

Changes to Supporting Information

SEA Environmental Report

Make consequential changes to Environmental Report to reflect the change to the site's designation.

Proposed Action Programme

Make consequential changes to Action Programme to reflect the change to the site's designation.

Technical Reports

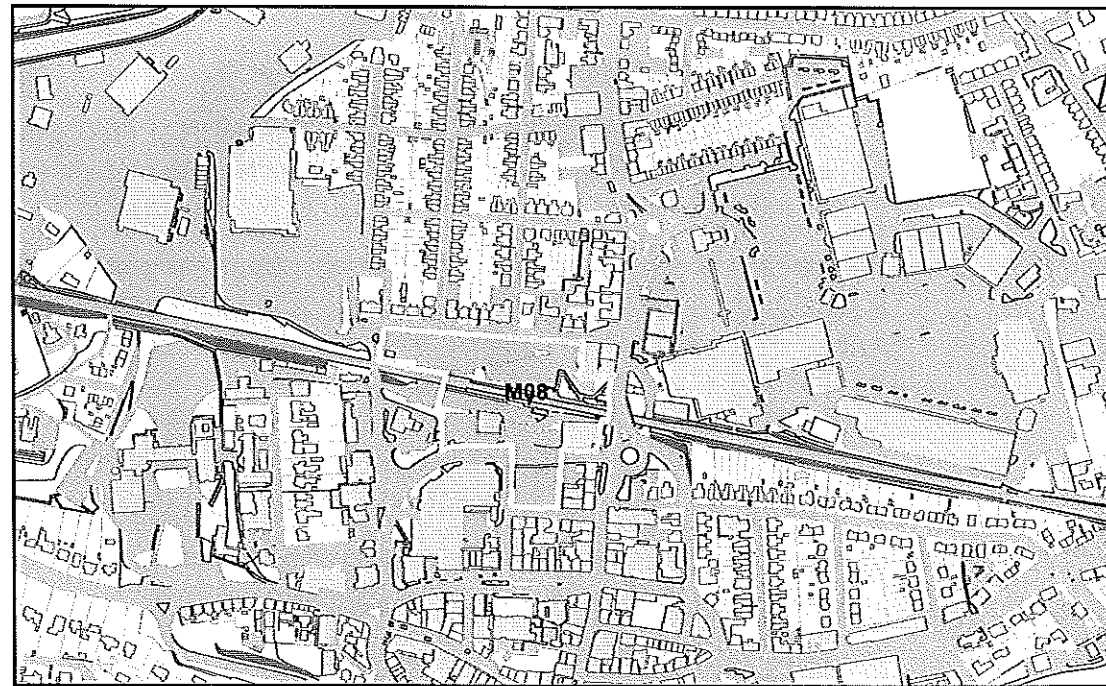
Make consequential changes to Site Assessment to reflect the change to the site's designation."

On a division, the substantive motion defeated the amendment by 6 votes to 3 and accordingly **AGREED** in terms of the substantive motion.

Councillor Oliver, seconded by Councillor Coleman, moved an amendment to the substantive motion to the effect that there be added a further site specific change to the Proposed Plan and Proposed Action Programme, as follows:-

"Grahamston Opportunity Area, Falkirk

To delete the site M08 Grahamston Opportunity Area, Falkirk, as shown in the map below, from the Proposed Plan.



Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan

Falkirk Settlement Statement

Figure 4.6 Falkirk Proposals/Opportunities (paragraph 4.8)

Remove M08 Grahamston Opportunity Area from Town Centres section.

Appendix 1: Site Schedule

Remove M08 Grahamston Opportunity Area.

Proposals Map: Map 2

Remove site M08 from map 2 and Town Centre Inset map.

Changes to Supporting InformationSEA Environmental Report

Make consequential changes to Environmental Report to reflect the removal of the proposal.

Proposed Action Programme

Remove proposal from action programme.

Technical Reports

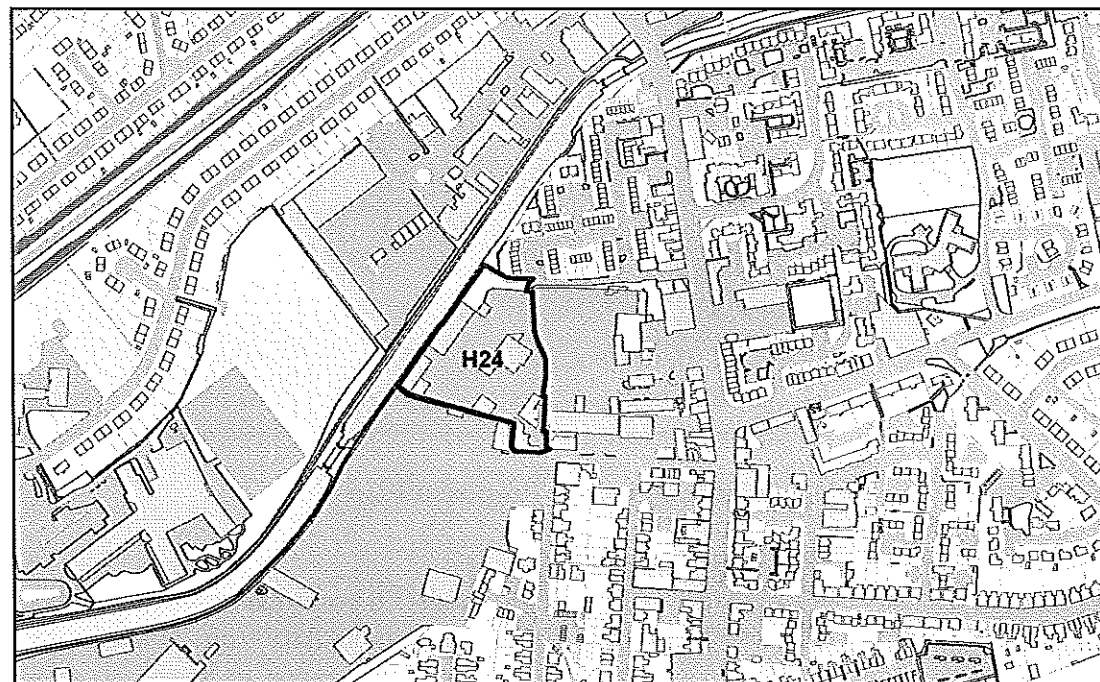
Make consequential changes to Site Assessment to reflect the removal of the proposal.”

