

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
11 DECEMBER 2013

COUNCIL MEETING

Minute of meeting of Perth and Kinross Council held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 11 December 2013 at 2.00pm.

Present: Provost E Grant, Councillors H Anderson, R Band, P Barrett, R Brock , I Campbell, J Coburn, A Cowan, D Doogan, B Ellis, J Flynn, A Gaunt, J Giacobazzi, C Gillies, A Grant, T Gray, K Howie, A Jack, J Kellas, G Laing, A Livingstone, M Lyle (up to and including Art. 740), E Maclachlan, A MacLellan, D Melloy, I Miller (from Arts. 729-742 and 744), D Pover, M Roberts, W Robertson, C Shiers, L Simpson, A Stewart, B Vaughan, G Walker, M Williamson, W Wilson, and A Younger.

Also in Attendance: D Burke, Depute Chief Executive; G Taylor, J Symon, G Fogg, S Hendry, R Fry, J Frawley, K Donaldson, S Flannigan and J Jennings (all Chief Executive's Service); J Fyffe, Depute Chief Executive and Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); B Renton, Depute Director (Environment); D Littlejohn, J McCrone and K Barron (all The Environment Service); and J Walker, Executive Director (Housing and Community Care).

Also Attending: F Kordiak, Audit Scotland; N Stobie, Jones Lang LaSalle.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors M Barnacle, D Cuthbert, A Munro and H Stewart.

Provost E Grant, Presiding.

730. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Provost Grant welcomed all those present to the meeting, and apologies were submitted and noted as above.

Prior to the commencement of business:

(i) Tribute to former Provost Bob Scott

Provost Grant paid tribute to former Provost Bob Scott who had served as a Councillor with Perth and Kinross District Council, Tayside Regional Council and latterly Perth and Kinross Council, where he had served as Provost from 2003 to 2007, and who had died in October following a long period of illness.

731. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, Councillor B Vaughan declared a non-financial interest in Article 738.

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732. MINUTE

The Minute of the Meeting of Perth and Kinross Council of 2 October 2013 (Arts. 583-603) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

733. REQUESTS FOR DEPUTATIONS

Provost Grant advised that three requests for deputations had been received in respect of Article 733, Perth City Hall, as follows:

- Mr James Simpson on behalf of the Perth City Market Trust
- Ms Maureen Summers
- Mr Malcolm Smith, TMS Planning and Development Services Ltd

In terms of Standing Order 59, the Council agreed:

- (i) To hear the deputation from Mr Simpson;
- (ii) Not to grant the deputation requests from Ms Summers and Mr Smith on the basis that the requests did not relate specifically to the Perth City Market Trust's proposals, but rather to the potential demolition of the City Hall, which was not a matter before the Council and would be a matter for the Development Management Committee.

Mr Simpson addressed the Council on the proposals contained within Report 13/583. Mr Simpson answered a number of questions from members and thereafter withdrew to the public gallery.

In terms of Standing Order 19, the Council agreed to vary the order of business and consider Article 733 – Perth City Hall at this point.

734. PERTH CITY HALL

There was submitted a report by D Burke, Depute Chief Executive (13/583) (i) advising on the outcome of the re-marketing of Perth City Hall; (2) noting that the proposals by the Perth City Market Trust was the only submission made; and (3) recommending that the Market Trust's proposal be rejected for the reasons outlined in Report 13/583.

Members heard from N Stobie from Jones Lang LaSalle who provided further information on the re-marketing process and answered a number of questions from members.

Resolved:

- (i) The advice received by Jones Lang LaSalle in respect of the proposal submitted by the Perth City Market Trust in respect of Perth City Hall, as detailed in Report 13/583, be noted.

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- (ii) The proposal by the Perth City Market Trust be rejected, on the basis of insufficient supporting information in respect of the Heads of Term, commercial viability, funding and economic benefits as required in relation to the submission criteria.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Environment) be instructed to resubmit an application for demolition of Perth City Hall for determination by Scottish Ministers.

735. NOTICE OF MOTION

The Council considered the following Motion which had been submitted in accordance with Standing Orders 26 and 27.

Police Scotland – Proposed Withdrawal of Public Counter Facilities – Motion by Councillors W Robertson and L Simpson

This Council is very concerned about Police Scotland's proposals to withdraw public counter facilities from all Perth and Kinross police stations, save for Pitlochry and Perth. We see this as a backward step which will impact on nearly all of our rural communities. These closures have been announced without any prior consultation with any of those communities affected by the withdrawal of this service.

We see this as a first step towards wholesale police station closures both in Perth and Kinross and throughout Scotland.

