

The background of the slide features a large, light blue watermark of the City of Vancouver's coat of arms. The crest is a shield divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant shows a beaver, the top-right a stag, the bottom-left a sailing ship, and the bottom-right an eagle. Above the shield is a crown with four maple leaves. A banner at the bottom contains the motto 'CITY OF VANCOUVER' in a stylized font.

AGENDA ITEM

3

Minute

FALKIRK COUNCIL

**Minute of meeting of the EXECUTIVE held within the Municipal Buildings,
Falkirk on Tuesday 17 October 2017 at 9.30 a.m.**

Councillors:	David Alexander	Gordon Hughes
	Gary Bouse	Adanna McCue
	Provost Tom Coleman	Cecil Meiklejohn
	Fiona Collie	Alan Nimmo
	Paul Garner	John Patrick
	Dennis Goldie	Robert Spears

Officers:

Karen Algie, Head of HR & Business Transformation
Arlene Fraser, Committee Services Officer
Rhona Geisler, Director of Development Services
David McGhee, Head of Procurement & Housing Property
Colin Moodie, Chief Governance Officer
Stuart Murray, Trainee Governance Assistant
Robert Naylor, Director of Children's Services
Mary Pitcaithly, Chief Executive
Bryan Smail, Chief Finance Officer

Also in attendance: Councillor Buchanan (Item EX49 (a) & (b))

EX45. Apologies

There were no apologies.

EX46. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

EX47. Minute

Decision

**The minute of the meeting of the Executive held on 26 September 2017
was approved.**

EX48. Rolling Action Log

A rolling action log detailing decisions not yet implemented following the
previous meeting on 26 September 2017 was provided.

Decision

The Executive noted the rolling action log.

EX49. Motions referred to the Executive under Standing Order 31

On 20 September 2017, and in accordance with Standing Order 31.1, Council referred the following motions proposed by Councillor Buchanan, to the Executive:-

- (a) All Councillors will be aware of the problem created by anti social behaviour in our communities. Over the years the situation has become worse due to, I believe, the lack of any direct action to deal with it.

These individuals make their neighbours lives a misery and the elderly are the most vulnerable. I don't know how many people over the years who have contacted me because they simply cannot take anymore of this anti social behaviour and have given up their homes to live in peace and quiet.

I recall holding a public forum on this issue in Bonnybridge Community Centre with local MP Dennis Canavan and the Police were also present. It came as a great shock to us all when an old lady said she wished she was dead as she had had enough of the misery created by these thoughtless individuals she said she wanted out of it as she had to put up with this misery for many years. Drunks, partying, fighting you name it and nothing done to get her the peace she so badly wanted.

It has not changed because our communities are still blighted by this anti social behaviour they are still amongst us causing misery. So we must put legislation in place to deal with this as the present legislation is totally inadequate and is simply no good enough, we must toughen up on legislation and protect our communities and residents.

Therefore I would ask that we, as a Council, contact our Justice Minister and demand that legislation be brought in to protect our citizens and enable those he represents to have protection from these bullies and that they be allowed to live their life without the scourge of **anti social behaviour** and that Michael Matheson bring legislation before the Scottish Parliament to put an end to this anti social behaviour.

Enough is Enough.

Proposed by Councillor Buchanan

In terms of Standing Order 31.2, Councillor Buchanan spoke in support of his motion.

Councillor Goldie, seconded by Councillor Patrick, moved the terms of the motion.

As an amendment, Councillor Alexander, seconded by Councillor Hughes, moved in substitution, that the Executive notes the historic position of the

Council that confirms there is zero tolerance towards anti social behaviour and hereby re-affirms that policy stance and refers the matter of anti social behaviour to Scrutiny Committee, for its consideration.

In terms of Standing Order 22.1, the vote was taken by roll call, there being 12 members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the motion (3) – Councillors Goldie, Nimmo and Patrick.

For the amendment (9) – Provost Coleman; Councillors Alexander, Bouse, Collie, Garner, Hughes, McCue, Meiklejohn and Spears.

Decision

The Executive agreed the amendment.

- (b) The former Bonnybridge hospital site was sold off to developers for, I believe, £1.2 million.

On hearing this I contacted the NHS demanding that the money to be invested into local projects.