On a division, the substantive motion defeated the amendment by 6 votes to 3 and accordingly **AGREED** in terms of the substantive motion.

Councillor Oliver, seconded by Councillor Coleman, moved an amendment to the substantive motion to the effect that there be added a further site specific change to the Proposed Plan and Proposed Action Programme, as follows:-

“Gowan Avenue, Falkirk

To amend the development requirements for site H24 Gowan Avenue, Falkirk, as shown in the map below, to include the investigation of a potential alternative or additional access from the site through to Bryson Street.



Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan

Appendix 2: Strategic Growth Area Guidance

Falkirk Canal Corridor

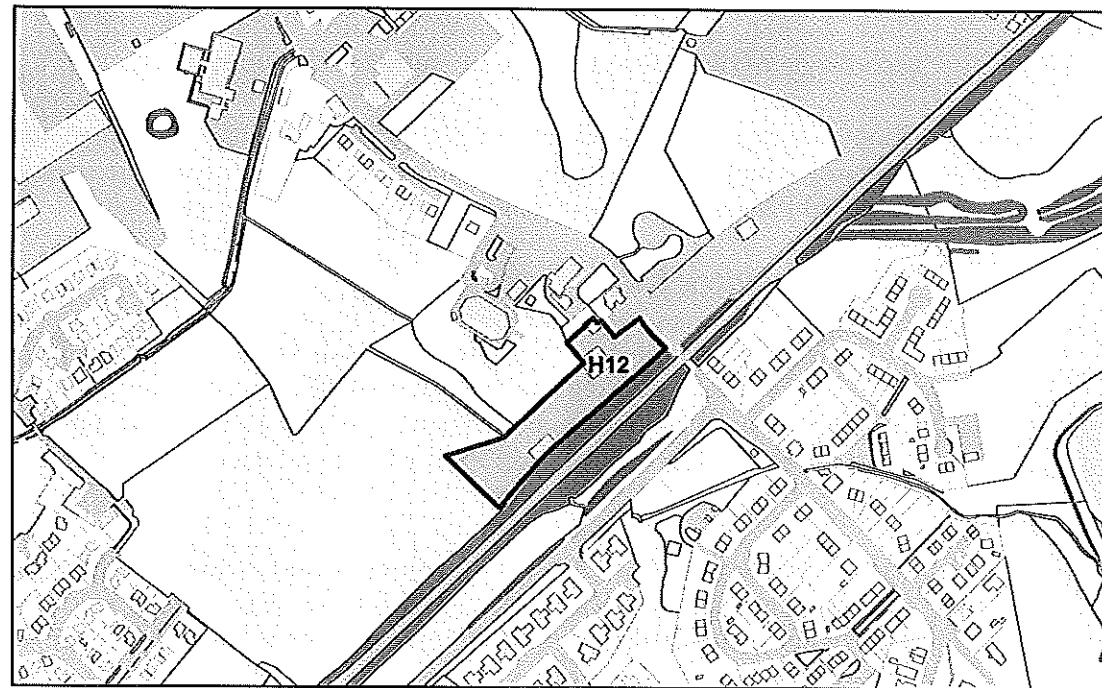
Gowan Avenue (H24) to amend bullet point 'Access to Grahams Road is constrained - investigate potential for alternative or additional access from the site through to Bryson Street'

On a division, the substantive motion defeated the amendment by 5 votes to 4 and accordingly **AGREED** in terms of the substantive motion.

Councillor Oliver, seconded by Councillor Coleman, moved an amendment to the substantive motion to the effect that there be added a further site specific change to the Proposed Plan and Proposed Action Programme, as follows:-

“Broomhill Road, High Bonnybridge

To delete the housing site H12 Broomhill Road, High Bonnybridge, as shown in the map below, from the Proposed Plan.



Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan

Spatial Strategy

Figure 3.1

Make consequential adjustments to the housing land allocations for Bonnybridge and Banknock settlement area.

Bonnybridge and Banknock Settlement Statement

Figure 4.4 Bonnybridge and Banknock Proposals/Opportunities (paragraph 4.16)

Remove H12 Broomhill Road, High Bonnybridge from Other Sites section.

Appendix 1: Site Schedule

Remove H12 Broomhill Road, High Bonnybridge.

Proposals Map: Map 1

Remove site H12 from map.

Changes to Supporting Information

SEA Environmental Report

Make consequential changes to Environmental Report to reflect the removal of the proposal.

Proposed Action Programme

Remove proposal from action programme.

Technical Reports

Make consequential changes to Site Assessment to reflect the removal of the proposal.”

Prior to the vote being taken, Councillor Blackwood confirmed his earlier notice of a further amendment.

On a division, the substantive motion defeated the amendment by 5 votes to 4 and accordingly **AGREED** in terms of the substantive motion.

Councillor Blackwood, seconded by Councillor Buchanan, moved an amendment to the substantive motion to the effect that there be added a further site specific change to the Proposed Plan and Proposed Action Programme, as follows:-

“Garngrew Road, Haggs

To include the site at Garngrew Road, Haggs, as shown in the Main Issues Report, as a housing site with an indicative capacity of 20 units in the Proposed Plan and Proposed Action Programme with all consequential amendments made to the Proposed Plan and Proposed Action Plan to reflect that.”