We ask that this Council write to Police Scotland voicing our concerns and ask that a dialogue be entered into to find a way of protecting the community/police interface which we consider vital in delivering effective policing.

Resolved:

In accordance with the Motion.

736. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

Minutes of Committees from 19 September 2013 to 20 November 2013

The decisions recorded in Arts. 540-673, copies of which had been circulated to all members of the Council, were submitted and noted/approved as necessary.

737. MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD OF 6 SEPTEMBER 2013

The minute of meeting of the Community Planning Partnership Board of 6 September 2013 was submitted and noted.

738. AUDIT SCOTLAND – ANNUAL REPORT ON THE 2012/13 AUDIT

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (13/578) presenting the External Auditors' Annual Report on the 2012/13 Audit.

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F Kordiak from Audit Scotland provided a summary of the report and answered a number of questions from members.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 13/578 be noted.
- (ii) The Head of Finance be instructed to submit the External Auditors' Annual Report on the 2012/13 Audit to a future meeting of the Audit Committee for detailed consideration.

739. TREASURY ACTIVITY AND COMPLIANCE REPORT – 2013/14 QUARTER 2

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (13/579) providing a summary of Loans Fund transactions for the quarter ending 30 September 2013, and reporting on compliance with the Council's Treasury Management Policy Statement (TMPS), Treasury Management Practices (TMP's) and the Investment Strategy for the same period.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 13/579, submitted in accordance with the Council's approved Treasury Management Practices be noted.
- (ii) The inclusion of the Co-operative Bank on the Council's approved list of counterparties over the Christmas closedown period for Treasury Management purposes, from 24 December 2013 to 9 January 2014, as detailed in Sections 6.3 to 6.5 of Report 13/579, be approved.
- (iii) The deferral of the loan repayment by Pitlochry Festival Theatre to February 2015 thereby extending the repayment period by one year, as detailed in Section 6.7 of Report 13/579, be approved.

740. REVIEW OF TREASURY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS DOCUMENT

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (13/580) seeking approval of the revised Treasury Management Systems Document (TMSD) as required by the CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management.

Resolved:

The revised Treasury Management Systems Document, as detailed in Report 13/580, be approved.

741. SECURING THE FUTURE THROUGH OUR PEOPLE

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (13/581) highlighting the many positive people practices that have shaped the Council's progress over the last year, and identifying future plans to reinforce the Council's commitment to further develop the right environment to enable employees at all levels to fully contribute to the Council's transformation journey.

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Resolved:

- (i) The continued success of the workforce management measures be noted.
- (ii) The considerable range of organisational development activity taking place across the Council be noted.
- (iii) The continued provision of an annual report detailing progress relating to workforce management and organisational development be approved.
- (iv) The recommendations within the Audit Scotland report, Scotland's Public Sector Workforce contained in Appendix 2 to Report 13/581, be noted.

742. PERTH CITY DEVELOPMENT

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (13/582) summarising progress (i) in providing a framework for development and investment in Perth and (ii) on the delivery of key activities and projects since the restoration of city status in 2012.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress to date on the delivery of key activities and projects in respect of the Perth City Plan be noted.
- (ii) The progress regarding the development of national frameworks for investment and funding models through the Scottish Cities Alliance be noted.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Environment) be remitted to report back on local actions required as a consequence of the national review of city investment activity in respect of a City Investment Plan and any alternative funding model.

743. NEW NATIONAL RESILIENCE ARRANGEMENTS

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) advising on the new national arrangements for the management of resilience responsibilities in Scotland under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, Contingency Planning (Scotland) Regulations 2005 and other relevant legislation and regulations. It was noted that the new arrangements had come into effect on 1 November 2013.

Resolved:

- (i) The implementation of the new national arrangements be noted.
- (ii) The Chief Executive be instructed to make any necessary changes in Perth & Kinross Council's operating procedures to integrate with the work of the regional and local resilience partnerships.

744. REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES – FEEDBACK ON CONSULTATION

It was noted that this item had been deferred for consideration until the special meeting of the Council taking place on 18 December 2013.

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745. CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

(i) Scrutiny Committee

Resolved:

Councillor R Brock be appointed to the Scrutiny Committee to replace Councillor M Barnacle.

(ii) Perth and Kinross Licensing Board

Resolved:

Councillor D Pover be appointed to the Perth and Kinross Licensing Board to replace Councillor R Band.

(iii) Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust – Executive Committee

Resolved:

It be agreed that nominations for the vacancy on the Executive Committee be forwarded to the Head of Democratic Services as soon as possible.

746. CHANGE TO TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2014

Resolved:

The meeting of the Community Safety Committee, originally scheduled to take place on Wednesday 8 January 2014, take place on Thursday 30 January 2014 at 10.00am.

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