

**FALKIRK COUNCIL**

**MINUTE of MEETING of FALKIRK COUNCIL held in the MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, FALKIRK on WEDNESDAY 6 MARCH 2013 at 9.45 AM.**

**PRESENT:** Provost Reid; Depute Provost Patrick; Councillors Alexander, Balfour, Black, Blackwood, Buchanan, Carleschi, Chalmers, Coleman, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow, Hughes, Jackson, Macdonald, McCabe, McLuckie, McNally, Mahoney, C Martin, Dr C R Martin, Meiklejohn, Murray, Nicol, Nimmo, Oliver, Paterson, Ritchie, Spears and Turner.

**CONVENER:** Provost Reid.

**ATTENDING:** Chief Executive; Directors of Corporate and Neighbourhood Services, of Development Services, of Education Services and of Social Work Services; Chief Finance Officer; Chief Governance Officer; Heads of Economic Development and Environmental Services, of Planning and Transportation Services and of Policy, Technology and Improvement; Depute Chief Finance Officer (J Flannigan); Depute Chief Governance Officer; Planning Environment Manager; Capital Manager; Development Plan Co-ordinators (C Hemfrey and A Shaw); Transport Planning Co-ordinator and Democratic Services Manager.

**FC88. SEDERUNT**

The sederunt was taken by way of a roll call. An apology was submitted on behalf of Councillor Bird.

**FC89. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

With regard to Item FC100 on Welfare Reform, Councillor Jackson noted that while he was an employee of the Department of Work and Pensions he did not consider that this gave rise to a declarable interest under the Code of Conduct.

Councillor Ritchie declared a non financial interest in item FC101 as a member of the Newton Park Working Group but did not consider that this required her to recuse herself from consideration of the item having had regard to the objective test in the Code of Conduct.

Councillor McNally declared a financial interest in item FC95 as the owner of a business in Denny and indicated that he would recuse himself from consideration of the item.

## FC90. MINUTES AND INFORMATION BULLETIN

- (a) There was submitted (circulated) for approval the draft minute of the meeting held on 5 December 2012.

Councillor Spears, seconded by Councillor McCabe, moved approval of the draft minute subject to the following:-

FC70 Notices of Motion – Motion (j) was heard before motions (f); (g); (h); (i) which were guillotined by the Provost.

By way of an amendment, Councillor G Goldie, seconded by Councillor Nimmo, moved approval of the draft minute as a correct record.

On a division 17 members voted for the amendment and 14 voted for the motion.

Accordingly, **APPROVED** the draft minute of the meeting held on 5 December 2012 as a correct record.

- (b) There was submitted (circulated) for approval the draft minute of the Special meeting held on 7 January 2013.

**APPROVED** the draft minute subject to the insertion of the following after item FC74(g):-

“Councillor McCabe rejoined the meeting during consideration of the foregoing item of business”

- (c) There was submitted (circulated) and **APPROVED** the Minute of Special Falkirk Council held on 7 January 2013;
- (d) There was submitted (circulated) and **APPROVED** the Minute of Special Falkirk Council held on 13 February 2013;
- (e) There was submitted (circulated) and **NOTED** Volume of Minutes – Volume 4 2012/2013, and
- (f) There was submitted (circulated) and **NOTED** Information Bulletin – Volume 4 2012/2013.

## FC91. QUESTION

### Question by Councillor T Coleman

“It has recently been reported that Scottish Councils over the last five years have paid out in excess of £33 million pounds in settlement of compensation claims. Falkirk Council is purported to have paid out the largest amount £6.7 million around 20% of the total sum claimed from Councils. By way of comparison, Edinburgh City Council paid out £3.2 million which is less than half the Falkirk figure.

Would Officers now provide this Council with the number and average value of claims settled together with the claim categories in particular personal injury, vehicle claims and housing claims?”.

### **Response by Provost Reid**

"As was pointed out in an article in the Falkirk Herald of 10 January 2013, the figure quoted of £6.7m being settlement of compensation claims for Falkirk Council for the 5 years to 31 March 2012, is entirely misleading.

The original enquiry from a parliamentary researcher requested information on instances of damages paid by the Council over the above period. We told the researcher that due to the way the information is held in our system we could not provide the information in the format requested and sent him at his request, a list of all insurance claims both made by and against the Council over that period.

He said he would come back to us for further detail on specific areas but unfortunately did not do so and highly misleadingly published the aggregate figure. As a result the figures contained in the article for Falkirk Council are grossly inflated.

The figures quoted for other Councils are only in respect of compensation claims paid by them and had our figures also been shown on the same basis, which I would estimate at c£1m, they would not have been out of place in comparison”.

## **FC92. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Councillor Chalmers requested that the order of business be varied to allow Council to consider his Notice of Motion next and that those members of the public in attendance be permitted to address Council on this item.

Provost Reid explained that the requirements of Standing Order 30 relating to Deputations or Delegations had not been met as there had been no application in advance made to Council to be heard and, as such, the deputation could not be received unless the Standing Order was suspended in accordance with Standing Order 33.3.

To do this Council would first have to agree that the request to suspend the Standing Order was urgent as due notice of it had not been given and, if so, agreed, then to vote in the motion to suspend with at least two thirds of those present and voting and on absolute majority of the Council, voting in favour of the motion.

Councillor Chalmers, seconded by Councillor Meiklejohn, then moved that Council agrees to consider as an urgent item, the motion to suspend Standing Order 30.

On a division 14 members voted for the motion and 17 voted against.

In terms of Standing Order 15.2(i) the Provost then varied the order of business from that detailed on the agenda for the meeting, advising that the motion submitted by Councillor Chalmers would be considered after the immediately succeeding item.

The following items have been recorded in the order they were taken at the meeting.

### **FC93. MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSISTANTS**

In terms of the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this item had been called in to Council by Councillors Alexander, Chalmers and Hughes.

There was submitted (circulated) (a) extract of minute of meeting of the Education Committee held on 29 January 2013, and (b) report by the Director of Education Services to the said meeting providing an update on the historical role of, and costs associated with, the engagement of Foreign Language Assistants in secondary schools.

Councillor Nimmo, seconded by Councillor Dr C R Martin, moved that Council:-

- (1) endorses the increasing use of ICT in modern foreign language departments to promote confidence in speaking and using the language, and
- (2) seeks annual updates on the outcomes in secondary schools from participation in the ERASMUS and COMENIUS programmes.

By way of amendment, Councillor Hughes, seconded by Councillor Coleman, moved the following in addition to the motion:-

- (3) further, endorses the reinstatement of a Modern Language Assistants Programme at the cost of £64,000 per annum.

On a division 14 members voted for the amendment and 17 voted for the motion.

Accordingly, **AGREED** the terms of the motion.

### **FC94. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Councillor Chalmers, seconded by Councillor Meiklejohn, moved that:-

“Council notes with disappointment the announced removal, without consultation of the crossing patrol at Cochrane Avenue serving Comely Park Primary School.

Council recognises the unique location of the school and the specific dangers to the safety of the pupils of the school, as a result of this.

Council therefore resolves to request officers to reinstate this patrol forthwith and advertise as appropriate for a replacement crossing patrol attendant”.

