

ITEM 1(a)
DRAFT

MINUTE of MEETING of FALKIRK COUNCIL held in the MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, FALKIRK on WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE 2009 at 10.00 AM.

PRESENT: Provost Reid; Depute Provost Black; Councillors Alexander, Blackwood, Buchanan, Carleschi, Coleman, H Constable, J Constable, Fry, Goldie, Gow, Hughes, Jackson, Kenna, Lemetti, A MacDonald, C MacDonald, Mahoney, C Martin, CR Martin, McLuckie, McNally, McNeill, Meiklejohn, Nicol, Nimmo, Oliver, Patrick, Spears, Thomson and Waddell.

CONVENER: Provost Reid.

ATTENDING: Chief Executive; Directors of Community Services, of Development Services, of Education Services and of Finance Services; Acting Directors of Law and Administration Services and of Social Work Services; Heads of Economic Development, of Human Resources and of Community Care; Facilities Manager (Maintenance); Human Resource Manager; Acting Transport Planning Manager; Transport Planning Officer (K Short); Planning Officer (D Thallon) and Committee Officer (H Oliver).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Depute Provost Black declared a non-financial interest in minute item FC19 – Order of Malta – Dial-a-Journey Ltd (a) as a family member utilises the service provided by Dial-a-Bus Ltd and (b) that she is the Council's representative on the Order of Malta Dial-a-Journey Board, and took no part in the discussion or decision.

Councillor Gow declared a financial interest in minute item FC33 – Single Status, Equal Pay and Craft Pay and Conditions Update on the basis of a family member's employment as a craft worker and that she would take no part in the discussion or decision.

FC14. PROVOST'S REMARKS

Prior to commencement of the formal business of the meeting, Provost Reid offered condolences to the family of Mr David Webster, former Falkirk Council employee, who had recently passed away.

He also spoke in relation to the following:-

- Congratulations were given to Carrongrange School on receiving the award of "Most Enterprising Special School" at the 2009 Scottish Education Awards
- Highlighted the 150 year anniversary of the passing of the Falkirk Police Act 1859 which brought about extended powers to the Falkirk Burgh Council

FC15. MINUTES AND INFORMATION BULLETIN

- (a) There was submitted (circulated) and **APPROVED** Minute of Special Meeting of Falkirk Council held on 23 April 2009;
- (b) There was submitted (circulated) and **APPROVED** Minute of Meeting of Falkirk Council held on 29 April 2009; subject to the following amendment under Declarations of Interests:-

“Councillor Nicol declared a non-financial interest in item 10 as a family member was the owner of a local business and took no part in the discussion and decision.”
- (c) There was submitted (circulated) and **NOTED** Volume of Minutes – Volume 2 2009/2010, and
- (d) There was submitted (circulated) and **NOTED** Information Bulletin – Volume 2 2009/2010.

FC16. QUESTIONS**Question 1 by Councillor A MacDonald****Economic Recession**

Given the current economic recession, and an earlier pledge by the Labour/Tory Administration to reduce the payment time by Falkirk Council for outstanding invoices, what progress has been made in reducing the payment to 10 days.

Response by Provost Reid

In response to the current economic recession, Services are now seeking to pay suppliers invoices within 20 days as opposed to the previous target of 30 days. The statutory performance indicator remains at 30 days.

In the first two months of the current financial year, some 92.3% of invoices have been paid within 30 days. This is an improvement from the 88.0% level achieved in the previous year. 45% of all invoices have been paid within 10 days and a further 21% paid between 11 and 20 days.

Services have been asked to deal with the invoice registration and certification processes as priority tasks in order that the Council pays its suppliers promptly.

FC17. ASSESSMENT OF TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEMES

In terms of the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this item had been called into Council by Councillors J Constable, C Meiklejohn and G Thomson.

There was submitted (circulated) (a) Extract of Minute of Meeting of the Environment and Community Safety Committee held on 12 May 2009, and (b) Report by the Director of Development Services submitted to the said meeting.

Councillor C MacDonald, seconded by the Councillor CR Martin moved the recommendation contained within the Report.

