

**Record of Votes Taken at the Meeting of Falkirk Council
on Wednesday 29 March 2023**

Councillors not in attendance:- D Aitchison, S Patrick (for item 5) and J Robertson.

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Agenda Item No. 5 | Strategic Property Review Update |
|------------------------------|---|

Motion

Council:-

- (1) notes the findings of the extensive consultation undertaken, the asset performance data available and user information that has been evaluated;
- (2) recognises that there are properties identified where there is opportunities for community asset transfer, alternative delivery model and/or partnership arrangements which may result in them remaining open;
- (3) approves the allocation of £6m of capital investment - to be funded from property savings from within the SPR - to enable community asset transfers and alternative delivery models. The proposed governance arrangements are outlined in the report;
- (4) notes the properties that are being progressed within aligned modernisation programmes, including offices and stores and remain integral to the SPR;
- (5) notes that Town Halls are now considered core properties and not proposed to close as part of the SPR and will be evaluated and reported upon separately;
- (6) agrees that opportunities to implement financial performance improvements to increase income generation and reduce costs, is progressed for all properties where appropriate, aimed at removing Council subsidy;
- (7) notes the potential staff impacts and proposals for mitigation, recognising existing HR and service change requirements and authorise the Chief Executive to issue statutory notice to both trade unions and employees as required;
- (8) agrees that if there is no Community Asset Transfer, no Alternative Business Model or Partnership Arrangement or the property Financial Performance Improvement can't be achieved that the properties will as a last resort close in accordance with the phases set out in the report, and
- (9) agrees the composition of the PDP on the future model of leisure services as 2 SNP, 1 Labour, 1 Conservative and 1 Independent.

Moved by: C Meiklejohn

Seconded by: P Garner

Amendment

Council:-

- (1) notes the findings of the extensive consultation undertaken, the asset performance data available and user information that has been evaluated;
- (2) does not approve the closure of any community building, park building, public conveniences, sports pavilion, sports centre or other miscellaneous sports (see table in paragraph 4.6). Council instructs officers to:-
 - (a) find methods of reducing energy consumption through energy efficiency measures;
 - (b) investigate options for use of renewable energy sources and install where appropriate;
 - (c) investigate options for increasing usage of the facilities;
 - (d) review fees and charges to generate increased income;
 - (e) undertake such maintenance and improvement measures as will improve the attractiveness of the facility, thereby increasing success in (b) above;
 - (f) identify relocation plans for staff, equipment, artefacts etc. in stores;
 - (g) provide detailed data on each property and engage with community groups and sports organisations to develop alternative delivery models that are viable and sustainable, and
 - (h) report back to Council on each property or facility for decisions;
- (3) recognises that there are properties identified where there is opportunities for community asset transfer, alternative delivery model and/or partnership arrangements which may result in them remaining open;
- (4) approves in principle the allocation of a fund for capital investment - to be funded from property savings from within the SPR, and increased income from properties - to enable community asset transfers and alternative delivery models. The proposed governance arrangements are outlined in the report. Officers will report back to Council on available funds, taking into account the impact of the proposals at b above;
- (5) notes the properties that are being progressed within aligned modernisation programmes, including offices and stores and remain integral to the SPR;
- (6) notes that Town Halls are now considered core properties and not proposed to close as part of the SPR and will be evaluated and reported upon separately;
- (7) agrees that opportunities to implement financial performance improvements to increase income generation and reduce costs, is progressed for all properties where appropriate, aimed at removing Council subsidy, and
- (8) notes the potential staff impacts and proposals for mitigation, recognising existing HR and service change requirements and authorise the Chief Executive to issue statutory notice to both trade unions and employees as required.

Moved by: A Hannah

Seconded by: J Redmond

VOTE

For the motion (15)

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Depute Provost D Balfour | J Flynn |
| L Binnie | G Forrest |
| G Bouse | P Garner |
| C Brown | J Kerr |
| J Bundy | C Meiklejohn |
| F Collie | L Murtagh |
| B Deakin | I Sinclair |
| S Devine | |

For the Amendment (12)

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| M Anslow | A Nimmo |
| Provost R Bissett | S Paterson |
| W Buchanan | J Redmond |
| A Hannah | A Ritchie |
| A Kelly | R Spears |
| B McCabe | E Stainbank |

The motion was carried and became the substantive motion against which the further amendment was considered.

