

FC5. ELECTION OF PROVOST AND DEPUTE PROVOST

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 11 May 2007 by the Chief Executive advising of the requirement under the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994 to elect a Councillor to the position of Convener (and known traditionally by the title of 'Provost') at the Statutory meeting of the Council following the ordinary Elections held on 3 May 2007 and highlighting the position in relation to remuneration. The report also referred to the discretion afforded to the Council in the appointment of a Depute Convener or Depute Provost.

The Chief Executive invited nominations for the office of Provost.

Councillor Alexander, seconded by Councillor Coleman nominated Councillor Spears.

Councillor Gow, seconded by Councillor C MacDonald nominated Councillor Reid.

At this point Council agreed to a short adjournment to enable members to consider a proposal from Councillor Alexander that whichever political group lost the vote to appoint a member as Provost, that Group would not then challenge nominations from the winning Group to other office bearer positions. The meeting was re-convened at 10.45am with members and officers present as per the sederunt and with Members in agreement to the proposal as aforesaid.

There being just two nominations to the office of Provost, the Council proceeded to a simple vote. 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 Councillor Spears(16):- Councillors Alexander, Carleschi, Coleman, H Constable, J Constable, Hughes, Jackson, Kenna, A MacDonald, McNally, Meiklejohn, Nicol, Oliver, Patrick, Spears and Thomson.

For Councillor Reid (16):- Councillors Black, Blackwood, Buchanan, Fry, Goldie, Gow, Lemetti, C MacDonald, Mahoney, C Martin, C R Martin, McLuckie, McNeill, Nimmo, Reid and Waddell.

There being an equality of votes and in accordance with Standing Order 22.2, the Council proceeded to elect the Provost by lot in the form of a cut of a pack of playing cards.

Councillor Reid drew the 10 of spades.

Councillor Spears drew the 4 of clubs.

Accordingly, **AGREED** to elect Councillor Reid as Provost of Falkirk Council and to remunerate that position in accordance with the requirements of the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (remuneration) Regulations 2007.

Councillor Reid, in accepting the nomination, took the Chair and undertook to work in the best interests of the Council.

Council having **AGREED** to appoint a Depute Provost, the Provost then invited nominations for that office.

Councillor Gow, seconded by Councillor C MacDonald nominated Councillor Black.

There being no other nominations, **AGREED** to elect Councillor Black, who accepted the nomination, as Depute Provost.