By way of an amendment, Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor C Meiklejohn moved the following:-

“to implement the decision taken at Committee Meeting on 17 March 2009 to implement Option 2 which was the removal of the speed bumps within this financial year 2009/10”.

In terms of Standing Order 21.4(i) a vote was taken by way of a roll call, there being 32 members present with Members voting, as undernoted:-

For the Motion (18) – Provost Reid and Depute Provost Black; Councillors Blackwood, Buchanan, Fry, Goldie, Gow, Lemetti, C MacDonald, Mahoney, C Martin, CR Martin, McLuckie, McNeill, Nicol, Nimmo, Patrick and Waddell.

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

Accordingly, **AGREED** that removal of the speed cushions at Larbert Road, Bonnybridge be deferred for future consideration along with other road safety schemes, as referred to in paragraph 7.2 of the Report.

FC18. REVIEW OF COMMUNITY CARE LOCALITY AND INTEGRATED TEAMS

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

There was submitted (circulated) (a) Extract of Minute of Meeting of the Housing and Social Care Committee held on 26 May 2009, and (b) Report by the Director of Social Work Services submitted to the said meeting.

Council heard from the Acting Director of Social Work Services to the effect that the Social Work Inspection Agency had advised the Council informally that the Model B option would be the stronger option to take forward.

There then following a 10 minute recess to allow consideration of that information. The meeting reconvened at 11.40am with all Members present, as per the sederunt.

AGREED that:-

- (1) Model B be worked up in more detail;
- (2) Aspects of Model B be piloted, and
- (3) The Acting Director of Social Work Services provide an update Report to the Housing and Social Care Committee once the detail of the model and the outcome of the pilot are available.

NOTED that regular updates on the pilot would be given to the Housing and Social Care Committee and that Member involvement on any working group would also be considered.

In accordance with her declaration of interest in the following item of business, Depute Provost Black left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or decision.

FC19. ORDER OF MALTA DIAL-A- JOURNEY LTD

In terms of Council's Scheme of Delegation, this item had been called into Council by Councillors Gow and Fry.

There was submitted (circulated) (a) Extract of Minute of Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 2 June 2009; (b) Report by the Director of Development Services submitted to the said meeting, and (c) Report by the said Director submitted to the Housing and Social Care Committee on 26 May 2009.

Councillor Alexander, seconded by Councillor Kenna moved as follows:-

“That the Order of Malta Dial-A-Journey Ltd be offered a further 12 months extension to the current one year service level agreement until 30 September 2010 at current funding levels (plus an inflation element to be determined by the Director of Finance) and that during that time reports be brought back to Housing and Social Care Committee.”

By way of an amendment, Councillor Gow, seconded by Councillor Fry moved the recommendations contained within the Report.

On a division, 14 Members voted for Motion and 17 voted for the Amendment.

Accordingly, **AGREED** that:-

- (1) the Order of Malta Dial-A-Journey Ltd be offered a further six months extension to the current one year service level agreement until 31 March 2010 at current funding levels (plus an inflation element to be determined by the Director of Finance);

- (2) there is continued monitoring of the impact of the revised booking arrangements and reduced fares structure, and
- (3) the current SLA with Dial-A-Journey Ltd is extended for the provision of a shopmobility service until 31 March 2011.

Depute Provost Black re-entered the meeting following conclusion of the foregoing item of business.

FC20. REFERRAL FROM POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 2 JUNE 2009 - AWARD OF A CONTRACT WITH A VALUE OF OVER £350,000 – PROVISION OF SCHOOL TRANSPORT

There was submitted (circulated) (a) Extract of Minute of Policy and Resources Committee held on 2 June 2009; (b) Report by the Director of Development Services submitted to the said Meeting, and (c) Report by the Director of Education Services.

AGREED to approve the award of the contract for school transport to First Scotland East Ltd at £120,840 per annum, with a cumulative value of £483,360 over the four year contract period (plus an annual inflation element linked to the Retail Price Index as per conditions of contract).