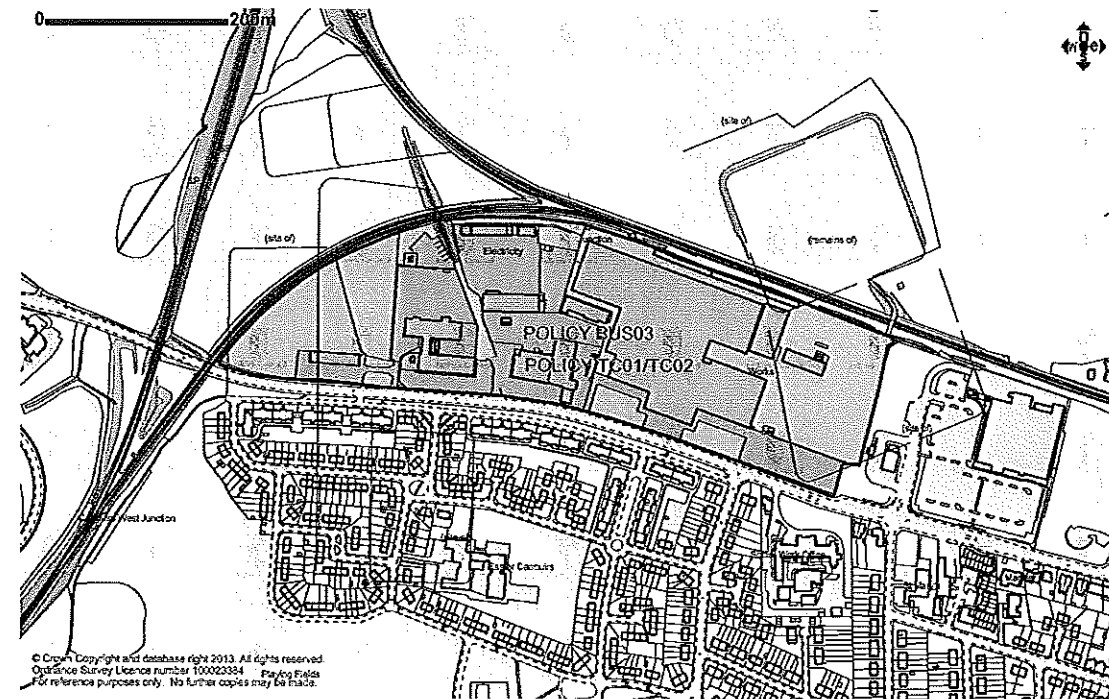
The Committee **AGREED** to a short adjournment to allow Members the opportunity to consider the terms of the proposed Amendment. The meeting adjourned at 10.40 a.m. and reconvened at 10.45 a.m. with all those present as per the sederunt.

On a division, 3 Members voted for the substantive motion and 6 Members voted for the amendment, which was accordingly declared carried.

In summary, the Committee accordingly **AGREED** to recommend to the Council that the Falkirk Local Development Plan: Proposed Plan and the Proposed Action Programme are approved and consultation is undertaken in accordance with the relevant legislation, subject to the Proposed Plan and Proposed Action Programme being amended to include and reflect the following site specific changes and any consequential modifications that may thereby be required to be made:-

(1) **Glasgow Road, Camelon**

To change the designation of land at Glasgow Road Industrial Estate, as shown in the map below, from a core business area (Policy BUS02) to a Business Area with Potential for Redevelopment (Policy BUS03), and to extend the Camelon Local Centre Boundary (Policies TC01/TC02) to include this site.



Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan

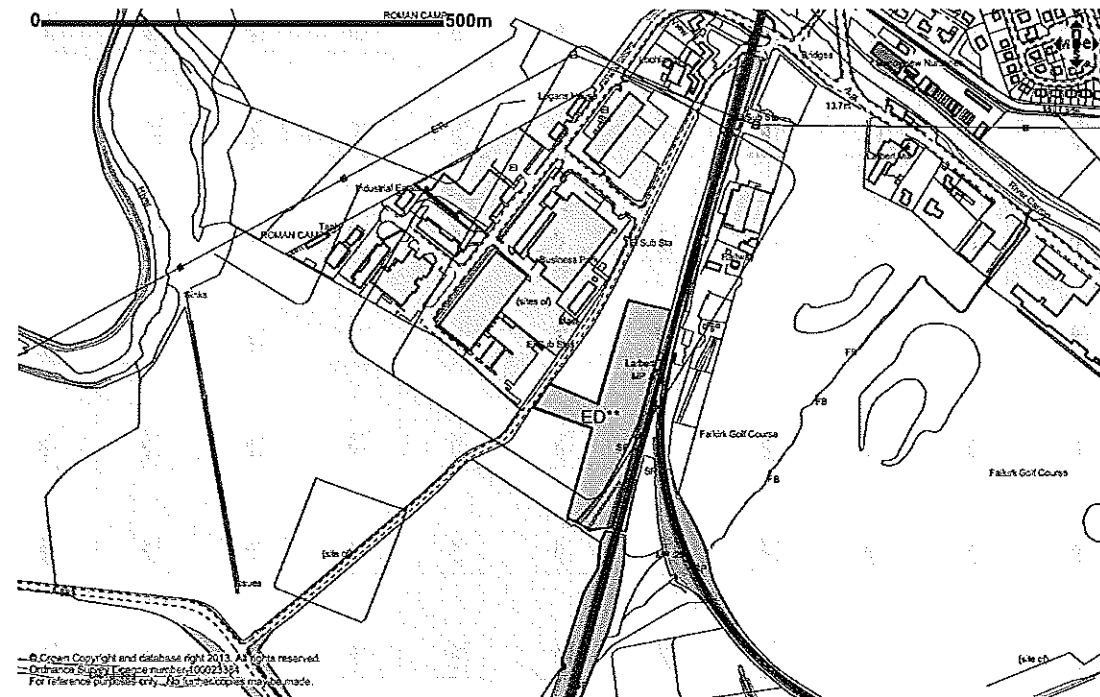
Proposals Map: Map 2

Change area shown in map above from Core Business Area (Policy BUS02) to Business Area with Potential for Redevelopment.

