

**RECORD OF VOTES TAKEN AT THE MEETING OF FALKIRK COUNCIL
ON TUESDAY 31 MARCH 2015**

Councillors in Attendance:

David Alexander	Tom Coleman	John McNally	Martin Oliver (for Item 4)
David Balfour	Dennis Goldie	Adrian Mahoney	Joan Paterson
Stephen Bird	Gerry Goldie	Craig Martin	John Patrick
Allyson Black	Linda Gow (for Items 4 - 5*)	Dr Craig R Martin	Pat Reid
Jim Blackwood	Gordon Hughes	Cecil Meiklejohn	Ann Ritchie
William Buchanan	Steven Jackson	Rosie Murray	Robert Spears
Steven Carleschi	Charles MacDonald	Malcolm Nicol	Sandy Turner
Colin Chalmers	Brian McCabe	Alan Nimmo	

Not in Attendance

John McLuckie

Agenda Item: 4	Subject: Service Re-Design
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MOTION

Council agrees:

- (1) to note the work undertaken to review the Service structure arrangements;
- (2) in principle to the proposed functional structure attached at appendix 2 of the report, for further consultation with relevant employees and Trade Unions with particular views being sought on the most appropriate location for the Grounds Maintenance function; and
- (3) to receive a further report on the outcome of the consultation exercise together with a senior officer structure to support this which generates appropriate savings.

Moved by: C Martin

Seconded by: J Paterson

AMENDMENT 1

Council:-

- (1) notes the work undertaken to review the service structure arrangements;
- (2) requests that the Chief Executive brings forward a fully worked up and costed proposal for decisions by members to the June Council meeting in order that members are fully informed of potential savings and staff implications; and
- (3) agrees to initiate consultation with relevant employees and Trade Unions.

Moved by: C Meiklejohn

Seconded by: S Jackson

VOTE

For the motion (16)

A Black	C Martin
J Blackwood	Dr C R Martin
W Buchanan	R Murray
D Goldie	M Nicol
G Goldie	A Nimmo
L Gow	J Patrick
C MacDonald	J Paterson
A Mahoney	P Reid

For the amendment (15)

D Alexander	B McCabe
D Balfour	J McNally
S Bird	C Meiklejohn
S Carleschi	M Oliver
C Chalmers	A Ritchie
T Coleman	R Spears
G Hughes	S Turner
S Jackson	

DECISION: Motion carried.

AMENDMENT 2

Council:-

- (1) notes the report; and
- (2) agrees that all members will be involved at all stages of the review of management structures, in its entirety, and will be involved in the preparation of the report to Council in June.

Moved by: Councillor D Alexander

Seconded by: Councillor C Chalmers

VOTE

For the motion (16)

A Black	C Martin
J Blackwood	Dr C R Martin
W Buchanan	R Murray
D Goldie	M Nicol
G Goldie	A Nimmo
L Gow	J Patrick
C MacDonald	J Paterson
A Mahoney	P Reid

For the amendment (15)

D Alexander	B McCabe
D Balfour	J McNally
S Bird	C Meiklejohn
S Carleschi	M Oliver
C Chalmers	A Ritchie
T Coleman	R Spears
G Hughes	S Turner
S Jackson	

DECISION: Motion carried.

MOTION

Council agrees to amend the decision making structures as follows:-

- (1) there should be two Scrutiny Committees of 8 persons – 4 from the Administration and 4 from the Opposition, with both chaired by a member of the largest Opposition group. One group would scrutinise external organisations with the other looking at internal service issues. The Scrutiny Committees will require to recommend to Council an amended Scrutiny Plan and programme of meetings;
- (2) that following a period of six months of participation in the decision making structure by the Opposition, there should be a comprehensive review of the Standing Orders, particularly those which relate to the order and conduct of business at meetings of the Council and Committees;
- (3) that questions which should be more properly dealt with by Officers should not be included on the Council agenda;
- (4) that question time at Council should include questions to the Provost on civic and related matters.