Councillor Dr C R Martin, seconded by Councillor Paterson, moved the following amendment in substitution for the motion:-

“Council is satisfied that officers followed established council policy when dealing with the school crossing patrol at Cochrane Avenue. Council supports the view that the deployment of school crossing patrols should continue to be dealt with at officer level in accordance with the policy set by Council members based upon the extremely generous criteria that have governed the deployment of such patrols in the Falkirk Council area since 1998. Council accordingly considers the matter to be determined in respect of this and any other school crossing patrol.”

During consideration of this item the Provost advised that he had received a petition in regard to the school crossing patrol and instructed the Clerk to circulate a copy of the preamble to the said petition to members of the Council.

Following discussion, Councillor D Goldie, seconded by Councillor Gow, moved that the “question now be put”.

On a division 17 members voted for the motion and 14 voted against, following which Councillor Chalmers exercised his right of reply before the question was put to the meeting.

In terms of Standing Order 21.4(1) a vote was taken by roll call, there being 31 members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the motion (14) - Councillors Alexander, Balfour, Carleschi, Chalmers, Coleman, Hughes, Jackson, McCabe, McNally, Meiklejohn, Oliver, Ritchie, Spears and Turner.

For the amendment (17) – Provost Reid; Depute Provost Patrick; Councillors Black, Blackwood, Buchanan, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow, MacDonald, McLuckie, Mahoney, C Martin, Dr C R Martin, Murray, Nicol, Nimmo and Paterson.

Accordingly, **AGREED** the terms of the amendment.

In accordance with his declaration of interest, Councillor McNally left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item of business and took no part in it.

At this stage, Councillor Nicol declared a financial interest in the following item of business as the spouse of an owner in business in Grangemouth and withdrew from the meeting, taking no part in the discussion and decision making.

## **FC95. TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION STRATEGY – UPDATE REPORT**

In terms of the Council’s Scheme of Delegation, this item had been called in to Council by Councillors Carleschi, Coleman and Oliver.

There was submitted (circulated) (a) extract of minute of meeting of the Economic Strategy and Development Committee held on 26 February 2013, and (b) report by the Director of Development Services (i) advising of the progress of the Council’s regeneration activities in town centres; (ii) giving an update regarding the progress of work for each centre, taking place during a period of significant changes in market conditions, and (iii) suggesting the next steps for each centre.

Councillor D Goldie, seconded by Councillor Black, moved the recommendations as set out in the report.

By way of an amendment, Councillor Oliver moved that, in addition to the motion:-

Council instructs officers to restore the regeneration groups in Denny, Bo'ness, Grangemouth and Falkirk.

Provost Reid stated that, in terms of Standing Order 32, the proposed amendment was substantially the same as the further amendment considered as part of the decision taken at item FC64 on 5 December 2012 and in terms of the Standing Order, no item of business the same or substantially the same may be discussed within 6 months, unless two thirds of members present and voting, and an absolute majority of Council, agree otherwise.

Councillor Oliver, seconded by Councillor Chalmers, therefore moved that Council agrees, in accordance with Standing Order 32, to consider of the proposed amendment.

On a division 13 members voted for the motion and 16 voted against. The amendment consequently fell.

Accordingly, **NOTED**:-

- (1) the progress of the Council's actions relating to town centre regeneration, and
- (2) the progress with the Stage 1 application to the Heritage Lottery Fund Townscape Heritage Initiative for Falkirk Town Centre and the recent award of £1.6m of CARS funding by Historic Scotland.

**AGREED** to receive further reports on town centre regeneration.

Councillors McNally and Nicol rejoined the meeting following consideration of the foregoing item of business and Councillor Alexander withdrew from the meeting.

**FC96. REFERRAL FROM THE SPECIAL ECONOMIC STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ON 18 FEBRUARY 2013  
FALKIRK LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN – PROPOSED PLAN**

With reference to the minute of the Special meeting of the Economic Strategy and Development Committee held on 18 February 2013 (para ESD22 refers) there was submitted report (circulated) by the Director of Development Services advising that Committee had agreed to revise the draft Local Development Plan to include 4 site specific changes and to refer the amended draft Plan and Action Programme to Council for approval.

Councillor D Goldie, seconded by Councillor Gow, moved the recommendation as set out in the report.

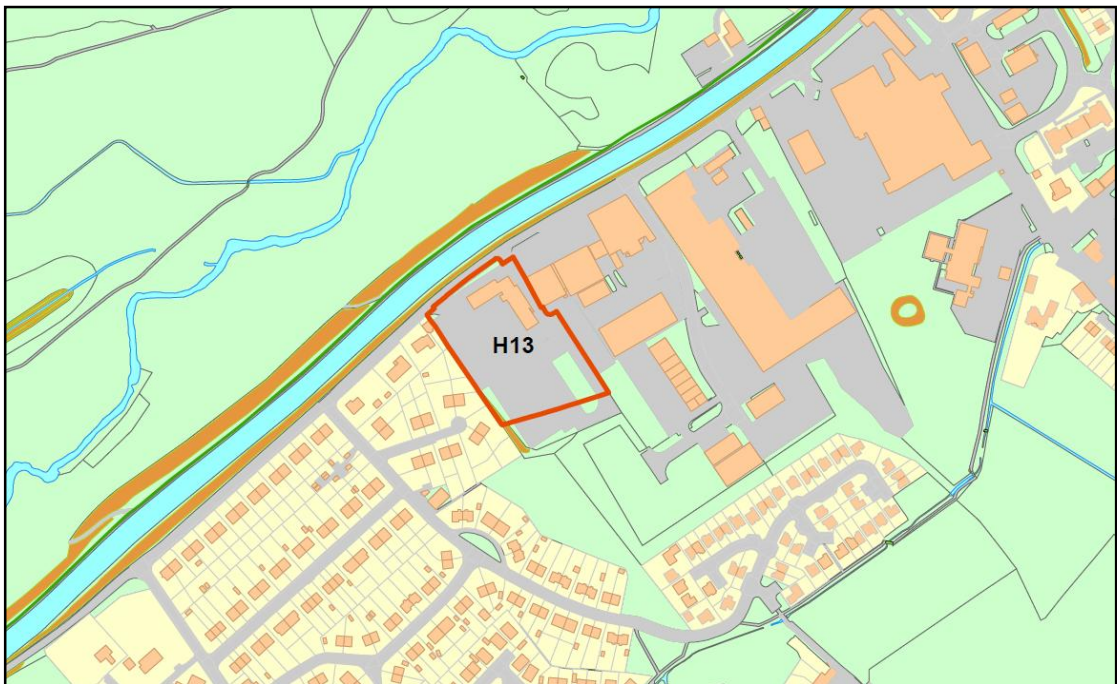
Councillor Oliver advised that he intended to propose, a further 9 site specific amendments to the proposed plan. Provost Reid confirmed that they would require to be contained within one amendment in accordance with Standing Order 19.5 which prohibited any individual member from moving more than one amendment to each motion. Each separate site contained within the amendment would, however, be considered separately.

Councillor Spears gave notice of a further amendment.

Councillor Oliver, seconded by Councillor McCabe in respect of Seabegs Road, Greenhill and, upon clarification by the provost of the terms of Standing Order as detailed above, by Councillor Meiklejohn in respect of the remainder of the amendment, moved to add the following site specific change to the proposed Plan and Action Programme:-

**(1) Seabegs Road, Greenhill**

To delete the housing site H13 Seabegs Road, Greenhill, as shown in the map below, from the proposed plan.



**Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan**

Spatial Strategy

Figure 3.1

Make consequential adjustments to the housing land allocations for Bonnybridge and Banknock settlement area.