Extend the Camelon Local Centre Boundary westwards as shown in the map above.

(2) Lochlands, Larbert

To include a site at Lochlands, Larbert, as shown in the map below, as a proposal for economic development in the Proposed Plan, forming an extension to Lochlands Industrial Estate.



Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan

Falkirk Settlement Statement

Figure 4.8 Falkirk Proposals/Opportunities (paragraph 4.34)

Add new proposal ED** Lochlands Industrial Estate in Business/Local Sites section.

Appendix 1: Site Schedule

Add new proposal ED** Lochlands Industrial Estate as follows:-

Ref No: ED**

Site Name: Lochlands Industrial Estate

Site Size (ha): 1.7

Proposed Uses: Business/industry

Status: New proposal

Site Comments:

- Extension to industrial estate on the west side of Lochlands Loan.
- Site lies within Scheduled Ancient Monument (Lochlands Roman Camps). Scheduled monument consent will be required from Historic Scotland. Full archaeological assessment/justification and mitigation measures required to accompany proposals.
- Structure planting required on periphery of site to mitigate visual impact.

Proposals Map: Map 2

Add new proposal ED** as shown in the map above.

Remove green belt from area covered by new proposal.

Changes to Supporting Information

SEA Environmental Report

Make consequential changes to Environmental Report to reflect the addition of the proposal.

Proposed Action Programme

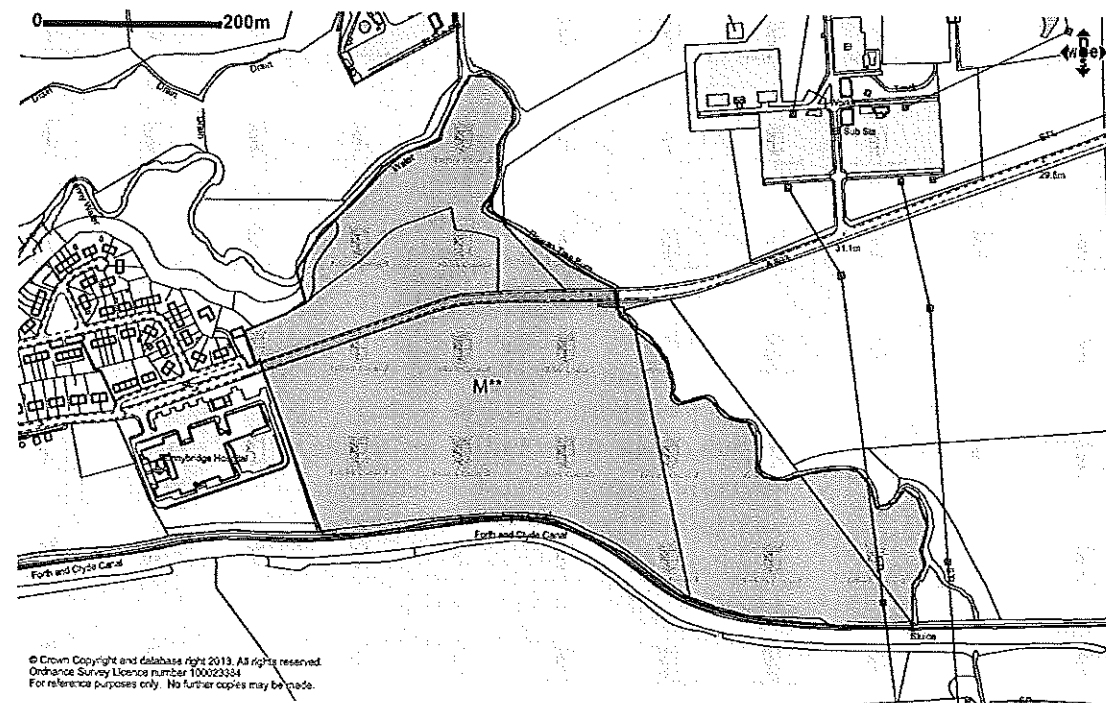
Add proposal to action programme with appropriate programming information.

Technical Reports

Make consequential changes to Site Assessment to reflect the addition of the proposal.

(3) East Bonnybridge

To include a site at East Bonnybridge, as shown in the map below, as a proposal for mixed use development (including housing, nursing home and sports and recreation facilities) in the Proposed Plan, and to amend the boundary of the green belt to the east of Bonnybridge to exclude the site.



Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan

Bonnybridge & Banknock Settlement Statement

Paragraph 4.12 Delete and replace with:-

“In Bonnybridge a significant settlement expansion and green belt removal to the east of the town is promoted (M**), comprising housing and sports facilities. Further housing opportunities include an urban infill site to the north of the canal at Falkirk Road (H11) and brownfield sites to the south of the canal at Seabegs Road (H13) and Broomhill Road (H12). In total these sites are projected to deliver 313 new homes.”

Figure 4.3 Bonnybridge and Banknock Housing Allocation
Amend figures as follows:-

New proposals: 248
Total: 1402

Figure 4.4 Bonnybridge and Banknock Proposals/Opportunities (paragraph 4.16).

Add new proposal M** East Bonnybridge in Housing/Other Sites: Bonnybridge section.