FC21. REFERRAL FROM ECONOMIC STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – 16 JUNE 2009 - CONSULTATIVE DRAFT DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK FOR THE BANKNOCK AND HAGGS SPECIAL INITIATIVE FOR RESIDENTIAL LED REGENERATION (SIRR)

There was submitted (circulated) (a) Extract of Minute of Meeting of the Economic Strategy and Development Committee of held on 16 June 2009; (b) Report by the Director of Development Services submitted to the said Meeting, and (c) Report by the said Director to Council.

Councillor C Martin, seconded by Councillor Lemetti moved the recommendations as contained within the Report to the Economic Strategy and Development Committee.

By way of an amendment, Councillor Oliver, seconded by Councillor McNally moved the recommendations contained within the Report, with the following additions:-

- “(1) Council recognises the current work undertaken to draw up a vision for Banknock and Haggs under the SIRR programme. Council further agrees that in order to enhance this vision it should be more pro-active and agree to look at partners being under the one roof in the new village centre

- (2) Council recognises that contributions to the DEAR will be detrimental to the Banknock and Haggs SIRR. Council therefore agrees that any planning gain will go to the benefit of the local Banknock and Haggs community”

In terms of Standing 31.1, Provost Reid, seconded Councillor Gow moved that the meeting continue beyond the 3 hour limit. The meeting then adjourned at 1.00pm for lunch and reconvened at 1.45pm with all Members present, as per the sederunt.

Having heard advice from officers, the Provost determined that the second part of the amendment was not competent as it sought to pre-judge the use of planning gain outwith the context of a planning application. Consequently, only the first part of the amendment was voted upon.

On a division, 18 Members voted for the Motion and 14 voted for the Amendment.

Accordingly, **AGREED** to approve the Development Framework for the Banknock and Haggs SIRR as Supplementary Planning Guidance.

FC22. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLANNING ETC (SCOTLAND) ACT 2006 – LOCAL REVIEW BODIES AND SCHEMES OF DELEGATION

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 16 June 2009 by the Director of Development Services (a) detailing the provisions contained in the Town and Country Planning (Schemes of Delegation and Local Review Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2008; (b) advising of the implications for the Council's processing and determining of planning applications as a result of the new legislation, and (c) seeking approval for amendments to the existing Scheme of Delegation and Standing Orders, as attached as appendices to the Report.

NOTED the implications for the Council's processing and determining of planning applications arising from the Town and Country Planning (Schemes of Delegation and Local Review Procedures) (Scotland) Regulations 2008, as detailed in the Report.

AGREED:-

- (1) to the terms of the proposed amendments to the existing Scheme of Delegation set out in Appendix 2 of the Report and for submission of this Scheme to Scottish Ministers by their deadline of 30 June 2009, for their consideration in relation to the delegation of powers for the determination of applications for local developments;
- (2) to adopt the revised Scheme once approved by the Scottish Ministers;
- (3) to the proposed amendments to the existing Standing Orders set out in Appendix 3 of the Report in order to establish a Planning Review Committee to implement the Council's new local review body function, and

- (4) that approval of the administrative procedures for the Council's Local Review Body process be delegated to the Planning Committee.

FC23. JOINT INSPECTION OF SERVICES TO PROTECT CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE FALKIRK COUNCIL AREA

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 24 June 2009 by the Acting Director of Social Work Services (a) advising that HM Inspectorate of Education (HMIe) had undertaken a Joint Inspection of Services to Protect Children and Young People in the Falkirk area in December 2008 and January 2009; (b) enclosing, as an appendix to the Report, copy of the HMIe Report; (c) highlighting a number of key strengths and also recommendations for areas of improvement, and (d) advising, that in response to the Report, chief officers will develop an action plan.

NOTED the findings of HMIe in relation to their joint Inspection of Services to protect children and young people in the Falkirk Council area.

AGREED that the Acting Director of Social Work Services submit the Action Plan to a future meeting of the Housing and Social Care Committee.

Councillors H and J Constable left the meeting during consideration of the following item of business.

FC24. DELIVERING SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

There was submitted joint Report (circulated) dated 15 June 2009 by the Directors of Education Services and of Community Services and the Acting Director of Social Work Services (a) outlining the work carried out by the Children's Commission to develop approaches to delivering services to children and families in the Falkirk Council area; (b) proposing recommendations to improve existing systems taking into account the interests of stakeholders, and (c) attaching as appendices to the Report, a list of partners and case studies indicating how the proposed arrangements might work for individual children and young people.