Bonnybridge and Banknock Settlement Statement

Figure 4.4

Bonnybridge and Banknock Proposals/Opportunities (paragraph 4.16)  
Remove H13 Seabegs Road, High Bonnybridge from Other Sites section.

Appendix 1: Site Schedule

Remove H13 Seabegs Road, High Bonnybridge.

Proposals Map: Map 1

Remove site H13 from map.

**Changes to Supporting Information**

SEA Environmental Report

Make consequential changes to Environmental Report to reflect the removal of the proposal.

Proposed Action Programme

Remove proposal from action programme.

Technical Reports

Make consequential changes to Site Assessment to reflect the removal of the proposal.”

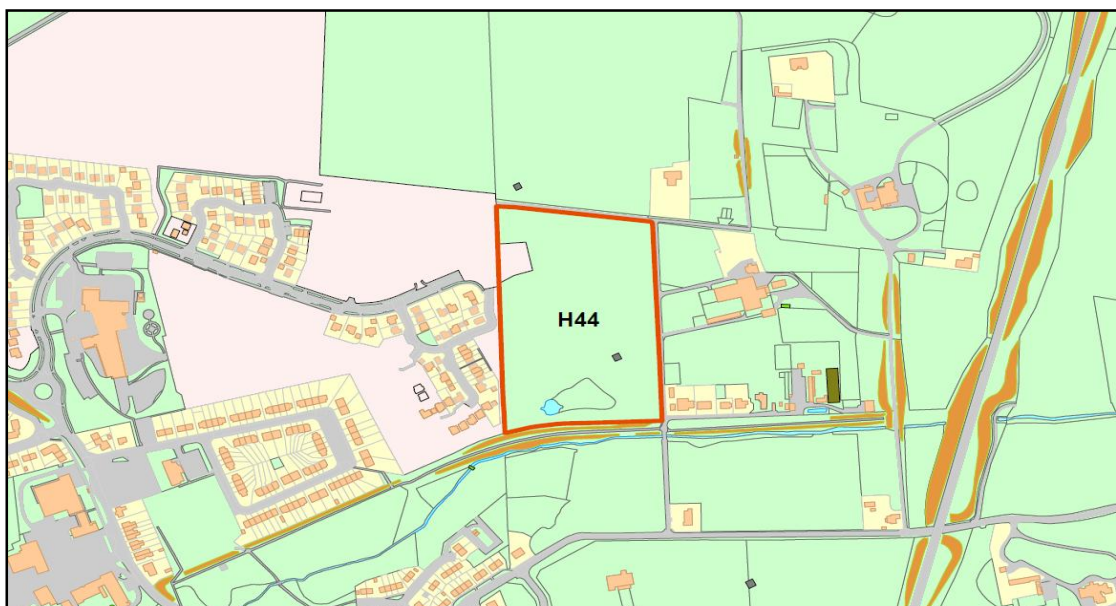
On a division, 13 members voted for the amendment and 16 voted for the motion with one abstention.

**Accordingly this part of the amendment was NOT AGREED.**

Councillor Alexander rejoined the meeting.

**(2) Parkhall Farm 2, Maddiston**

To delete the site H44 Parkhall Farm 2, Maddiston, as shown in the map below, from the Proposed Plan.





## **Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan**

### Spatial Strategy

Figure 3.1

Make consequential adjustments to the housing land allocations for Polmont settlement area.

### Polmont Settlement Statement

Figure 4.14 Polmont Area Proposals/Opportunities (paragraph 4.55)

Remove H44 Parkhall Farm 2, Maddiston from Maddiston East SGA section.

### Appendix 1: Site Schedule

Remove H44 Parkhall Farm 2, Maddiston.

### Proposals Map: Map 5

Remove site H44 from map.

## **Changes to Supporting Information**

### SEA Environmental Report

Make consequential changes to Environmental Report to reflect the removal of the proposal.

### Proposed Action Programme

Remove proposal from action programme

### Technical Reports

Make consequential changes to Site Assessment to reflect the removal of the proposal.”

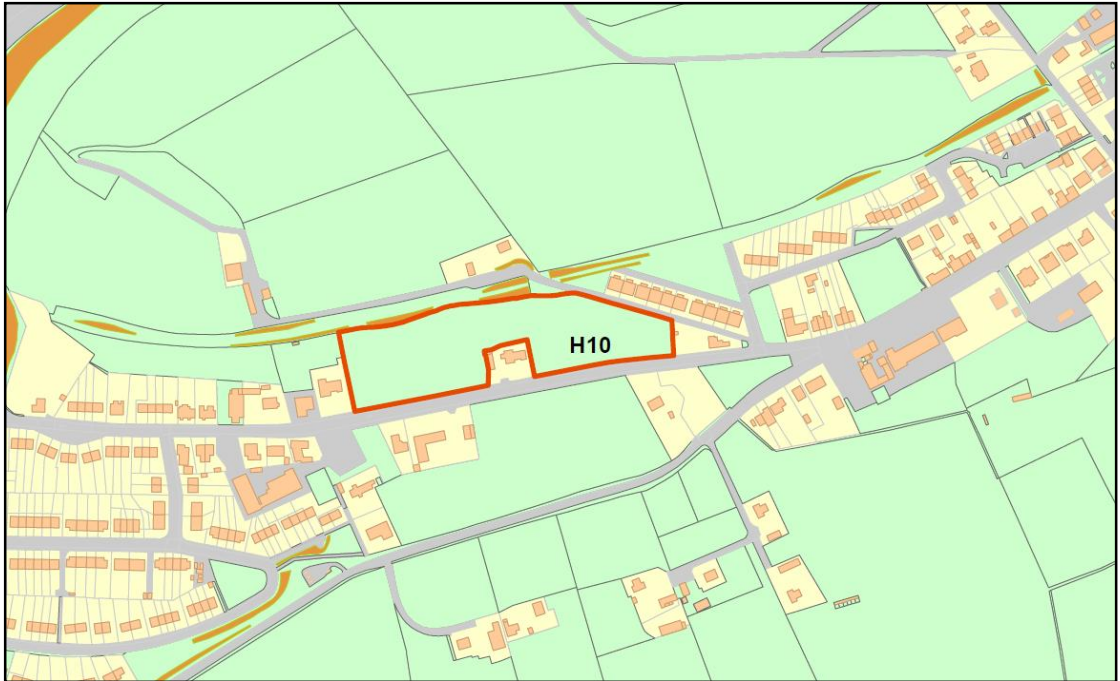
On a division, 14 members voted for the amendment and 16 voted against with 1 abstention.

**Accordingly the part of the amendment was NOT AGREED.**

The Provost sought to clarify the decision making process in regard to the proposed amendments and stated that each remaining amendment would be determined by a straight forward vote for or against the amendment.

### **(3) Kilsyth Road 2, Haggs**

To delete the housing site H10 Kilsyth Road 2, as shown in the map below, from the Proposed Plan.



## **Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan**

### Spatial Strategy

Figure 3.1

Make consequential adjustments to the housing land allocations for Bonnybridge and Banknock settlement area.

### Bonnybridge and Banknock Settlement Statement

Figure 4.4

Bonnybridge and Banknock Proposals/Opportunities (paragraph 4.16)

Remove H10 Kilsyth Road 2 from Other Sites section.

### Appendix 1: Site Schedule

Remove H10 Kilsyth Road 2.

### Proposals Map: Map 1

Remove site H10 from map.