Spatial Strategy: Housing

Figure 3.1 Housing Land Allocations by Settlement Area (paragraph 3.9)

Map 3.1 Housing and Green Belt (paragraph 3.10)

Amend housing figures to reflect addition of the site as a new proposal.

Amend map to reflect removal of area of green belt.

Appendix 1: Site Schedule

Add new proposal M* East Bonnybridge as follows:-

Ref No: M*

Site Name: East Bonnybridge

Site Size (ha): 19.9

Housing capacity: 200

Status: New proposal

Site Comments:

- Greenfield expansion to the east of Bonnybridge involving green belt release.
- Proposed uses are housing, nursing home, sports and recreation facilities, and green network enhancement.
- Masterplan required which should address a number of issues including presence of pipelines through the site, and associated health and safety constraints.
- Site lies within Antonine Wall World Heritage Site (WHS) Buffer Zone and adjacent to Forth & Clyde Canal. Design and layout will have to address impact on the WHS and on the setting of the canal.
- Extensive green network enhancement required including access, landscape and habitat improvements associated with Bonny Water, Rowantree Burn and Forth & Clyde Canal.
- Flood risk assessment required.
- Contributions required to address education capacity issues resulting from the development.
- 15% affordable housing requirement.

Proposals Map: Map 2

Add new proposal M* as shown in the map above.

Remove green belt from area covered by new proposal.

Changes to Supporting InformationSEA Environmental Report

Make consequential changes to Environmental Report to reflect the addition of the proposal.

Proposed Action Programme

Add proposal to action programme with appropriate programming information.

Technical Reports

Make consequential changes to Site Assessment, Housing and Green Belt to reflect the addition of the proposal.

(4) Garngrew Road, Haggs

To include the site at Garngrew Road, Haggs, as shown in the Main Issues Report, as a housing site with an indicative capacity of 20 units in the Proposed Plan and Proposed Action Programme with all consequential amendments made to the Proposed Plan and Proposed Action Plan to reflect that.

DRAFT

FALKIRK COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the LEISURE, TOURISM AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE held in the MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, FALKIRK on TUESDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2013 at 9.30 A.M.

PRESENT: Councillors Chalmers, G Goldie, Mahoney, Dr C R Martin, McNally, Oliver, Paterson, Nicol and Turner.

CONVENER: Councillor Mahoney.

ATTENDING: Director of Development Services; Head of Economic Development and Environmental Services; Planning and Environment Manager; Accountancy Services Manager (D Cairney); Environmental Co-ordinator (R Broadley); Planning Officer (M Brown); Legal Services Manager; Team Leader, Legal Services (D Blyth), and Committee Services Officer (A Fraser).

ALSO

ATTENDING: Trust Chief Executive and Culture & Libraries Manager, Falkirk Community Trust, and Head of Development, Central Scotland Forest Trust.

LTC22. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Bird.

LTC23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mahoney declared a non-financial interest in Item 8 (Minute LTC29) as a Director of Falkirk Community Trust until May 2012, but did not consider that this required him to recuse him from consideration of the item, having had regard to the objective test in the Code of Conduct, and the relevant specific exclusion contained in the Code.

Councillors Nicol and Paterson declared non-financial interests in Item 8 (Minute LTC29) as Directors of Falkirk Community Trust, but did not consider that this required them to recuse themselves from consideration of the item, having had regard to the objective test in the Code of Conduct, and the relevant specific exclusion contained in the Code.

LTC24. MINUTE

There was submitted (circulated) and **APPROVED** Minute of Meeting of the Leisure, Tourism and Community Committee held on 20 November 2012.

LTC25. FALKIRK GREENSPACE: A STRATEGY FOR OUR GREEN NETWORK: CONSULTATIVE DRAFT

With reference to Minute of Meeting of the Leisure, Tourism and Community Committee held on 20 November 2012 (Paragraph LTC16 refers), there was submitted Report (circulated) dated 31 January 2013 by the Director of Development Services (a) referring to the Council's partnership with Central Scotland Forest Trust and the range of enhancements projects undertaken across the area; (b) highlighting the Falkirk Greenspace Initiative and the overall winner award the Initiative received at the 2012 Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning, and (c) seeking approval for consultation on the Falkirk Greenspace: A Strategy for Our Green Network consultative draft, attached as an appendix to the Report.

The Committee watched the film on the Falkirk Greenspace Initiative which was commissioned by the Scottish Government to promote the Initiative.

Discussion took place on the following:-

- congratulations were extended to officers and those from Central Scotland Forest Trust in their achievement in winning the 2012 Scottish Award for Quality in Planning
- the achievements that partnership working has delivered over the last 20 years
- the many benefits the Initiative has brought to the Council area
- highlighting areas where there is limited safe walking and cycling routes
- the need for additional signage within certain Greenspace Initiatives
- clarification in relation to vacant and derelict land sites within the Council area

AGREED:-

- (1) to go out to consultation on the Falkirk Greenspace: A Strategy for Our Green Network (Consultative Draft), and
- (2) that the responses to the consultation be reported back to Committee in due course.

Councillor Goldie joined the meeting during discussion of the foregoing item of business.

LTC26. CARRON DAMS: LOCAL NATURE RESERVE DESIGNATION

With reference to Minute of Meeting of the Leisure, Tourism and Community Committee held on 20 November 2012 (Paragraph LTC19) refers, there was submitted Report (circulated) dated 18 January 2013 by the Director of Development Services advising that Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) has formally supported the designation of Carron Dams as a Local Nature Reserve under section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.

AGREED to recommend to the Policy and Resources Committee or other appropriate Committee, that Carron Dams be designated as a Local Nature Reserve in terms of section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.

