

## **EX90. Synthetic Sports Pitches**

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services proposing that the Council becomes a joint applicant with Newton Park (Bo'ness) and Dunipace Juniors in their bids for funding to create two synthetic sports pitches.

The Executive had agreed on 20 October 2015 (ref EX64) that bids from Newton Park and Dunipace Juniors should be taken to stage 2 of **sportscotland's** funding application process and to provide funding of approximately £360,000 to each club towards the cost (£648,000 and £780,000 respectively) of developing a synthetic pitch. **sportscotland** had since confirmed that applicants must provide at least 25% of the eligible project costs and that the Council's proposed contribution did not count towards this.

The report set out the particular requirements set out by **sportscotland** and identified three options to enable the projects to progress. These were:-

1. the bids are taken forward on the same basis as agreed by Members in October 2015, with the Clubs given more time to source alternative funding;
2. rearrange the Council's proposed funding package to enable the applicants to meet **sportscotland's** application criteria; and
3. Council submits joint applications with both Newton Park and Dunipace JFC

The report summarised the advantages of each option, highlighting option 3 as the preferred option.

### **Decision**

**The Executive agreed that:-**

- 1) the Council will become a joint applicant with the clubs for sportscotland funding;**
- 2) the Director of Corporate and Housing Services or his nominee be authorised to take all decisions required to take the joint application to conclusion; and**
- 3) if any significant changes or issues arise, a further report will be brought back to committee.**