1. Bonnybridge Health Centre sits in off Larbert Road, Bonnybridge. It is enclosed with Hope Park, sheltered housing complex and Balhousie Wheatlands Care Home. As you know Bonnybridge and the surrounding area has grown rapidly over the past decade bringing a major increase in the population and bringing tremendous pressure on the Health Centre and it is not just the pressure on the staff that work there but the parking issue can only be summed up in a few words, **horrendous** and **dangerous**. The situation is desperate and because of the close proximity to Hope Park and Wheatlands Care Home these two areas are really adversely affected by indiscriminate parking. There is an opportunity at the back to increase the parking and part of the money from the hospital sale should be invested here.
2. Larbert Forth Valley Royal Hospital build at a cost of £300 million opened in 2010 and is one of the most modern and well equipped Hospital in Europe which has been built to the very highest on standards except for one very important area for staff, patients and visitors alike and that is parking or should I say the lack of it. Anyone who has been to this hospital for whatever reason will tell you of their difficulties in finding somewhere to park, it is a total nightmare and the stories I have heard over the years are dreadful. The stress of trying to get parked for an appointment or visit, beggars belief and nobody, especially if you are ill should have to go through this endurance of finding a parking space.

We also have to look at the effects on the local community whose lives have changed dramatically with all arterial streets and roads being used as overspill car parks. Let's just keep this simple, they have made a huge mistake and did not listen to the advice given to

them in provision of car parking spaces and we all know that. It has had an adverse effect on staff, patients, visitors and a major adverse effect on the local area so let us sort it out.

The site is 70 acres and has plenty space for additional car parking, so initially once the upgrading of the Health Centre in Bonnybridge is completed then what is left from the 1.2 million (which will be substantial) should be invested into more parking at Larbert.

I have already written to the NHS Forth Valley with these proposals and was told that the money from the hospital sale went directly to the Scottish Government.

Conclusion

That we, as a Council, fully support the investment of the financial sum from the former Bonnybridge Hospital site into the two projects highlighted in this summary.

1. Bonnybridge Health Centre (Larbert Road) increasing public parking for the benefit of all.
2. Forth Valley Royal Hospital - Improve with added car parking space, the unacceptable position we now have that is detrimental to staff, patients and visitors and the adverse impact this situation has on the surrounding community.

This Council contacts the cabinet secretary for Health and Sport, Shona Robison through whatever process is required to have these proposals contained in this one email implemented.

Proposed by Councillor Buchanan

In terms of Standing Order 31.2, Councillor Buchanan spoke in support of his motion.

Councillor Goldie, seconded by Councillor Patrick, moved the terms of the motion.

As an amendment, Councillor Collie, seconded by Provost Coleman, moved, in substitution that the Executive:-

Commends the former health minister Michael Matheson, Cllr Tom Coleman and the facilities management team at FVRH for their efforts in resolving the parking problem created at the hospital by the former planning convener Cllr Buchanan when he consented to impose of a travel plan condition which substantially reduced the original numbers of parking places to be provided when granting planning consent to the NHS.

That the Executive also commends Bonnybridge Community Council, Cllr Tom Coleman and former Cllr Linda Gow for their efforts to find new uses for

the former Bonnybridge hospital buildings and site to tackle, amongst other things, the issue of parking at Bonnybridge Health Centre.

Furthermore, that the Executive understands that when an asset such as the Bonnybridge hospital is sold, any profit from the sale is kept by the NHS Board – in this case NHS Forth Valley. The Executive further understands that the NHS Forth Valley has a strategic approach to investment, management and development of capital assets which is set within the strategic aims of the Board and also in line with the plans of the Integrated Joint Board.

In terms of Standing Order 22.1, the vote was taken by roll call, there being 12 members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the motion (3) – Councillors Goldie, Nimmo and Patrick.

For the amendment (9) – Provost Coleman; Councillors Alexander, Bouse, Collie, Garner, Hughes, McCue, Meiklejohn and Spears.

Decision

The Executive agreed the amendment.

On 20 September 2017, and in accordance with Standing Order 31.1, Council referred the following motion proposed by Councillor Goldie, to the Executive:-

- (c) It is exactly one hundred working days today since this Council was elected. We call on the Administration to bring forward a full report to the next Full Council detailing their achievements to date.

Councillor Goldie, seconded by Councillor Nimmo, moved the terms of the motion.

As an amendment, Councillor Meiklejohn, seconded by Councillor Garner, moved in substitution, that the Administration will submit a report to the next meeting of the Executive.

In terms of Standing Order 22.1, the vote was taken by roll call, there being 12 members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the motion (3) – Councillors Goldie, Nimmo and Patrick.

For the amendment (9) – Provost Coleman; Councillors Alexander, Bouse, Collie, Garner, Hughes, McCue, Meiklejohn and Spears.

Decision

The Executive agreed the amendment.

EX50. Audit Committee – 28 September 2017

- **Corporate Risk Management Update**

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services which had been referred by the Audit Committee on 28 September 2017 to the Executive.

The report presented a revised summary of corporate risks together with an update on progress made in embedding the Corporate Risk Management (CRM) policy and framework. In addition to detailing progress made, the report also provided an updated Corporate Risk Register.

