

EX131. BONNYBRIDGE SOCIAL CLUB

The following motion, by Baillie Buchanan, had been referred to the Executive by Council on 11 December 2013. The Executive had, on 14 January 2014, continued consideration of the motion because Baillie Buchanan had been unable to attend the meeting due to illness. On 25 February 2014, the Executive again continued consideration of the motion because Baillie Buchanan had been unable to attend the meeting. The Executive had also at that meeting requested a report on the implications of the motion. A Report by the Director of Development Services was accordingly included as item 5 on the agenda. The motion and the report were considered together. The motion was:-

“Bonnybridge Social Club like many other clubs eg. social, golf, bowling are all feeling the effects of not only the downturn in the economy, but also the changes in peoples social lives. Clubs are closing all the time and those that are not are struggling from week to week just to keep the doors open. Bonnybridge Social Club is no different and it’s only through the sacrifices and hard work and endeavour of a few that it remains open for business. This club is an integral part of the community and is utilised by the whole community in a variety of ways, its closure would have a devastating effect on the community. They require the long term stability of clearing their debt and then starting afresh with the financial burden of debt off their shoulders. They firmly believe that they can continue to be viable. Those who have worked tirelessly deserve this opportunity, as do the community to safeguard the clubs future. So how can this Council support this club and show that they fully understand? The following motion simply spells it out.

Motion

Bonnybridge Social Club owns the building, the ground the club sits on is owned by the Council, they have been advised that the bank could give them the loan to remove their debt but only if they owned the ground. You therefore see the predicament, so I would move the following:-

1. The Council requests a valuation of the ground from the District Valuer.
2. The Council then transfers the ground to the Social Club with the following conditions:-
 - (a) that a payback agreement is entered into between the Club and the Council; and
 - (b) that should the transfer go through and if the Club in future closes without the Council being fully paid then the ground would then go back into the ownership of the Council.”

In terms of Standing Order 31.2, Baillie Buchanan was heard on the motion before it was considered.

Decision

The Executive agreed to seek the following information from Bonnybridge Social Club:

- (a) a business plan including the last 3 years’ certified accounts, and

- (b) details of the proposed loan including the amount, the proposed lender and confirmation from the lender that a loan will be provided on the basis of the proposal set out in the motion.

NOTED that Council officers were willing to work with the Social Club on the details of the proposal in order to bring a further report to the Executive for discussion.