There then following a 10 minute recess. The meeting reconvened at 3.25pm with all Members present, as per the sederunt with the exception of Councillors H and J Constable.

NOTED the proposals to provide a change management function in collaboration with the voluntary sector.

AGREED:-

- (1) to the development of a new approach to delivering services to children and families, and

- (2) that reports will be presented to the Education Committee and to the Housing and Social Care Committee to establish the new structure and posts.

FC25. COUNCIL SERVICE STRUCTURE

With reference to Minute of Meeting of Falkirk Council held on 4 March 2009 (Paragraph FC110 refers), there was submitted Report (circulated) by the Chief Executive providing an update on progress made in relation to the review of Service structures.

Councillor Gow, seconded by Councillor Martin moved the recommendations contained within the report.

By way of an amendment, Councillor Alexander, seconded by Councillor Coleman moved the recommendations as detailed in the Report, with recommendation (b) replaced by the following:-

- “(b) Council requests a further report on the Service structures from the Chief Executive by 10 September 2009 at a Special Meeting of Falkirk Council.”

On a division, 15 Members voted for the Motion and 15 Members voted for the amendment.

There being an inequality of votes, and in terms of Standing Order 21.6, the Provost used his casting vote in favour of the Motion.

Accordingly, **NOTED**

- (1) The feedback received from the consultation exercise on the review of Service structures;
- (2) The further work required in considering the various comments and alternative options contained within the feedback;
- (3) The further work required in reviewing the potential employee implications of any changes which are subsequently proposed to Council, and
- (4) The intention to write to employees to remind them of their options in respect of early and flexible retirement.

AGREED that a further report on the Service Structures by the Chief Executive be submitted to Council, as soon as possible once the outstanding work has been completed.

FC26. FIRST PERIODIC REVIEW OF CONSTITUENCIES FOR THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 8 June 2009 by the Chief Executive (a) referring to the Provisional Proposals by the Boundary Commission for Scotland for the Scottish Parliament Constituency Boundaries for the Falkirk Council area; (b) detailing the Council's response to the proposals, and (c) advising of the Boundary Commission's Revised Proposals for constituencies of the Scottish Parliament and their initial groupings of constituencies into regions.

NOTED the publication of the Boundary Commission's Revised Proposals for constituencies for the Scottish Parliament and their initial groupings of constituencies into regions as set out in the report and detailed on the maps available at the location listed in paragraph 4.1 of the Report and on the Commission's website.

AGREED:-

- (1) to welcome the Commission's acceptance of the Council's amendments to the Provisional Proposals for the Falkirk East and Falkirk West constituencies and the suggested name changes; support the Commission's revised proposals for the two constituencies in the Falkirk Council area and authorise officers to respond to the Commission accordingly;
- (2) to welcome the Commission's proposals for the Region in so far as they do not result in the Falkirk Council area begin split between two regions and authorise officers to respond to the Commission accordingly;
- (3) that no further representations in relation to the proposed East Central Scotland Region require to be submitted to the Boundary Commission, and
- (4) that further reports will be presented to Council in future as the Review progresses.

FC27. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2008/09

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 15 June 2009 by the Director of Finance Services advising of the requirement to submit the Council's Annual Unaudited Accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2009 to the Controller of Audit, as required in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 1985.

NOTED the requirement to formally submit the Council's Unaudited Annual Accounts to the Controller of Audit by 30 June 2009.

FC28. APPOINTMENT TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 9 June 2009 by the Acting Director of Law and Administration Services seeking nominations to the East of Scotland European Consortium (ESEC), the Helix Trust, Order of Malta Dial-a-Journey and Shopmobility Ltd, the Scottish Council's Committee on Radioactive Substances (previously known as 'The Scottish Liaison Group on Radioactive Waste Management) and the South East of Scotland Transport Partnership (SESTran).

East of Scotland European Consortium (ESEC)

AGREED to appoint Councillor Buchanan to the East of Scotland European Consortium (ESEC).