LTC27. THE FRONTIERS OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE (ANTONINE WALL) WORLD HERITAGE SITE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2013-18: CONSULTATIVE DRAFT

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 22 January 2013 by the Director of Development Services (a) referring to the obligations under the World Heritage Convention in relation to the effective management of World Heritage Sites and the requirement for every site to have an appropriate management structure in place; (b) advising that, although Management Plans are not a statutory requirement in the UK, national policy encourages their use as best practice, and (c) seeking approval for consultation on The Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Antonine Wall) World Heritage Site Management Plan 2013-18: Consultative Draft, attached as an appendix to the Report.

Discussion took place on the following:-

- the development potential of the site and, in particular to the establishment of a defined path network along the route of the wall and the possibility of a visitors' centre
- various ideas to enhance visitor experiences on site and options to establish the Wall as a world class visitor experience
- the importance of working in partnership with Historic Scotland and the other 4 local authorities in achieving the long term aims for the site
- the benefits of the consultation process which allows views of the local and wider community to be considered

AGREED:-

- (1) the Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Antonine Wall) World Heritage Site Management Plan 2013-18: Consultative Draft, attached as an appendix to the Report, and
- (2) that a 12 week consultation period be carried out.

LTC28. CONSULTATION ON THE 'TOURISM DEVELOPMENT' PLAN FOR SCOTLAND

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 11 February 2013 by the Director of Development Services (a) providing information on VisitScotland's consultation on the draft Tourism Development Plan for Scotland, and (b) seeking approval of the draft response, attached as Appendix 2 to the Report.

Discussion took place on the following:-

- concern over the short duration of the consultation process for the plan
- recognising the lack of specific accommodation types within the area which could impact on visitor choice
- concerns over the accessibility of information relating to hotel and B&B accommodation
- the marketing methods used to promote attractions
- highlighting the need to ensure that not all key proposals within the Plan are based around the largest existing concentration of tourism activity

AGREED:-

- (1) the draft response to the consultation on the Tourism Development Plan for Scotland which was attached as Appendix 2 to the Report, and
- (2) that the response be submitted to VisitScotland.

LTC29. FALKIRK COMMUNITY TRUST: APRIL - SEPTEMBER 2012 PERFORMANCE REPORT

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 4 February 2013, by the Chief Executive (a) providing background details to the establishment of Falkirk Community Trust (FCT), and (b) attaching as an appendix, a report, presented by the Trust's Chief Executive, outlining the performance of FCT for the 6 month period April to September 2012.

Discussion took place on:-

- the challenges in encouraging and developing customer interest in heritage attractions
- the factors impacting on the decline in customers utilising library facilities
- the work of the library service in promoting books and to the benefits in early intervention with children and families
- the importance of cross marketing and the use of social media advertising to promote the Trust's facilities and events
- the improvement works being carried out to certain venues to enhance customer experiences
- the need to review the format of the performance report, specifically in relation to the way key performance indicators are recorded
- the need to inform elected members of any proposed changes to facilities
- the possibility of benefits advisers being situated within Trust facilities across the Falkirk Council area to assist with queries arising from the Welfare Reform Act 2012

NOTED the performance of Falkirk Community Trust for the period from April to September 2012.

DRAFT**FALKIRK COUNCIL**

MINUTE of MEETING of the CIVIC EVENTS PANEL held in the MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, FALKIRK on WEDNESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2013 at 2.00 PM.

PRESENT: Provost Reid; Depute Provost Patrick and Councillor Buchanan.

CONVENER: Provost Reid.

ATTENDING: Members' Services Administrator (H Forster).

CE17. APOLOGIES

No apologies were intimated.

CE18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Provost Reid declared a non financial interest in Item CE23 by virtue of him being a member of the Grangemouth Spitfire Trust and considered that he required to recuse himself of consideration of the Item, having regard to the objective test in the Code of Conduct.

CE19. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Convener advised that he intended to vary the order of business. The following items have been recorded in the order that they were taken at the meeting.

CE20. MINUTE

There was submitted and **APPROVED** Minute of Meeting of the Civic Events Panel held on 16 January 2013.

CE21. HOSPITALITY BUDGET

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 13 February 2013 by the Chief Finance Officer detailing the expenditure and balance available in respect of the Civic Hospitality budget 2012/2013 and the balance available in respect of the Civic Hospitality budget 2013/2014.

NOTED.

CE22. ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 8 February 2013 by the Chief Governance Officer requesting Civic Hospitality for participants in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders march through Falkirk on 13 June 2013.

AGREED to provide Civic Hospitality for participants and guests involved in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders march through Falkirk, at an approximate cost of £4,000, to be held on 13 June 2013 in Falkirk Town Hall.

In accordance with his Declaration of Interest, Provost Reid left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item of business.

CE23. GRANGEMOUTH SPITFIRE MEMORIAL

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 8 February 2013 by the Chief Governance Officer requesting (a) the purchase of medals to commemorate the inauguration of the Grangemouth Spitfire Memorial to be held on 9 May 2013, and (b) the provision of Civic Hospitality for invited guests following the inauguration of the memorial.

AGREED:-

- (1) to provide a commemorative medal on the occasion of the inauguration of the Grangemouth Spitfire Memorial at an approximate cost of £2,500, and
- (2) to provide a Civic Reception for invited guests following the inauguration of the Spitfire Memorial, at an approximate cost of £3000, to be held on 9 May 2013.

MINUTE VOLUME

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DRAFT

FALKIRK COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the ECONOMIC STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE held in the MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, FALKIRK on TUESDAY 26 FEBRUARY at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Black, Blackwood, Carleschi, Coleman, D Goldie, Gow, McNally, Nimmo and Oliver.

CONVENER: Councillor Goldie.

ATTENDING: Director of Development Services; Heads of Economic Development and Environmental Services and of Planning and Transportation; Transport Planning Manager; Manager (Strategic Projects); Accountancy Services Manager (D Cairney); Development Plan Co-ordinators (C Hemfrey and A Shaw); Principal Business Support Officer; Legal Services Manager (I Henderson), and Committee Services Officer (S Barton).