## **Changes to Supporting Information**

### SEA Environmental Report

Make consequential changes to Environmental Report to reflect the removal of the proposal.

### Proposed Action Programme

Remove proposal from action programme

### Technical Reports

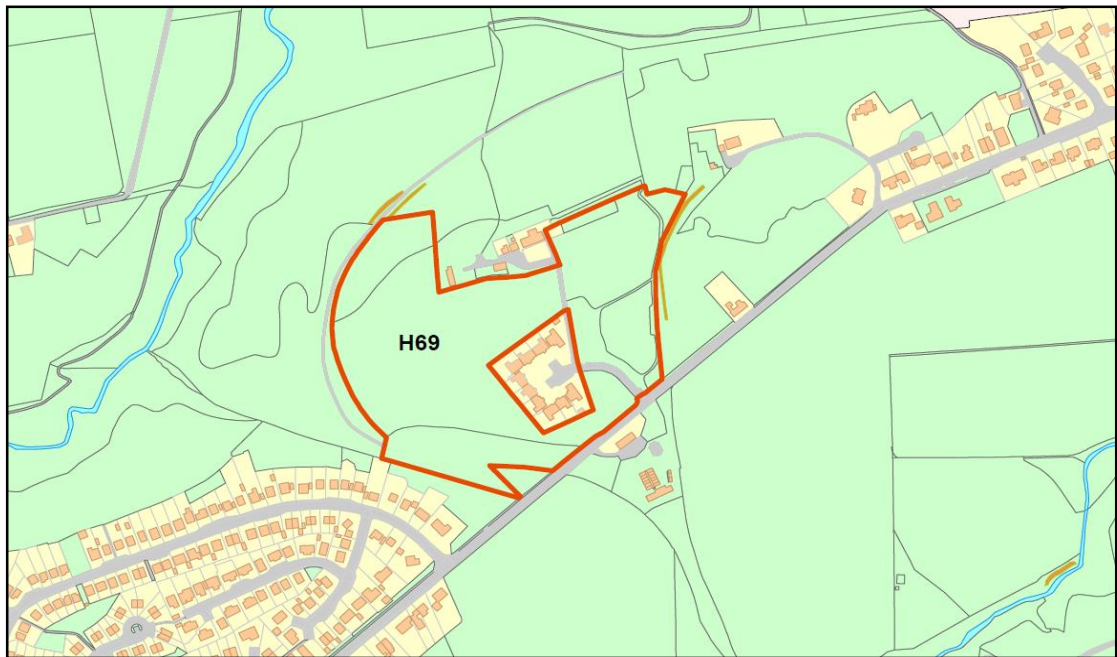
Make consequential changes to Site Assessment to reflect the removal of the proposal.”

On a division 14 members voted for the amendment and 16 voted against with 1 abstention.

**Accordingly the part the amendment was NOT AGREED.**

**(4) Hillcrest, Shieldhill**

To delete the housing site H69 Hillcrest, Shieldhill, as shown in the map below, from the Proposed Plan.



**Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan**

Spatial Strategy

Figure 3.1

Make consequential adjustments to the housing land allocations for Rural South settlement area.

Rural South Settlement Statement

Figure 4.18 Rural North Proposals/Opportunities (paragraph 4.72)

Remove H69 Hillcrest, Shieldhill from other sites section.

Appendix 1: Site Schedule

Remove H69 Hillcrest, Shieldhill.

Proposals Map: Map 4

Remove site H69 from map.

## Changes to Supporting Information

### SEA Environmental Report

Make consequential changes to Environmental Report to reflect the removal of the proposal.

### Proposed Action Programme

Remove proposal from action programme.

### Technical Reports

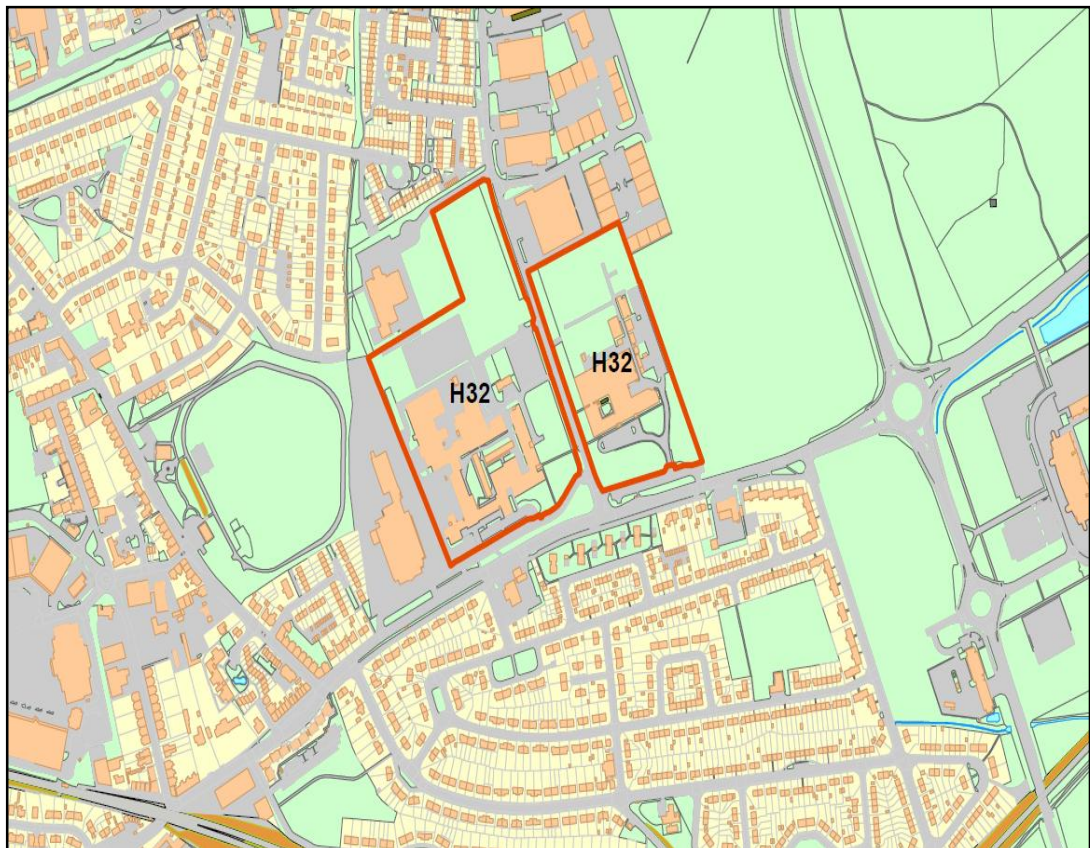
Make consequential changes to Site Assessment to reflect the removal of the proposal.”

On a division 14 members voted for the amendment and 16 voted against with 1 abstention.

**Accordingly this part of the amendment was NOT AGREED.**

## **(5) Grangemouth Road, Falkirk**

To change the allocation of site H32 Grangemouth Road, Falkirk, as shown in the map below, from housing to mixed use.



## Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan



### Proposals Map: Map 2

Amend H32 to mixed use on map

### Appendix 1: Site Schedule

Transfer site H32 Grangemouth Road from Housing section and insert as site M\* Grangemouth Road in the mixed use section.

## **Changes to Supporting Information**

### SEA Environmental Report

Make consequential changes to Environmental Report to reflect the change to the site's designation.