The Helix Trust

AGREED to appoint Depute Provost Black and Councillor McNeill as substitute Members to the Helix Trust.

Order of Malta Dial-a-Journey and Shopmobility Ltd

AGREED to appointment Councillor Blackwood to the Order of Malta Dial-a-Journey and Shopmobility Ltd.

Scottish Council's Committee on Radioactive Substances *(previously known as The Scottish Liaison Group on Radioactive Waste Management)*

AGREED to appoint Depute Provost Black to the Scottish Council's Committee on Radioactive Substances.

The South East of Scotland Transport Partnership (SESTran)

AGREED to appoint Councillor Buchanan as representative and Councillor Nimmo as substitute Member to the South East of Scotland Transport Partnership (SESTran).

FC29. DELEGATION OF POWERS TO DETERMINE URGENT ISSUES DURING THE SUMMER RECESS

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 27 May 2009 by the Acting Director of Law and Administration Services proposing that Chief Officers of the Council be given delegated powers to determine urgent items of business which would normally be determined by Council or its Committees for the period of the summer recess.

AGREED to delegate power to Chief Officials, in consultation with the Convener and Depute Convener of the appropriate Committee, to determine urgent items of business during the summer recess (from 25 June 2009 to 10

August 2009) and to report the decisions thereon to the first meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee thereafter, provided that:-

- (a) any such decision is required to secure the proper delivery of Council Services and to comply with the Council's statutory duties;
- (b) any such decision does not involve expenditure of Council monies outwith the approved Revenue Budget and Capital Programme;
- (c) any such decision does not involve an increase in the permanent establishment of the particular Service, and
- (d) any such decision involves no dispute as to legality, propriety or the proper interpretation of Council policy as affecting the decision.

FC30. EXECUTION OF DEEDS

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 8 June 2009 by the Acting Director of Law and Administration Services advising of the deeds which have been signed and sealed on behalf of the Council since its last meeting.

NOTED the signing and sealing by the Acting Director of Law and Administration Services of the deeds, as detailed in the appendix to the Report.

FC31. NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor Goldie, seconded by Councillor A McNeill moved that:-

MAPPA Guidelines for the Register of Sex Offenders

“This Council resolves to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice asking him to review the current MAPPA guidelines for the management of Sex Offenders in the Community. This Council believes that the public interest would be better served if there was greater disclosure of information to the communities into which offenders are to be placed”.

By way of an amendment, Councillor Alexander, seconded by Councillor Meiklejohn moved the following:-

“Council notes with concern that, once again, the Convener of Housing and Social Work Services is at odds with both his officers and all partners concerned with the management of offenders within the community.

Council therefore agrees to instigate meaningful partnership talks between local and national politicians, staff employed within Criminal Justice Services, Children and Families, Central Scotland Police and any other partner in the management of this issue with a remit to report back to council the outcomes.

Council also believes that Falkirk Council should set an example in terms of openness and transparency in matters of concern to the people.”

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 (17) – Provost Reid and Depute Provost Black; Councillors Blackwood, Buchanan, Fry, Goldie, Gow, Lemetti, C MacDonald, Mahoney, C Martin, McLuckie, McNeill, Nicol, Nimmo, Patrick and Waddell.

For the Amendment (12) – Councillors Alexander, Carleschi, Coleman, Hughes, Jackson, Kenna, A MacDonald, McNally, Meiklejohn, Oliver, Spears and Thomson.

Abstention (1) – Councillor CR Martin

Accordingly, **AGREED** in terms of the Motion.

On a Motion moved by the Provost and seconded by Councillor Buchanan, **AGREED** to extend the duration of the meeting to 6pm to conclude the business on the agenda.

There then followed a short adjournment with the meeting re-convening at 5.10pm, all Members being present as per the sederunt with the exception of Councillors H Constable, J Constable and CR Martin.

FC32. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

RESOLVED in terms of Section 50A (4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude from the meeting the press and public for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 9, 11 & 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the said Act.

In accordance with her declaration of interest in the following item of business, Councillor Gow left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or decision.