ESD23. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Bird and Buchanan.

ESD24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor McNally declared a financial interest in Item ESD33 by virtue of him being a shopowner in Denny Town Centre and indicated that he would recuse himself from consideration of the item having had regard to the objective test in the Code of Conduct.

Councillor Black declared a non-financial interest in item ESD35 as the Council appointed representative on Falkirk and District Town Centre Management Ltd, but did not consider that this required her to recuse herself from consideration of the item, having had regard to the objective test in the Code of Conduct.

ESD25. MINUTE

There was submitted (circulated) and **APPROVED** Minute of Meeting of the Economic Strategy and Development Committee held on 27 November 2012.

ESD26. YOUNG SMEs INTERREG PROJECT UPDATE

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 15 February 2013, by the Director of Development Services providing an update on the progress of the Young SME's project to date.

Discussion took place on the following:-

- the Mary Portas inspired retail courses being offered by the Council in conjunction with West Lothian College
- how the Council use best practice from partner agencies
- potential changes to the Single Outcome Agreement
- the Council's relationship with the Chamber of Commerce
- survival rates for new businesses

NOTED the Council's activity to date with the Young SMEs Project.

ESD27. POST 16 EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) BILL – CONSULTATION RESPONSE

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 15 February 2013, by the Director of Development Services (a) summarising the context, purpose and scope of the consultation on the Post 16 Education (Scotland) Bill, and (b) attaching as an Appendix a copy of the proposed response for consideration.

Discussion took place on the following:-

- the current situation with regards to tuition fees in Scotland and in England
- the financial challenges faced by colleges

NOTED the content of the Report.

AGREED to approve the response attached as an Appendix to the Report for submission to the Scottish Government.

ESD28. LOCAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY AND ROAD TRAFFIC REDUCTION PLAN

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 18 February 2013, by the Director of Development Services (a) providing an overview of the Local Transport Strategy; (b) outlining the process being undertaken to review the Strategy, including the consultation process, and (c) attaching as an Appendix a copy of the Draft Local Transport Strategy for approval and further consultation.

Discussion took place on the following:-

- the vision to reduce cars in town centres
- bus services
- the increase in rail travel
- traffic calming schemes
- parking problems in the area surrounding Polmont Railway Station
- traffic in the area around Denny Town Centre

- involvement of local Members in the group formed to manage the relocation of the War Memorial in Denny

AGREED the:-

- (1) Draft Local Transport Strategy and Road Traffic Reduction Plan for further consultation,
- (2) timetable for completion of the review.

ESD29. FALKIRK DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME 2013

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 18 February 2013, by the Director of Development Services (a) providing an overview of the purpose of the Development Plan Scheme, and (b) attaching as an Appendix the 2013 update of the Development Plan Scheme for consideration.

AGREED to recommend to Council or other appropriate Committee that the Falkirk Development Plan Scheme 2013 attached to the Report is approved and formally adopted.

ESD30. DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE: DELIVERY OF DENNY EASTERN ACCESS ROAD

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 18 February 2013, by the Director of Development Services (a) detailing the proposal to create a new bypass road to the south and east of Denny known as the Denny Eastern Access Road (DEAR); (b) outlining the policy implications, the proposed sharing of costs and the consultation procedure, and (c) attaching as an Appendix the proposed Supplementary Planning Guidance note (SPG) for approval prior to consultation.

Discussion took place on the following:-

- the projected timescales for delivery of the project
- the formula used to calculate developer contributions
- the procedure followed by developers who wish to amend Section 75 agreements
- the importance of the road to the town of Denny

AGREED:-

- (1) to approve, for consultation, the proposed SPG as shown in the Appendix to the Report, and
- (2) that the results of the consultation with external stakeholders, such as developers, landowners and the community, are reported to this Committee, or another appropriate Committee, in due course for consideration.

ESD31. DRAFT REVISED SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE NOTE: AFFORDABLE HOUSING

With reference to the Minute of Meeting of the Economic Strategy and Development Committee held on 18 September 2012 (Paragraph ESD9 refers), there was submitted Report (circulated) dated 18 February 2013, by the Director of Development Services (a) setting out the results of the consultation undertaken in relation to the Supplementary Planning Guidance Note on Affordable Housing (SPG), and (b) attaching as an Appendix the draft revised SPG for approval.

AGREED to refer the revised Supplementary Planning Guidance Note: Affordable Housing and proposed changes to Policy and Resources Committee or other appropriate Committee with a recommendation to approve.

ESD32. BUSINESS SUPPORT: BUSINESS GRANT SCHEME

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 15 February 2013, by the Director of Development Services providing an update on assistance to local businesses through the recently established Business Grant Scheme administered by the Growth and Investment Unit within Development Services.

Discussion took place on the following:-

- the criteria used to assess applications
- help given to businesses to obtain match funding
- positive impact of grants on small businesses

NOTED the terms of the Report.

In accordance with his declaration of interest, Councillor McNally left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item of business.

ESD33. TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION STRATEGY: UPDATE REPORT

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 15 February 2013, by the Director of Development Services (a) advising of the progress of the Council's regeneration activities in town centres; (b) giving an update regarding the progress of work for each centre, taking place during a period of significant changes in market conditions, and (c) suggesting the next steps proposed for each centre.

Discussion took place on the following:-

- the positive improvements made in Bo'ness and Stenhousemuir
- the ongoing work at Denny, Grangemouth and Falkirk town centres

- the plans for development in Falkirk Town Centre
- the plans for disabled access in the new Denny Town Centre plan
- ongoing discussions in relation to the location of the war memorial in Denny
- work being undertaken to secure the remaining units are vacated in Denny
- the plans for relocation of the pharmacies and the retail village in Denny

Councillor Goldie, seconded by Councillor Gow moved that Committee agrees the recommendations as outlined in the Report.

