006
- (b) There was submitted (circulated) and **APPROVED** Minute of Special Meeting of Falkirk Council held on 30 October 2006.
- (c) There was submitted (circulated) and **NOTED** Volume of Minutes of Meetings held since 13 September 2006.
- (d) There was submitted (circulated) and **NOTED** Information Bulletin – Volume 4 – 2006/07.

**FC28. CARRONGROVE PLANNING BRIEF – DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION**

In terms of the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this item had been called into Council by Councillors J Constable, Spears and Williamson.

There was submitted (circulated) (a) Extract of Minute of Meeting of the Environment and Heritage Committee held on 21 November 2006, and (b) Report dated 14 November 2006 by the Director of Development Services submitted to the Environment and Heritage Committee meeting held on 21 November 2006.

Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Miller moved that the Planning Brief be not developed thereby retaining the area of ground for industrial use.

By way of an amendment, Councillor Spears, seconded by Councillor A MacDonald, moved that:-

- (a) Council approve consultation on the Draft Planning Brief with the local community, potential developers of the site, site owners and other agencies with a potential interest, and
- (b) where no major issues are raised through consultation, the finalised Brief be referred to the Policy and Resources Committee in January 2007 with a recommendation to approve, otherwise the matter will be referred back to the Environment and Heritage Committee.

In terms of Standing Order 21.4 (i) a vote was taken by way of a roll call, there being 30 Members present, with Members voting as undernoted:-

For the Motion (14) – Councillors Buchanan, Fowler, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow, Hamid, Rev. Jenkinson, C MacDonald, Martin, Miller, Pollock, Reid, Speirs and Wilson.

For the Amendment (16) – Provost Johnston; Depute Provost R Wilson; Councillors Alexander, Anderson, Bryson, Coleman, H Constable, J Constable, Eaglesham, Kenna, A MacDonald, McCafferty, McNally, Patrick, Spears and Williamson.

Accordingly, **RESOLVED** in terms of the Amendment.

## **FC29. DEVELOPMENT OF PARKS STRATEGY**

In terms of the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this item had been called into Council by Councillors J Constable, Spears and Williamson.

There was submitted (circulated) (a) Extract of Minute of Meeting of the Environment and Heritage Committee held on 21 November 2006, and (b) Report dated 8 November 2006 by the Director of Community Services submitted to the Environment and Heritage Committee meeting held on 21 November 2006.

Councillor Gow, seconded by Councillor Rev. Jenkinson, moved that:-

- (1) Council approves the development of a Parks Strategy to cover the key areas of management, maintenance and development. A working group established to carry out this task should include appropriate community interest and expert advisers as required;
- (2) in view of the long delay since 2001 in implementing the parks element of the current Culture and Leisure Strategy and the fact that the Council will possibly not have Committee meetings between March and June next year, the working group should report by the end of February 2007, directly to full Council, if necessary, and

- (3) in the case of Dollar Park, the Council should not deal with the future of Arnotdale as a separate matter from the Parks Strategy.

By way of an amendment Councillor Spears, seconded by Councillor Williamson, moved that Council approves the development of a Parks Strategy to cover the key areas of management, maintenance and development and that a draft Strategy be presented to a future meeting of Committee for consideration.

In terms of Standing Order 21.4 (i) a vote was taken by way of a roll call, there being 30 Members present, with Members voting as undernoted:-

For the Motion (14) – Councillors Buchanan, Fowler, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow, Hamid, Rev. Jenkinson, C MacDonald, Martin, Miller, Pollock, Reid, Speirs and Wilson.

For the Amendment (16) – Provost Johnston; Depute Provost R Wilson; Councillors Alexander, Anderson, Bryson, Coleman, H Constable, J Constable, Eaglesham, Kenna, A MacDonald, McCafferty, McNally, Patrick, Spears and Williamson.

Accordingly, **RESOLVED** in terms of the Amendment.

### **FC30. POLLING ARRANGEMENTS – COMBINED SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS – 3 MAY 2007**

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 22 November 2006 by the Returning Officer (a) providing information on the current position in relation to planning for the combined Scottish Parliamentary and Local Government Elections to be held on 3 May 2007; (b) advising of relevant legislative changes and key dates; (c) providing associated miscellaneous procedural information, and (d) seeking approval, in principle, of the draft polling scheme for use at the forthcoming elections.

#### **AGREED:-**

- (1) to approve, in principle, the draft polling scheme of parliamentary polling districts and polling places, as detailed in the Appendix attached to the report;
- (2) to authorise acceptance of the User Agreement with DRS Data Services Limited in relation to the e counting system should it be determined that the Local Authority is the appropriate contracting party, and
- (3) to note (i) the legislative changes and procedural information relating to the forthcoming combined Scottish Parliamentary and Local Government Elections, as detailed within the body of the Report, and (ii) that supplementary information will be issued to Members and reported to Council, as appropriate, when made available.

Councillors Fowler, D Goldie, Miller and Speirs left the meeting during consideration of the foregoing item of business.

In terms of Standing Order 31.1, it was **AGREED** to continue the meeting beyond the 3 hour limit with a view to completing the business, following a short adjournment for lunch. The meeting adjourned at 1.30 pm and reconvened at 2.00 pm with all Members present as per the sederunt with the exception of Councillors Fowler, Hamid, Miller, Pollock, Speirs and Wilson.

### **FC31. COMMUNITY SCHOOLS 2008 - PROJECT UPDATE**

With reference to Minute of Meeting of Falkirk Council held on 4 October 2006 (Paragraph FC 22 refers), there was submitted Report (circulated) dated 23 November 2006 by the Community Schools 2008 Project Director in relation to the matter of Underwriting and the inclusion of a Rainwater Harvesting system within each of the schools.

#### **AGREED:-**

- (1) to authorise the Project Director and the Chief Executive, as Chair of the Project Steering Board, in consultation, as appropriate, with the Conveners of the Education and Leisure and Policy and Resources Committees, to enter into the necessary and appropriate Underwriting arrangements, and
- (2) to progress the proposal for Rainwater Harvesting systems within each of the schools at an additional annual cost.

### **FC32. CORNTON VALE OVER 21s PRISON VISITING COMMITTEE**

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 21 November 2006 by the Acting Director of Law and Administration Services advising of a resignation from Cornton Vale Over 21s Prison Visiting Committee and seeking authority to proceed with arrangements to fill the vacancy.

#### **AGREED:-**

- (1) to note the vacancy on Cornton Vale Over 21s Prison Visiting Committee, and
- (2) to proceed with a recruitment process to draw up a panel of lay people for appointment to the Committee.

### **FC33. EXECUTION OF DEEDS**

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 20 November 2006 by the Acting Director of Law and Administration Services advising of the deeds which had been signed and sealed on behalf of the Council since its last meeting.

**AGREED** to note the signing and sealing by the Acting Director of Law and Administration Services of the deeds specified in the Appendix attached to the Report.