Substantive Motion as Adjusted

Council:-

- (1) notes the findings of the extensive consultation undertaken, the asset performance data available and user information that has been evaluated;
- (2) recognises that there are properties identified where there is opportunities for community asset transfer, alternative delivery model and/or partnership arrangements which may result in them remaining open;
- (3) approves in principle the allocation of a fund for capital investment - to be funded from property savings from within the SPR, and increased income from properties - to enable community asset transfers and alternative delivery models. The proposed governance arrangements are outlined in the report. Officers will report back to Council on available funds, taking into account the approach set out in relation to community halls and community education centres;
- (4) notes the properties that are being progressed within aligned modernisation programmes, including offices and stores and remain integral to the SPR;
- (5) notes that Town Halls are now considered core properties and not proposed to close as part of the SPR and will be evaluated and reported upon separately;
- (6) agrees that opportunities to implement financial performance improvements to increase income generation and reduce costs, is progressed for all properties where appropriate, aimed at removing Council subsidy;
- (7) notes the potential staff impacts and proposals for mitigation, recognising existing HR and service change requirements and authorise the Chief Executive to issue statutory notice to both trade unions and employees as required;

- (8) agrees that if there is no Community Asset Transfer, no Alternative Business Model or Partnership Arrangement or the property Financial Performance Improvement can't be achieved that the properties will as a last resort close in accordance with the phases set out in the report but in relation to community halls and community education centres a report will be presented to the Council on whether the actions noted above have been successful and options identified for relocation prior to the implementation dates for Phase 2 and Phase 3, and
- (9) agrees the composition of the PDP on the future model of leisure services as 2 SNP, 1 Labour, 1 Conservative and 1 Independent.

Moved by: C Meiklejohn

Seconded by: P Garner

Further Amendment

Given the very extensive, public concern being expressed. Council recognise the potential impacts on all areas of the Council and postpone any decision today, and refer the SPR to a further Council meeting later this year.

Moved by: B McCabe

Seconded by: R Spears

VOTE

For the motion (15)

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Depute Provost D Balfour | J Flynn |
| L Binnie | G Forrest |
| G Bouse | P Garner |
| C Brown | J Kerr |
| J Bundy | C Meiklejohn |
| F Collie | L Murtagh |
| B Deakin | I Sinclair |
| S Devine | |

For the Amendment (4)

| |
|------------|
| W Buchanan |
| B McCabe |
| A Ritchie |
| R Spears |

Abstentions (8)

| |
|-------------------|
| M Anslow |
| Provost R Bissett |
| A Hannah |
| A Kelly |
| A Nimmo |
| S Paterson |
| J Redmond |
| E Stainbank |

Decision: The substantive motion was agreed.

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Agenda Item No. 7 | Appointment of Chair of the Integration Joint Board |
|------------------------------|--|

Councillor Meiklejohn proposed Councillor Collie.

Councillor Kelly proposed Councillor Hannah.

VOTE

| |
|-----------------------------------|
| For Councillor Collie (16) |
|-----------------------------------|

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Depute Provost D Balfour | J Flynn |
| L Binnie | G Forrest |
| G Bouse | P Garner |
| C Brown | J Kerr |
| J Bundy | C Meiklejohn |
| F Collie | L Murtagh |
| B Deakin | S Patrick |
| S Devine | I Sinclair |

| |
|---------------------------------------|
| For Councillor Hannah (10) |
|---------------------------------------|

| |
|-------------------|
| M Anslow |
| Provost R Bissett |
| W Buchanan |
| A Hannah |
| A Kelly |
| A Nimmo |
| S Paterson |
| J Redmond |
| A Ritchie |
| E Stainbank |

| |
|------------------------|
| Abstentions (2) |
|------------------------|

| |
|----------|
| B McCabe |
| R Spears |

Decision: The substantive motion was agreed.

Notes

1. This voting record is subject to approval of the formal minute at the meeting of Falkirk Council on 28 June 2023.
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.