

**FALKIRK COUNCIL**

**MINUTE of MEETING of the EXECUTIVE held within the MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, FALKIRK on TUESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2014 at 9.30 a.m.**

**COUNCILLORS:**

Jim Blackwood  
Dennis Goldie  
Linda Gow  
Adrian Mahoney  
Craig Martin (Convener)  
Dr Craig R Martin  
Malcolm Nicol  
Alan Nimmo

**OFFICERS:**

Margaret Anderson, Director of Social Work Services  
Robin Baird, Waste Strategy Co-ordinator  
Rhona Geisler, Director of Development Services  
Rose Mary Glackin, Chief Governance Officer  
Brian Pirie, Democratic Services Manager  
Mary Pitcaithly, Chief Executive  
Stuart Ritchie, Director of Corporate and Neighbourhood Services  
Elliot Roy, Trainee Committee Officer  
Bryan Smail, Chief Finance Officer

**EX57. APOLOGIES**

An apology was intimated on behalf of Councillor Gerry Goldie.

**EX58. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations were made.

**EX59. MINUTE**

**Decision**

**The minute of meeting of the Executive held on 19 August 2014 was approved.**

**EX60. REFERRALS FROM JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

The Joint Consultative Committee had, on 12 August 2014 referred the following policies to the Executive for approval:-

- Severance Policy
- Acting Up and Secondments Policy
- Recruitment and Selection Policy
- Short-term Supply/Fixed Term Employment Policy for Teachers
- Smoking Policy

### **Decision**

**The Executive approved implementation of the following policies with immediate effect – Severance Policy; Acting Up and Secondments Policy; Recruitment and Selection Policy; Short term Supply/Fixed Term Employment Policy for Teachers; and Smoking Policy. With regard to the last of those policies, the Executive also asked for a report to be submitted to a future meeting on the health impact of smoking at work.**

## **EX61. REVIEW OF CIVIC LICENSING POLICIES**

The Executive considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer proposing that a policy development panel be established to review certain aspects of civic licensing policy.

The Civic Licensing Committee had, on the 3 September (ref CL69), agreed to recommend the establishment of a policy development panel to consider two particular aspects, namely:-

- the duration of taxi and private hire car licenses; and
- the terminal hour for late hours catering establishments

A further two areas of licensing work were also suggested for consideration as part of the review. These were:-

- development of a policy covering parades and processions; and
- looking again at the Resolution identifying the areas of activity Council has determined should be subject to the civic licensing regime.

The report provided background to each of the areas the panel may wish to review together with a suggested order of review.

### **Decision**

**The Executive agreed:-**

- (1) to establish a policy development panel of up to 5 members, chaired by Councillor Blackwood, with a remit to review the 4 areas of licensing activity set out in paragraph 2 of the report; and**
- (2) that nominations for the remaining places on the panel (2 members from the Administration and 2 members from the Opposition) should be submitted to the Chief Governance Officer.**

Councillor Gow joined the meeting during the previous item.

## **EX62. FINANCIAL POSITION – SOCIAL WORK SERVICES**

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Social Work Services advising of the projected impact of budget pressures on the Social Work Services revenue budget and the steps being taken to monitor and manage expenditure.

In 2013/14 the Social Work Services budget had been overspent by £0.60m, however an overspend of £2.4m was projected for 2014/15 due, in the main, to increased demand for community care services and children and families' services. The report set out the main factors contributing to the projected overspend in each service area together with the actions being taken to manage the issue.

### **Decision**

**The Executive noted the current financial position, the pressures contributing to it and the actions being taken to address these pressures.**

## **EX63. CAPITAL PROGRAMMES UPDATE REPORT**

The Executive considered a report by the Chief Finance Officer presenting the 2013/14 outturn position of the general services and housing capital programmes together with the projected 2014/15 outturn for both programmes.

The outturn position, subject to audit, of the general services capital programme was £33.59m against a budget of £48.38m. The report detailed the areas of slippage within the programme.

The outturn position of the housing capital investment programme for 2013/14 was, subject to audit, £48.73m against a budget of £47.42m. The additional spend had been funded from higher Council house sales and grant income.

The revised general services capital programme for 2014/15, including carried forward slippage from 2013/14, is £34.185m. The projected outturn is £29.492m. The report identified projected areas of slippage and reasons for it. A number of projects were identified which could augment the 2014/15 plan. Details of the proposed projects were summarised for consideration.

The current forecast for the housing capital investment programme for 2014/15 is £36.50m against a budget of £36.53m.

An additional capital grant settlement of £2.147m for 2015/16 has been confirmed by the Scottish Government together with a further award £0.901m for children and young people. The additional funding will be considered as part of the 2015/18 capital budget setting exercise.

## **Decision**

**The Executive agreed to:-**

- (1) note the outturn position for 2013/14;**
- (2) note the explanation for slippage for the 2013/14 General Capital Programme;**
- (3) note the forecast position for 2014/15;**
- (4) note the Prudential Indicators per Appendix 1 to the report;**
- (5) note the additional capital grant settlement for 2015/16; and**
- (6) approve the acceleration of projects as identified at section 7 of the report.**

### **EX64. CCTV PROVISION IN THE FALKIRK COUNCIL AREA**

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Neighbourhood Services advising that both Stirling and Clackmannanshire Councils have given notice to quit the Forth Valley CCTV partnership and setting out options for future CCTV provision in the Falkirk Council area.

The Council is, together with Clackmannanshire Council, Stirling Council and Police Scotland, a member of the Forth Valley CCTV partnership. Both Clackmannanshire and Stirling Councils have given notice to quit the partnership on 1 April 2015.

Additionally, Stirling Council has reduced its funding for the current year by 50%.