Moved by: C Martin

Seconded by: J Paterson

AMENDMENT 1

Council agrees to adopt a decision making structure based on a cycle of 3 day meetings of Council as set out in the Non Aligned Independent Group's submission appended to the report.

Moved by: R Spears

Seconded by: B McCabe

VOTE**For the motion (16)**

A Black	C Martin
J Blackwood	Dr C R Martin
W Buchanan	R Murray
D Goldie	M Nicol
G Goldie	A Nimmo
L Gow	J Patrick
C MacDonald	J Paterson
A Mahoney	P Reid

For the amendment (3)

T Coleman
B McCabe
R Spears

Abstained (11)

D Alexander	C Meiklejohn
D Balfour	A Ritchie
S Bird	S Turner
S Carleschi	
C Chalmers	
G Hughes	
S Jackson	
J McNally	

DECISION: Motion carried.

AMENDMENT 2

Council agrees clauses (1), (2) and (4) set out in the motion and replaces (3) with the following:-

- (3) that, having made progress, the working group continue their work with proposals for changes to Standing Orders, to come forward to the next full Council meeting in May.

Moved by: C Meiklejohn

Seconded by: S Jackson

VOTE

For the motion (16)

A Black	C Martin
J Blackwood	Dr C R Martin
W Buchanan	R Murray
D Goldie	M Nicol
G Goldie	A Nimmo
L Gow	J Patrick
C MacDonald	J Paterson
A Mahoney	P Reid

For the amendment (12)

D Alexander	J McNally
D Balfour	C Meiklejohn
S Bird	A Ritchie
S Carleschi	S Turner
C Chalmers	
T Coleman	
G Hughes	
S Jackson	

Abstained (2)

B McCabe
R Spears

DECISION: Motion carried.

Agenda Item: 8

Subject: Reduction of School Hours

MOTION

Having both listened to the views expressed by parents and considered the financial sanctions that the Scottish Government have intimated that they would apply to those Councils that fail to meet their commitment to maintain teacher numbers in 2015/16 I am moving that:-

- (1) the decision taken by Council at the budget meeting on 11 February 2015 with regard to the provisional 2016/17 Revenue Budget to "review of options to reduce Primary School teaching hours from 25 to 22.5 hours per week", is removed, and
- (2) officers are asked to look at all possible alternative budget savings options and prepare a report to be brought to a future Council meeting.

Moved by: A Nimmo

Seconded by: C Martin

AMENDMENT

Council agrees:-

- (1) welcomes the additional funding for education from the Scottish Government and the investment in our children's education.
- (2) congratulates parents on their representations on the proposed changes in the education budget in making their views known particularly on the reduction in school hours.
- (3) agrees that decision taken by Council at the budget meeting on 11th February 2015 with regard to the provisional 2016/17 Revenue budget to "review of options to reduce Primary School teaching hours" be removed.
- (4) asks officers to look at all possible alternative budget savings including proposals put forward as part of the SNP alternative budget, which was previously rejected, and prepare a report to be brought to a future Council meeting.

Moved by: C Meiklejohn

Seconded by: S Jackson

VOTE

For the motion (15)

A Black	Dr C R Martin
J Blackwood	R Murray
W Buchanan	M Nicol
D Goldie	A Nimmo
G Goldie	J Patrick
C MacDonald	J Paterson
A Mahoney	P Reid
C Martin	

For the amendment (14)

D Alexander	B McCabe
D Balfour	J McNally
S Bird	C Meiklejohn
S Carleschi	A Ritchie
C Chalmers	R Spears
T Coleman	S Turner
G Hughes	
S Jackson	

DECISION: Motion carried.

Notes

1. This voting record is subject to approval of the formal minute at the next meeting of Council on 13 May 2015.
2. Only those items where a vote was taken are recorded here. For information about decisions reached on any other items considered at this meeting, please contact Brian Pirie, 01324 506110.