### Proposed Action Programme

Make consequential changes to Action Programme to reflect the change to the site's designation.

### Technical Reports

Make consequential changes to Site Assessment to reflect the change to the site's designation."

On a division 14 members voted for the amendment and 16 voted against with 1 abstention.

**Accordingly this part of the amendment was NOT AGREED.**

## **(6) Grahamston Opportunity Area, Falkirk**

To delete the site M08 Grahamston Opportunity Area, Falkirk, as shown in the map below, from the Proposed Plan.



## Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan

### Falkirk Settlement Statement

Figure 4.6 Falkirk Proposals/Opportunities (paragraph 4.8)

Remove M08 Grahamston Opportunity Area from Town Centres section.

### Appendix 1: Site Schedule

Remove M08 Grahamston Opportunity Area.

### Proposals Map: Map 2

Remove site M08 from map 2 and Town Centre Inset map.

## Changes to Supporting Information

### SEA Environmental Report

Make consequential changes to Environmental Report to reflect the removal of the proposal.

### Proposed Action Programme

Remove proposal from action programme.

### Technical Reports

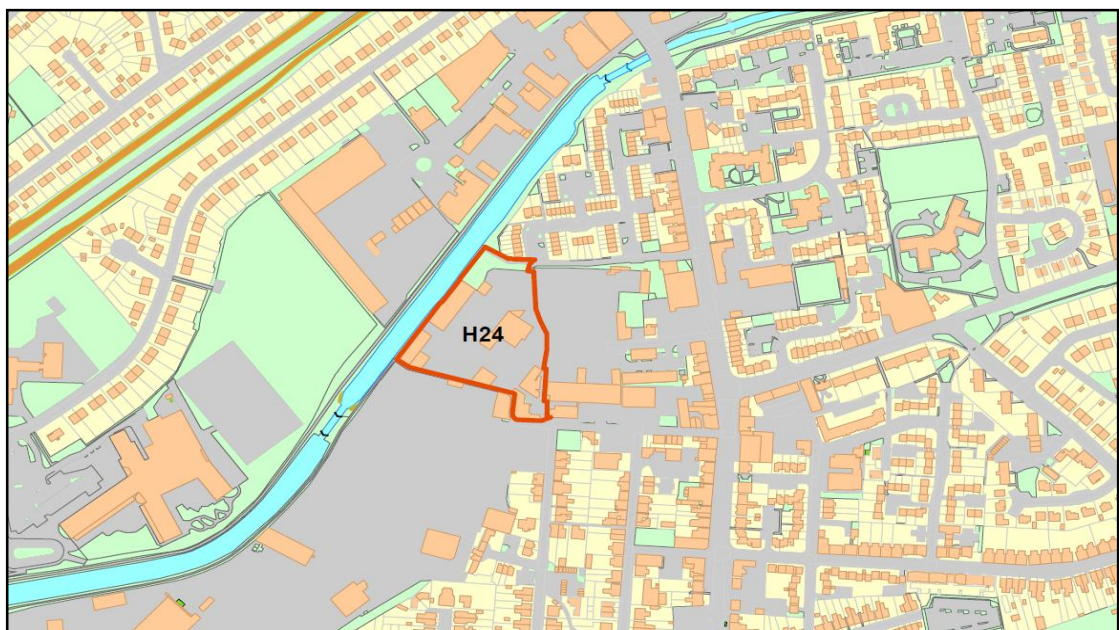
Make consequential changes to Site Assessment to reflect the removal of the proposal.”

On a division 14 members voted for the amendment and 16 voted against with 1 abstention.

Accordingly this part of the amendment was **NOT AGREED**.

## (7) Gowan Avenue, Falkirk

To amend the development requirements for site H24 Gowan Avenue, Falkirk, as shown in the map below, to include the investigation of a potential alternative or additional access from the site through to Bryson Street.



## Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan

### Appendix 2: Strategic Growth Area Guidance

#### Falkirk Canal Corridor

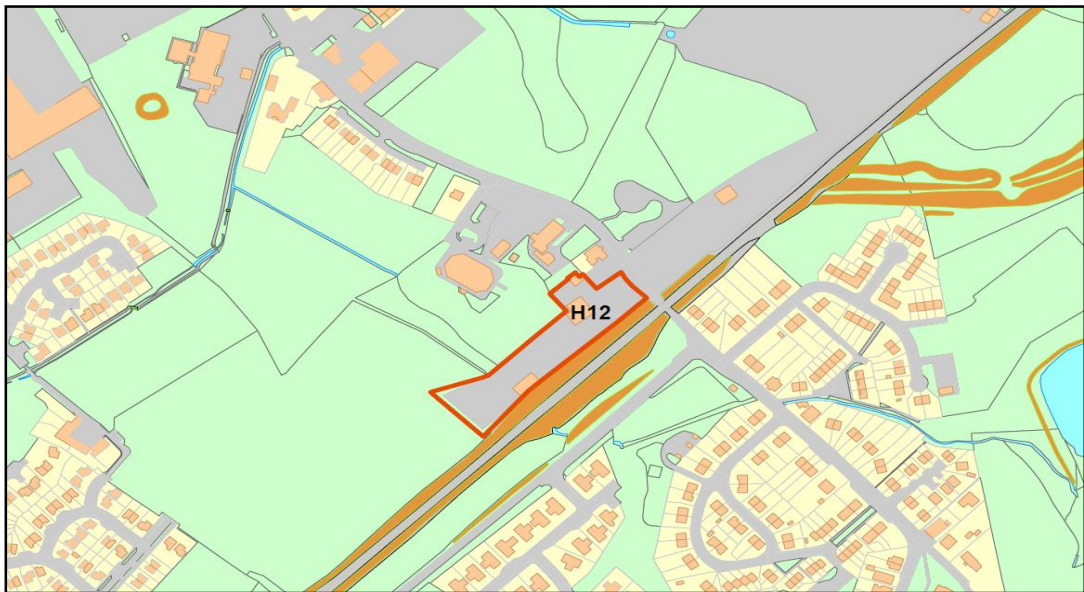
Gowan Avenue (H24) to amend bullet point 'Access to Grahams Road is constrained - investigate potential for alternative or additional access from the site through to Bryson Street'

On a division 14 members voted for the amendment and 15 voted against with 2 abstentions.

**Accordingly this part of the amendment was NOT AGREED.**

#### **(8) Broomhill Road, High Bonnybridge**

To delete the housing site H12 Broomhill Road, High Bonnybridge, as shown in the map below, from the Proposed Plan.



#### Proposals Map: Map 1

Remove site H12 from map.

## Changes to Supporting Information

#### SEA Environmental Report

Make consequential changes to Environmental Report to reflect the removal of the proposal.

#### Proposed Action Programme

Remove proposal from action programme.

#### Technical Reports

Make consequential changes to Site Assessment to reflect the removal of the proposal.”

On a division 14 members voted for the amendment and 15 voted against with 2 abstentions.

**Accordingly this part of the amendment was NOT AGREED**

**(9) Hillend Farm, Slamannan**

To amend the strategic growth area guidance in relation to H70 Hillend Farm, Slamannan to emphasise the scope of technical work required as part of necessary flood risk and drainage studies.

**Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan**

Appendix 2: Strategic Growth Area Guidance

Slamannan (Sites H70 & H71)

Under ‘Constraints’, delete 4<sup>th</sup> sentence and replace with the following:

‘Flood Risk and Drainage Assessments must be carried out, supported by technical reports on rainfall runoff, including flow from surface water drainage outfalls, overland flow and indirect water flows. New up to date flood maps must be included in the technical reports. The studies must include a catchment wide assessment of flooding and drainage issues. They should inform the layout of development and seek to alleviate existing off-site flooding problems including those along Mosscastle Road’.

On a division 14 members voted for the amendment and 16 voted against with 1 abstention.

**Accordingly this part of the amendment was NOT AGREED.**

Having considered each of the amendments the original motion remained unchanged.

By way of further amendment, Councillor Spears, seconded by Councillor McCabe, then moved two site specific changes to the proposed Plan and Action Programme as undernoted.

The Provost stated that Council would consider each part of the amendment in turn and that members would be asked to vote for or against the amendment.

**(10) H35 – Oxbang Road, Grangemouth**

To delete the housing site H35 from the proposed plan and retain it as on playing fields.

Having heard the terms of the amendment, Councillor Black declared a financial interest in the item as the owner of a premises near to Oxbang Road and withdrew from the meeting, taking no part in the discussion or decision making.

On a division 14 members voted for the amendment and 15 voted against with 1 abstention.



Councillor Black rejoined the meeting following consideration of the preceding item.

**(11) ED14 – South Bridge Street, Grangemouth**

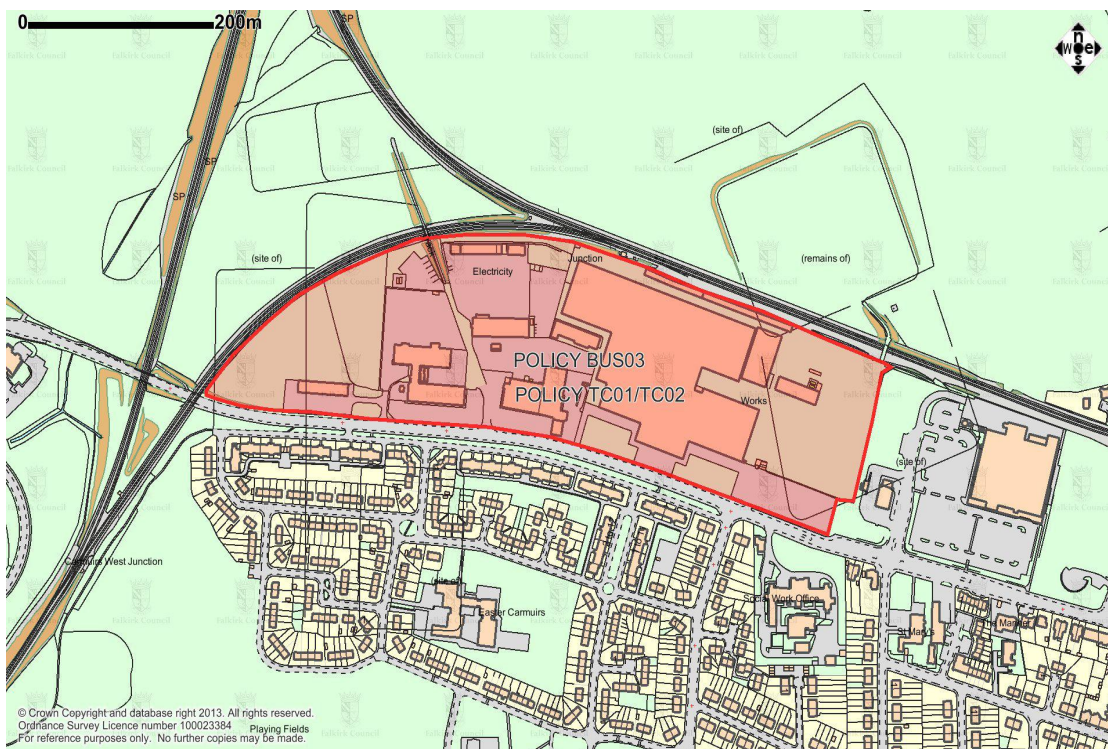
To delete reference to the site being used for business/industry and retain it for leisure, retail and housing.

On a division 12 members voted for the amendment and 16 voted against with 3 abstentions.

Having considered in turn each of the 11 proposed amendments, **AGREED** the Falkirk Local Development Plan: Proposed Plan and the Proposed Action Programme submitted to the Economic Development and Strategy Committee on 18 February 2013 and that consultation is undertaken in accordance with the relevant legislation, subject to the Proposed Plan and Proposed Action Programme being amended to include and reflect the following site specific changes and any consequential modifications that may require to be made:-

(1) Glasgow Road, Camelon

To change the designation of land at Glasgow Road Industrial Estate, as shown in the map below, from a core business area (Policy BUS02) to a Business Area with Potential for Redevelopment (Policy BUS03), and to extend the Camelon Local Centre Boundary (Policies TC01/TC02) to include this site.



## Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan

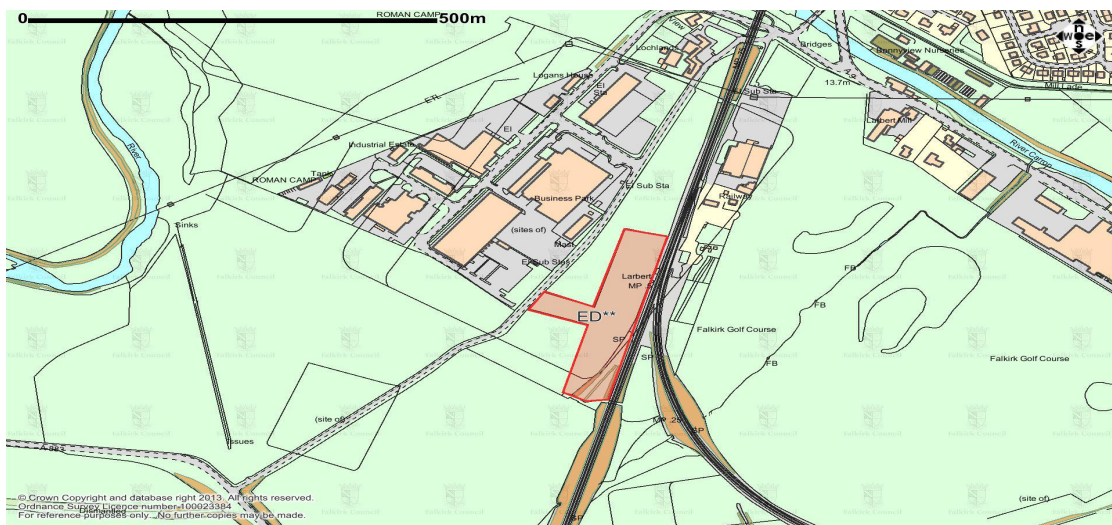
### Proposals Map: Map 2

Change area shown in map above from Core Business Area (Policy BUS02) to Business Area with Potential for Redevelopment.

Extend the Camelon Local Centre Boundary westwards as shown in the map above.

### **(2) Lochlands, Larbert**

To include a site at Lochlands, Larbert, as shown in the map below, as a proposal for economic development in the Proposed Plan, forming an extension to Lochlands Industrial Estate.



## Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan

### Falkirk Settlement Statement

Figure 4.8 Falkirk Proposals/Opportunities (paragraph 4.34)

Add new proposal ED\*\* Lochlands Industrial Estate in Business/Local Sites section.