FC33. SINGLE STATUS, EQUAL PAY AND CRAFT PAY AND CONDITIONS UPDATE

There was submitted joint Report (circulated) dated 17 June 2009 by the Directors of Corporate and Neighbourhood Services, of Development Services and of Finance Services providing an update on progress made in relation to (a) reaching a collective agreement with regards to the implementation of Single Status; (b) on-going negotiations with employee representatives, to progress out-of-court settlements for outstanding equal pay claims, and (c) the consultation process with Trade Unions and employees at a local level in respect of pay and conditions for Craft workers.

AGREED to:-

- (1) Note the end of the buy out arrangements for single status and agree to leave the door open for trade unions to raise the issue of weekend enhancements, but in light of pressing potential equal pay liabilities, intimate that such discussion would not be anticipated until the financial year 2010/2011;
- (2) Maintain protection but take action to reduce the Council's potential equal pay liability pertaining to the additional year of protection over and above the three years provided in the Red Book; instruct officers to effect this action by entering into negotiations with trade unions to reach a collaborative agreement to reduce the current pay protection period of four years by up to a year; and in the event that a collective agreement cannot be reached, authorise the Chief Executive to reduce the potential equal pay liability by removing the fourth year's protection while identifying such other options as might avoid or reduce the possibility of dismissal and re-engagement or mitigate the consequences;
- (3) *[This paragraph is exempt from publication on the ground that it would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 11 and 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.]*
- (4) Authorise officers to continue consultations (including instituting and concluding the formal collective consultation process where appropriate) with the unions on the basis of the proposal previously agreed and to achieve implementation by no later than 28 February 2010, subject to confirmation of/concession on the following aspects of the proposal which have arisen from the consultation process and subsequent work:-
 - (a) Allow fixed price working to continue to operate within Building Maintenance and instruct Officers to continue to monitor and review the practical arrangements/scheme to ensure there continues to be objective justification that would form the basis of a genuine material factor defence. This should be done in conjunction with legal and reward specialist advice;
 - (b) Amend the proposal by allowing pay awards to be linked to the national craft bargaining unit; and instruct officers to monitor the operation of this arrangement and report back with any future issue of inequality which arises, with the knowledge that Council will require to take the appropriate action to resolve any equality issues immediately to reduce the risk of further equal pay claims being raised, and
 - (c) Amend the proposal by offering employees the right to challenge their grading under the job evaluation process through the grievance process rather than through a separate grading appeals process.

Councillor Gow re-entered the meeting following conclusion of the foregoing item of business.

FC34. FALKIRK GATEWAY

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 12 June 2009 by the Director of Community Services (a) referring to the decision of Council on 29 April 2009 to establish the Falkirk Gateway Members/Officer Working Group which was remitted to consider options available to the Council and identifying the optimum means of progressing Falkirk Gateway; (b) attaching as an appendix, Report of Proceedings of the Falkirk Gateway Member/Officer Working Group, and (c) submitting the conclusions and supporting recommendations from the Working Group.

Councillor C Martin, seconded by Councillor Lemetti moved the recommendations contained within the Report.

Councillor MacDonald, seconded by Councillor Spears moved that the following addendum be added to the Motion:-

“to continue to monitor emerging economic opportunities and the resulting impact on job creation and regeneration within the Council area.”

Councillor C Martin, with the consent of Councillor Lemetti, as seconder, agreed to amend the terms of the Motion to incorporate the addendum.

Accordingly, **AGREED:-**

- (1) to continue to monitor emerging economic opportunities and the resulting impact on job creation and regeneration within the Council area;
- (2) To continue to monitor the requirement for the Council to provide support on best value terms for installation of Phase I site infrastructure requirements if necessary to attract inward investment and transfer of jobs to the Council's area, and
- (3) To agree to offer to Macdonald Estates and Callendar Estate an extension to the existing development agreement longstop dates for the Falkirk Gateway for a period of two years initially, effective from 24 June 2009.

At the commencement of the foregoing item of business, Councillor Nicol re-iterated his previous declaration of a non-financial interest having regard to the ownership of a local business by a family member. He accordingly withdrew from the meeting and took no part in the discussion or decision.