The report set out the implications of these decisions on the partnership and, in particular, on CCTV provision in Falkirk and provided four options for consideration. These were:-

- full in-house provision;
- managed monitoring service by Enigma CCTV Ltd;
- managed monitoring service by TCA Ltd; and
- recorded only service.

An appraisal of each option together with estimated costs was provided.

## **Decision**

**The Executive:-**

- (1) noted that Clackmannanshire and Stirling Council have given notice to quit the Forth Valley CCTV partnership with effect from 1 April 2015 and the implications for Falkirk Council as a result; and**

- (2) agreed that option 2 set out in the report (a managed monitoring service) was the preferred option at this stage subject to a more detailed report on that option being submitted to the next meeting of the Executive including an overview of the justification for, and viability of, CCTV provision in the Falkirk Council area.

#### **EX65. DENNY TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION – UPDATE REPORT**

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Development Services providing an update in regard to the regeneration of Denny town centre.

The next stage of the regeneration project was due to commence in November 2014 with a site start if late 2104 and a project completion date in June 2017.

The report set out two matters that may impact slightly on that timetable: progress with the demolition contract and the potential to harness £1.4m for the project by way of a bid to the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF). With regard to the latter, the stage 1 bid had been successful a stage 2 bid had been submitted. The outcome of the bid would be known in November 2014. If successful, the funding would be available in 2015/16 but would be conditional on no work starting on site before 1 April 2014. While this would postpone the site start date for two months, completion of the project by June 2017 was not anticipated to be affected.

The Executive was invited to consider the options for delivery of phase 1 of the project as set out in the report.

An update was also provided on the re-siting of the war memorial and on the work to date of the lead artist on the regeneration project, Icecream Architecture.

#### **Decision**

- (1) The Executive agreed to await the outcome of the RCGF bid and to amend the timetable accordingly as set out in part 4 of the report.

#### **EX66. NATIONAL CONTRACT FOR THE SUPPLY OF WATER AND WASTE WATER SERVICES**

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Development Services seeking approval to continue the Council's involvement in the Scottish Procurement Directorate's national contract for the supply of water and waste water services from 31 March 2015 onwards.

The current national contract which provides for all of the Council's water and waste water services, including additional benefits such as water efficiency measures and leak detection, commenced in April 2011 and will end on 31 March 2015. The Council's estimated savings, to date, from the contract are £198,485 (in 2013/14 the waste and water services budget was £825,000). The Council is required to determine if it wishes to enter into a new agreement for 2015/18 by 15 October 2014.

The report summarised the benefits of extending the Council's participation in the contract beyond 2015.

#### **Decision**

**The Executive agreed:-**

- (1) to sign an agency agreement allowing continued participation in the national contract for the supply of water and waste water services from 31 March 2015 onwards, before the deadline of 15 October 2014; and**
- (2) continued participation in the national contract for the supply of water and waste services from 31 March 2015 onwards.**

#### **EX67. DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS: ACCEPTANCE OF TENDER FOR LONG TERM COMMISSION OF FLOODING AND DRAINAGE RELATED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Development Services advising of a decision taken, following appropriate consultation, under delegated powers; namely the award of a tender to procure expert specialist services in flooding and drainage to augment the existing staff within Development Services.

#### **Decision**

**The Executive noted the report.**

#### **EX68. BONNYBRIDGE SOCIAL CLUB – UPDATE**

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Development Services on a proposal by Bonnybridge Social Club that the Council sells the Club's ground lease to it to allow it to consolidate its debts by using the premises as security for a loan.

The Executive had, on 18 March 2014 (ref Ex31), considered a motion by Baillie Buchanan and a report by the Director of Development Services on the proposal by the social club and agreed to seek further information from the club in regard to its business plan and to the loan.

A meeting of club representatives, the Council for Voluntary Service and Council officers had recently taken place at which it was agreed to examine the option for funding in more depth and to use this to help finalise a business plan.

#### **Decision**

**The Executive noted the progress made and that a further report would be submitted in due course.**

#### **EX69. NEW CARRIDEN CEMETERY, BO'NESS**

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Neighbourhood Services in response to issues raised in regard to New Carriden Cemetery, Bo'ness.

The report outlined the condition of the cemetery and action being taken to address certain issues that had been raised in regard to:-

- boundary treatment
- road kerbs
- welfare/storage facilities
- grass cutting operations
- water tap
- soil deposits

#### **Decision**

The Executive noted the action and work undertaken to date in New Carriden Cemetery, Bo'ness.

#### **EX70. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC**

The Executive agreed 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 item of business on the ground that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 8 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the said Act.

#### **EX71. OPTIONS FOR PROCESSING CO-MINGLED DRY RECYCLATE**

The Executive had, on 19 August 2014 (ref Ex40) continued consideration of a report by the Director of Development Services on the non-availability of waste management facilities.

An update report, by the Director of Development Services, which included the earlier report as an appendix, was provided.

The current contract for the processing of co-mingled dry recyclate, with Oran Environmental Solutions Ltd. (OES) will end on 9 February 2015. OES have requested that the Council novate this contract to a new company, Green Circle Recycling (GCR).

The report set out 4 options for the Council in regard to the processing of Co-Mingled Dry Recyclate.

## **Decision**

### **The Executive:-**

- (1) noted the request by Oran Environmental Solutions Limited (OES) to novate the existing contract, for the processing of Co-mingled Dry Recyclate, to Green Circle Recycling Limited (GCR);**
- (2) agreed not to novate the contract to GCR and to utilise the West Lothian Council Contract with SITA UK Limited; and**
- (3) expressed their view that only vehicle journeys which currently utilise Camelon and Bonnybridge as through routes to the Roughmute Transfer Station should continue to do so, with other vehicle journeys to Roughmute being routed away from town centre routes wherever possible.**