### Appendix 1: Site Schedule

Add new proposal ED\*\* Lochlands Industrial Estate as follows:-

Ref No: ED\*\*

Site Name: Lochlands Industrial Estate

Site Size (ha): 1.7

Proposed Uses: Business/industry

Status: New proposal

Site Comments:

- Extension to industrial estate on the west side of Lochlands Loan.
- Site lies within Scheduled Ancient Monument (Lochlands Roman Camps). Scheduled monument consent will be required from Historic Scotland. Full archaeological assessment/justification and mitigation measures required to accompany proposals.

- Structure planting required on periphery of site to mitigate visual impact.

#### Proposals Map: Map 2

Add new proposal ED\*\* as shown in the map above.

Remove green belt from area covered by new proposal.

### **Changes to Supporting Information**

#### SEA Environmental Report

Make consequential changes to Environmental Report to reflect the addition of the proposal.

#### Proposed Action Programme

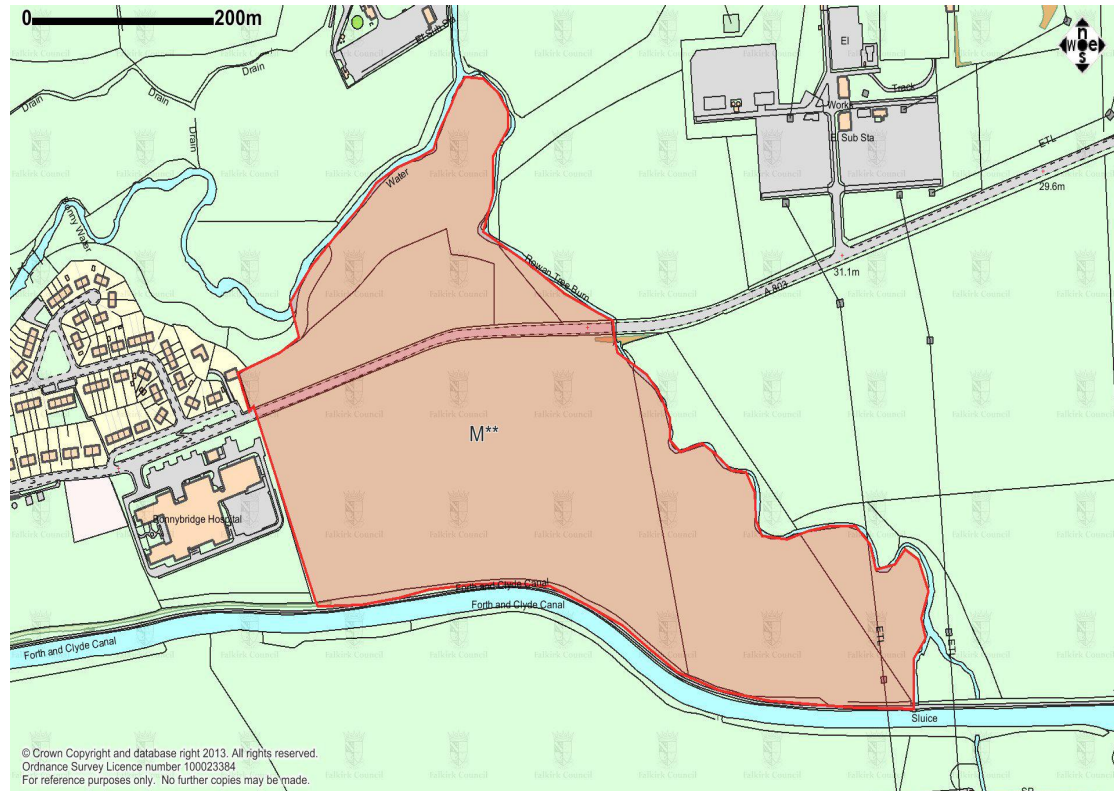
Add proposal to action programme with appropriate programming information.

#### Technical Reports

Make consequential changes to Site Assessment to reflect the addition of the proposal.

### **(3) East Bonnybridge**

To include a site at East Bonnybridge, as shown in the map below, as a proposal for mixed use development (including housing, nursing home and sports and recreation facilities) in the Proposed Plan, and to amend the boundary of the green belt to the east of Bonnybridge to exclude the site.



## Detailed Changes to Proposed Plan

### Bonnybridge & Banknock Settlement Statement

Paragraph 4.12 Delete and replace with:-

“In Bonnybridge a significant settlement expansion and green belt removal to the east of the town is promoted (M\*\*), comprising housing and sports facilities.

Further housing opportunities include an urban infill site to the north of the canal at Falkirk Road (H11) and brownfield sites to the south of the canal at Seabegs Road (H13) and Broomhill Road (H12). In total these sites are projected to deliver 313 new homes.”

Figure 4.3 Bonnybridge and Banknock Housing Allocation

Amend figures as follows:-

New proposals: 248

Total: 1402

Figure 4.4 Bonnybridge and Banknock Proposals/Opportunities (paragraph 4.16)

Add new proposal M\*\* East Bonnybridge in Housing/Other Sites: Bonnybridge section.

### Spatial Strategy: Housing

Figure 3.1 Housing Land Allocations by Settlement Area (paragraph 3.9)

Map 3.1 Housing and Green Belt (paragraph 3.10)

Amend housing figures to reflect addition of the site as a new proposal.

Amend map to reflect removal of area of green belt.

### Appendix 1: Site Schedule

Add new proposal M\* East Bonnybridge as follows:-

Ref No: M\*

Site Name: East Bonnybridge

Site Size (ha): 19.9

Housing capacity: 200

Status: New proposal

Site Comments:

- Greenfield expansion to the east of Bonnybridge involving green belt release.
- Proposed uses are housing, nursing home, sports and recreation facilities, and green network enhancement.
- Masterplan required which should address a number of issues including presence of pipelines through the site, and associated health and safety constraints.
- Site lies within Antonine Wall World Heritage Site (WHS) Buffer Zone and adjacent to Forth & Clyde Canal. Design and layout will have to address impact on the WHS and on the setting of the canal.
- Extensive green network enhancement required including access, landscape and habitat improvements associated with Bonny Water, Rowantree Burn and Forth & Clyde Canal.
- Flood risk assessment required.

- Contributions required to address education capacity issues resulting from the development.
- 15% affordable housing requirement.

#### Proposals Map: Map 2

Add new proposal M\* as shown in the map above.

Remove green belt from area covered by new proposal.

### **Changes to Supporting Information**

#### SEA Environmental Report

Make consequential changes to Environmental Report to reflect the addition of the proposal.

#### Proposed Action Programme

Add proposal to action programme with appropriate programming information.

#### Technical Reports

Make consequential changes to Site Assessment, Housing and Green Belt to reflect the addition of the proposal.

### **(4) Garngrew Road, Haggs**

To include the site at Garngrew Road, Haggs, as shown in the Main Issues Report, as a housing site with an indicative capacity of 20 units in the Proposed Plan and Proposed Action Programme with all consequential amendments made to the Proposed Plan and Proposed Action Plan to reflect that.

Council adjourned at 1.15 pm for lunch and reconvened at 2.00 pm with all members present as per the sederunt with the exception of Councillor McNally.

## **FC97. REFERRAL FROM LEISURE TOURISM AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE ON 19 FEBRUARY 2013 CARRON DAMS: LOCAL NATURE RESERVE DESIGNATION**

There was submitted report (circulated) by the Director of Development Services advising that Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) had formally supported the designation of Carron Dams as a Local Nature Reserve under section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.