Decision

The Executive noted the terms of the report.

EX51. Projected Financial Position 2017/18

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services which provided an update on the financial position of the Council for 2017/18 and an update on the Reserves, in line with the policy approved by the Executive in January 2015.

Projected net expenditure at 31 March 2018 was now forecast to be £329.7m which is £2.144 (0.6%) below the resources available and reflects a marginal movement of £0.102m from the position reported in August.

It was projected that there would be a General Fund balance for 2017/18 of £10.373m. The report advised of the following deviations from budget:-

- Children's Services – over budget by £1.169m (0.6%)
- Social Work Adult Services – under budget by £0.472m (8.2%)
- Development Services – over budget by £0.135m (0.5%)
- Corporate & Housing Services – under budget by £1.946m (6.8%).

Spending within the Housing Revenue Account was in line with the budget, leading to projected year-end reserves of £5.093m, which will be deployed in a planned manner over time.

Decision

The Executive noted the:-

- (1) Council's projected year-end financial position for 2017/18, and**
- (2) position with respect to Reserves.**

EX52. Revenue Budget 2018/19 and 2019/20

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services setting out the background and progression of a two year Revenue Budget process, together with template savings options identified by officers, to date.

Council had previously agreed the progression of a two year Revenue Budget within the context of both the Corporate Plan 2017-2022 and Council of the Future agenda.

Reference was made to the Medium Term Financial Plan, the central financial projection of annual budget gaps and the need to identify how the gaps between resources and desired spend will be bridged. The Budget Gap statement, appended to the report, sets out the main sources whereby gaps may be closed.

The Council's service savings options identified by officers to date were set out in templates appended to the report, however, it was highlighted that these were options, at this stage. It was recognised that further work required to be undertaken to identify significantly more saving options.

Information contained in the report suggests that the shape of the Council in terms of its size, range of services which it delivers and how these are delivered requires changes. Work will continue to ensure that sufficient fit for purpose saving options are available to allow the statutory requirement of a balanced budget to be achieved by February 2018.

Decision

The Executive noted:-

- (1) the report dealing with years 3 – 5 of the Medium Term Financial Plan will be presented to Members later this financial year;**
- (2) the potential impact on the workforce if the options being consulted on were to subsequently be agreed;**
- (3) that discussions will continue with Trade Unions on Terms & Conditions;**
- (4) the Budget savings options identified by Officers in the appended templates and that these will be the subject of consultation with stakeholders [section 4.3], and**
- (5) that Officers be directed to continue to research further savings options which can be brought before Members later in the Budget process.**

EX53. Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) 2017/22

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services presenting for approval the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) 2018-2023, prior to submission to the Scottish Government, and seeking agreement to progress actions to support delivery of additional housing projects.

The SHIP's purpose is to set out strategic investment priorities for affordable housing over the next 5 years in order to achieve the outcomes contained in the Local Housing Strategy (LHS).

The report refers to new guidance issued by Scottish Government which contains revised procedures for preparing SHIPs, including the requirement for the document to be produced and submitted annually.

Details of the resources and funding available to deliver affordable housing was set out, together with the list of projects covering the full 5 years of the

SHIP. There was a funding shortfall in meeting the full list of potential SHIP projects, but discussions are on-going with Scottish Government on the potential to secure additional funding.

The report also provides information in relation to the Council's proposed new build projects and outlining the requirements to acquire these sites.

Decision

The Executive:-

- (1) agreed the SHIP 2018-2023 for submission to the Scottish Government;**
- (2) agreed to authorise officers to enter into negotiations to purchase land at part of the former Denny High School site and Seabegs Road, Bonnybridge for additional affordable housing, in line with independent valuations;**
- (3) noted that a separate report is being prepared for Committee in relation to the former Torwood School site, and**
- (4) noted that officers will adapt the SHIP in line with available resources in order to maximise the supply of affordable housing locally and provide updates to Members of any changes.**

EX54. Membership of Falkirk Licensing Forum

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services recommending persons to be appointed to Falkirk Licensing Forum and that the membership of the Forum is increased.

Information was provided on the Council's duty to establish a licensing forum in terms of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005, and to the recruitment process undertaken between 31 July and 1 September 2017.

The Forum membership is drawn from various categories, one of which is members of the public, resident in the Forum's area. The applications for this category varied considerably in the extent or relevance of information provided, officers' assessment was that 7 of these applicants be appointed. The recommendation would result in an increase in the Forum membership from 15 to 18.

Decision

The Executive agreed:-

- (1) that the size of the forum be increased to 18, and**
- (2) that the persons listed in paragraph 4.4 be appointed until the next Local Government Election.**