By way of an amendment, Councillor Oliver seconded by Councillor Carleschi moved:-

“add at section 10.1 a further recommendation as follows:-

- (iv) Committee instructs officers to restore the regeneration groups in Denny, Bo’ness, Grangemouth and Falkirk.”

On a division, 5 Members voted for the motion and 3 Members for the amendment. The motion was accordingly declared carried.

Thereafter:-

NOTED:-

- (1) the progress of the Council’s actions relating to town centre regeneration, and
- (2) the progress with the Stage 1 application to the Heritage Lottery Fund Townscape Heritage Initiative for Falkirk Town Centre and the recent award of £1.6m of CARS funding by Historic Scotland.

AGREED to receive further reports on town centre regeneration.

Councillor McNally rejoined the meeting following conclusion of the foregoing item of business.

ESD34. FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND: FALKIRK & DISTRICT TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT LTD

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 15 February 2013, by the Director of Development Services providing information on the Council’s financial contribution in the years 2010/11 and 2011/12 to Falkirk & District Town Centre Management Ltd.

Discussion took place on the following:-

- the use of chewing gum removal machines
- the introduction of the “My Falkirk” App

NOTED:-

- (1) the Council's financial contribution to Falkirk & District Town Centre Management Ltd in 2010/11 and 2011/12, and
- (2) the significant range and scale of activities successfully undertaken by the company during the period under review.

ESD35. FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND: FALKIRK FOR BUSINESS

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 20 February 2013, by the Director of Development Services providing an update on the Council's business support activity delivered via Falkirk for Business during the 2011/12 and 2012/13 financial years in accordance with the Council's procedure on funding for external bodies under "Following the Public Pound".

Discussion took place on the following:-

- the activities which will be delivered by the in house team
- the ongoing discussions in respect of funding support

NOTED the performance of Falkirk for Business during the year 2011/12.

WORKING GROUP MINUTES

11 - 13

DRAFT

FALKIRK COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the BEST VALUE FORUM held in the MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, FALKIRK on FRIDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2013 at 10.00a.m.

PRESENT: Depute Provost Patrick; Councillors Blackwood, Carleschi, Coleman, C Martin, McCabe, Meiklejohn, Nimmo and Spears.

CONVENER: Councillor C Martin.

ATTENDING: Chief Executive; Directors of Corporate and Neighbourhood Services, of Development Services, of Education Services, and of Social Work Services; Chief Finance Officer; Depute Chief Governance Officer; Internal Audit Manager; Revenues Manager; Service Manager (P Morgan-Klein) and Senior Committee Services Officer.

BV26. APOLOGIES

Apologies were intimated on behalf of Provost Reid; Councillors Alexander, Bird, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow and Paterson.

BV27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations made.

BV28. MINUTES

- (a) There was submitted (circulated) and **NOTED** Minute of Meeting of the Best Value Forum held on 9 November 2013, and
- (b) There was submitted (circulated) and **NOTED** Minute of Special Meeting of the Best Value Forum held on 20 November 2013.

BV29. USE OF CONSULTANTS

With reference to Minute of Meeting of the Best Value Forum held on 12 October 2012 (Paragraph BV13 refers), there was submitted Report (circulated) dated 14 February 2013 by the Chief Executive presenting an update on Falkirk Council's Use of Consultants during 2012/2013, examining existing arrangements, expenditure on consultants and ongoing improvement actions.

Discussion took place on the following:-

- Fleet Management arrangements
- Request the use of Consultants to examine road conditions and potholes

- Authorisation of the use of consultants
- Reporting use of consultants via Members Information Bulletin
- Reviewing the Protocol

NOTED:-

- (1) existing arrangements for the appointment of consultants;
- (2) the reported expenditure on consultants for the period 1 April 2012 to 31 December 2012, and
- (3) ongoing improvement actions.

**BV30. SOCIAL WORK SERVICES QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT:
QUARTER 2 2012/13**

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 12 February 2013 by the Director of Social Work Services illustrating the performance of Social Work Services in a number of key areas for quarter 2 of 2012/13.

Discussion took place on the following:-

- Occupational Therapy assessment waiting times
- Delayed Discharges – target times
- Adapted properties – availability
- Provision of Occupational Therapy equipment
- Use of agency Occupational Therapists
- Complaint procedures – Recording of outcomes
- Joint approach with Housing Services – suitability of adapted housing
- Sickness Levels – Moving and Handling training of staff
- Availability of suitable Care Homes

NOTED the performance of Social Work Services.

BV31. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE**(a) Finance Services – Performance Report**

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 12 February by the Chief Finance Officer detailing the performance of the Service for the third quarter of 2012/13 against a number of indicators that reflect key service and corporate plan objectives.

Discussion took place on the area of evictions.

NOTED the performance of Finance Services.

(b) **Governance – Performance Report – 1 July 2012 – 31 December 2012**

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 18 February by the Chief Governance Officer providing information for the Governance division, for the period 1 July 2012 to 31 December 2012.

Discussion took place on the following:-

- Future of Custody Visiting Scheme
- Improved Performance of Printworks
- Complaints to the Ombudsman – Recording of outcomes
- CRM systems – Need for status report
- Clarification on status of Formal Enquiries
- Processing of FOI requests
- Review of IT provision for Members
- Number of Council House Sales

NOTED the performance of Governance Services.

BV32. CONCLUDING REMARKS

Councillor Meiklejohn requested future reports to the Best Value Forum on Contract Management and Contract Procurement.

Councillor Coleman requested a future report on the potential for introducing Factoring Charges/Premium.

