

AGENDA ITEM 1(c)
DRAFT

MINUTE of SPECIAL MEETING of FALKIRK COUNCIL held in the MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, FALKIRK on THURSDAY 28 JANUARY 2010 at 3.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Provost Reid; Depute Provost Black; Councillors Alexander, Blackwood, Buchanan, Carleschi, Coleman, Constable, Goldie, Gow, Hughes, Jackson, Kenna, Lemetti, A MacDonald, C MacDonald, Mahoney, C Martin, CR Martin, McLuckie, McNeill, McNally, Meiklejohn, Nicol, Nimmo, Oliver, Patrick, Ritchie, Spears, Thomson and Waddell.

CONVENER: Provost Reid.

APOLOGY: Councillor Fry.

ATTENDING: Chief Executive; Directors of Community Services, of Development Services and of Finance Services; Acting Director of Law and Administration Services and Democratic Services Manager.

DECLARATIONS

OF INTEREST: Councillor Gow declared a non financial interest in item FC86 as a member of Forth Valley NHS Board and took no part in the discussion or decision relating to this item.

FC85. COUNCIL POSITIONS

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 21 January 2010 by the Acting Director of Law and Administration Services (a) advising of the resignation of Councillor Gow as Leader of the Council and from the Policy and Resources, Audit and Appointments Committees, (b) inviting Council to appoint a successor Leader and Conveners to vacant positions on these Committees, and (c) noting that this may give rise to any other consequential vacant positions which will require to be filled.

Falkirk Council

NOTED the resignation of Councillor Gow as Leader of the Council.

Councillor Gow, seconded by Councillor Waddell proposed Councillor C Martin as Leader of the Council.

By way of an Amendment, Councillor Alexander, seconded by Councillor Coleman, moved, as an addendum, that:-

“Council notes the consultations of the Scottish Local Authorities Remuneration Committee (SLARC) contained in sections 3.49 and 3.50 of their report published in January 2006 which states:-

“It is clear that these senior positions place greater burden on Councillors who hold them. The outcome of our research work shows clearly the time commitment given and the weight of responsibilities held by Councillors in promoted posts is significantly higher than that for a basic Councillor.

As such these roles may be less compatible or in the case of Leaders of larger Councils incompatible with having other significant responsibilities outside the Council”.

As Falkirk Council unanimously accepted the recommendations of the SLARC Report and used this as the basis of the remuneration scheme approved by the Council in June 2007 any deviation from the report should be accompanied by a change of remuneration package for the post of Council Leader.

Council therefore asks Councillor Martin to agree voluntarily to accept a salary of £21,803 the rate for Band B Senior Councillors agreed by Council on 4 March 2009 rather than the £32,490 set in that report for the Leader of the Council in recognition of the proposal to appoint a part time Leader”.

On a division, 17 Members voted for the Motion and 14 for the Amendment.

Accordingly, **AGREED** to appoint Councillor C Martin as Leader of the Council.

Policy and Resources Committee

NOTED the resignation of Councillor Gow and **AGREED** to appoint Councillor C Martin to the Committee, and as Convener.

Audit Committee

NOTED the resignation of Councillor Gow and **AGREED** to appoint Councillor C Martin to the Committee, and as Convener.

Appointments Committee

NOTED the resignation of Councillor Gow and **AGREED** to appoint Councillor C Martin to the Committee, and as Convener.

Economic Strategy and Development Committee

NOTED the resignation of Councillor C Martin from this Committee and **AGREED** to appoint Councillor Mahoney to the Committee, and as Convener.

Housing and Social Care Committee

NOTED the resignation of Councillor Mahoney from this Committee and **AGREED** to appoint Councillor Gow to the Committee.

Education Committee

NOTED the resignation of Councillor C Martin from this Committee and **AGREED** to appoint Councillor Gow to the Committee.

Investment Committee

NOTED the resignation of Councillor C Martin from this Committee and **AGREED** to appoint Councillor Blackwood to the Committee.

Joint Consultative Committee

NOTED the resignation of Councillor Jackson from this Committee and **AGREED** to appoint Councillor Meiklejohn to the Committee.

In accordance with her Declaration of Interest, Councillor Gow left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item of business and took no part in the discussion or decision.

FC86. REFERRAL FROM ECONOMIC STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – 1 DECEMBER 2009 - RSNH MASTERPLAN AND MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

In terms of the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this item had been called into Council by Deputy Provost Black and Councillor Nimmo.

There was submitted (circulated) (a) Extract of Minute of Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 12 January 2010, and (b) Report by the Director of Development Services submitted to the said meeting.

Prior to discussion, Council adjourned to consider correspondence which had been received from Larbert, Stenhousemuir and Torwood Community Council and NHS Forth Valley in relation to the proposed Masterplan. Following a 10 minute adjournment the meeting reconvened with all Members present, as per the sederunt.

Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Carleschi moved that Council:-

- (1) “approves the proposed RSNH Masterplan and Management Framework, and
- (2) that the Woodland Park be transferred to the Council's Parks Portfolio, and suitable future use be found for the walled garden area rather than housing, to preserve its historical integrity”.

By way of an Amendment, Councillor C Martin, seconded by Councillor Lemetti moved that “Council approves the proposed RSNH Masterplan and Management Framework”.

In terms of Standing Order 21.4 (i) a vote was taken by roll call, there being 29 Members present, with voting as undernoted:-

For the Motion (14):- Councillors Alexander, Carleschi, Coleman, Constable, Hughes, Jackson, Kenna, A MacDonald, McNally, Meiklejohn, Oliver, Ritchie, Spears and Thomson.

For the Amendment (15):- Provost Reid; Depute Provost Black; Councillors Blackwood, Goldie, Lemetti, C MacDonald, Mahoney, C Martin, CR Martin, McLuckie, McNeill, Nicol, Nimmo, Patrick and Waddell.

Accordingly, **AGREED** to approve the proposed RSNH Masterplan and Management Framework.

Councillor Buchanan withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the foregoing item of business.