**AGREED** to designate Carron Dams as a Local Nature Reserve in terms of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.

**FC98. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2013/14**

There was submitted report (circulated) by the Chief Finance Officer (a) advising that the Code of Practice for Treasury Management requires an Annual Strategy Report to be prepared and submitted to Council for approval, and (b) presenting a Strategy setting out (i) outstanding debt at 1 April 2013; (ii) the longer term borrowing requirement for 2013/14; (iii) the Council's borrowing and investment strategies; (iv) the Treasury indicators, and (v) member/officer training considerations.

**AGREED:-**

- (1) the Borrowing Strategy for 2013/14 as set out in section 5 of the report;
- (2) the Investment Strategy for 2013/14 and the list of "Permitted Investments" as set out in section 6 of the report;
- (3) the Treasury Indicators as set out in section 7 of the report, and
- (4) to instruct the Chief Finance Officer to arrange training as outlined in section 10 of the report.

**FC99. ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS OVER £350,000 IN VALUE: CONTRACT FOR ST ANDREW'S PRIMARY SCHOOL – EXTENSION TO ASSEMBLY HALL (FAL-6461)**

There was submitted report (circulated) by the Director of Development Services advising that (a) tenders were invited for the contract for the extension to the existing gym hall at St Andrews Primary School; (b) 4 tenders had been received by the due date of 19 February 2013 and opened that day in accordance with Standing Order 11 relating to meetings, and (c) the lowest tender was submitted by Hadden Construction Ltd, 1 Maidenpark Place, Aberuthven in the sum of £413,037.48.

**AGREED**, in accordance with Standing Order 6.2 (iv), to accept the tender submitted by Hadden Construction Ltd, in the sum of £413,037.48 in respect of the contract for the extension to the existing gym hall at St Andrews Primary School.

**FC100. WELFARE REFORM – UPDATE**

With reference to the minute of meeting held on 26 September 2012 (Paragraph FC48 refers), there was submitted report (circulated) by the Director of Corporate and Neighbourhood Services (a) providing an update on the impact of Welfare Reform on workstreams across the Council; (b) highlighting measures to mitigate the impact of reform on the citizens of the area including the implementation of the Scottish Welfare Fund; (c) presenting a draft revised Discretionary Housing Payment scheme which would allow officers to better target those affected by current and planned changes in benefits, and (d) detailing proposals to utilise the Fairer Falkirk Fund to target those most in need.

Councillor C Martin, seconded by Councillor Black, moved that Council:-



- (1) allocates £35,000 from the Fairer Falkirk Fund to increase the budget provision for Discretionary Housing Payments for 2012/13, and
- (2) apart from the allocation referred to in the preceding paragraph, continues consideration of the report to a special meeting of Council, to be held before 31 March 2013, to allow members to attend a briefing on welfare reform.

Councillor Meiklejohn proposed the following in addition to the motion:

- (3) invites the Scottish Secretary, Michael Moore MP and David Mundell MP to a meeting in Falkirk with group leaders and representatives of the community to hear first hand the misery being caused by the UK Government's policies.

Councillor D Goldie then proposed a further addition to the motion, namely that Council asks the Scottish Government to make up to £50m available to alleviate the impact of the bedroom tax in the first year as requested by Shelter.

Council adjourned at 2.30 pm for 10 minutes to allow members to discuss the motion and the proposed additions thereto.

On reconvening, Councillor Martin confirmed that, with the consent of the Provost and Councillor Black, as his seconder, he would adjust his motion to read:-

- (1) to allocate £35k from the Fairer Falkirk Fund to increase the budget provision for Discretionary Housing Payments for 2012/13;
- (2) apart from the allocation referred to in the preceding paragraph, to continue consideration of the report to the special meeting of Council to be held before 31 March 2013 to allow members to attend a briefing on welfare reform;
- (3) to invite the Scottish Secretary, Michael Moore MP; and David Mundell MP; together with all MPs and MSPs representing the Falkirk Council area to meet in Falkirk with group leaders and representatives of the community to hear first hand the misery being caused by the UK Government's policies, and
- (4) to ask the Scottish Government to make up to £50m available to alleviate the impact of the bedroom tax in the first year as requested by Shelter.

By way of an amendment, Councillor Meiklejohn seconded by Councillor Alexander moved paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the motion.

In terms of Standing Order 21.4(1) a vote was taken by roll call, there being 30 members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the motion (17) - Provost Reid; Depute Provost Patrick; Councillors Black, Blackwood, Buchanan, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow, MacDonald, McLuckie, Mahoney, C Martin, Dr C R Martin, Murray, Nicol, Nimmo and Paterson.

For the amendment (13) – Councillors Alexander, Balfour, Carleschi, Chalmers, Coleman, Hughes, Jackson, McCabe, Meiklejohn, Oliver, Ritchie, Spears and Turner.

Accordingly, **AGREED**:-

- (1) to allocate £35k from the Fairer Falkirk Fund to increase the budget provision for Discretionary Housing Payments for 2012/13;
- (2) apart from the allocation referred to in the preceding paragraph, to continue consideration of the report to the special meeting of Council to be held before 31 March 2013 to allow members to attend a briefing on welfare reform;
- (3) to invite the Scottish Secretary, Michael Moore MP; and David Mundell MP; together with all MPs and MSPs representing the Falkirk Council area to meet in Falkirk with group leaders and representatives of the community to hear first hand the misery being caused by the UK Government's policies, and
- (4) to ask the Scottish Government to make up to £50m available to alleviate the impact of the bedroom tax in the first year as requested by Shelter.

#### **FC101. NEWTOWN PARK BO'NESS**

With reference to the minute of the meeting held on 22 June 2011 (Paragraph FC36 refers), there was submitted report (circulated) by the Chief Governance Officer (a) advising that Newton Park, Bo'ness was currently held in trust by Falkirk Council through the Newton Park Trust; (b) updating Council on progress with the proposal to transfer Newtown Park to the Newtown Park Community Trust, and (c) inviting Council to appoint a sufficient number of councillors to act as trustees for the Newtown Park Trust in order to take forward the proposed transfer.

**NOTED** the proposed formation of Newtown Park Community Trust as a suitable alternative public trust to receive the transfer of the park from the Newtown Park Trust.

**AGREED** to appoint the Provost and Councillors Mahoney, Ritchie and Turner, as trustees for the current Newtown Park Trust.

#### **FC102. EXECUTION OF DEEDS**

There was submitted report (circulated) by the Chief Governance Officer advising of the deeds which had been signed and sealed on behalf of the Council since its last meeting.

**NOTED** the signing and sealing by the Chief Governance Officer of the deeds as detailed in the Appendix to the report.



**FC103. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** in terms of Section 50A (4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude from the meeting the press and public for the following item of business on the ground that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 9 of Part 1 to Schedule 7A of the said Act.

**FC104. 9 CENTRAL BOULEVARD, CENTRAL PARK, LARBERT**

There was submitted report (circulated) by the Director of Development Services (a) advising of proposals to terminate the Council's lease of 9 Central Boulevard, Central Park, Larbert, to facilitate local economic development, and (b) detailing the financial regulations for Falkirk Council in the proposed spend to save transaction.

**AGREED** the proposals for the early termination of the Council's current lease at 9 Central Boulevard, Central Park, Larbert at a cost of £1,500,000 on the terms set out in the report.