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 26 February 2014 at 2.00pm.

Present: Provost E Grant, Councillors H Anderson (up to and including Art. 142),
R Band, M Barnacle, P Barrett, R Brock, I Campbell, J Coburn, A Cowan,
D Cuthbert, D Doogan, J Flynn, A Gaunt, J Giacopazzi, C Gillies, A Grant, T Gray,
K Howie, J Kellas, G Laing, A Livingstone, M Lyle, E Maclachlan, A MacLellan,
D Melloy, I Miller, A Munro, D Pover, M Roberts, C Shiers, A Stewart, H Stewart,
B Vaughan, G Walker, M Williamson, W Wilson, and A Younger.

Also in Attendance: B Malone, Chief Executive; D Burke, Depute Chief Executive; G Taylor, J Symon, S Hendry, I Innes, K Ridley, C Flynn and L Potter (all Chief Executive's Service); J Valentine, Executive Director (Environment); B Renton, Depute Director (Environment); A Seggie (The Environment Service); J Walker, Executive Director (Housing and Community Care); B Atkinson, Chief Social Work Officer and Depute Director (Education and Children's Services); and M Cochlan (Education and Children's Services).

Apologies for Absence: Councillors B Ellis, A Jack, W Robertson and L Simpson.

Provost E Grant, Presiding.

133. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

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

134. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

135. MINUTES

 The minute of the meeting of Perth and Kinross Council of 11 December 2013 (Arts. 730-746/13) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

With reference to Article 735/13, it was noted that further dialogue was continuing with Police Scotland on the matter of public counter facilities.

(ii) The minute of the special meeting of Perth & Kinross Council of 18 December 2013 (Arts. 761-767/13) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

136. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

Minutes of Committees from 27 November 2013 – 12 February 2014

The decisions recorded in Arts. 674-767/13 and 1-79, copies of which had been circulated to all members of the Council, were submitted and noted/approved as necessary.

137. PERTH AND KINROSS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD

The Chief Executive provided members with an update on the recent work of the Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board, as well as information relating to current events and legislation relating to the community planning structure within Perth and Kinross and across Scotland as a whole.

138. TREASURY ACTIVITY AND COMPLIANCE REPORT – 2013/14 – QUARTER 3

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (14/76) providing a summary of Loans Fund transactions for the quarter ending 31 December 2013, and reporting on compliance with the Council's Treasury Management Policy Statement, Treasury Management Practices and the Investment Strategy for the same period.

Resolved:

The contents of Report 14/76, submitted in accordance with the Council's approved Treasury Management Practices, be noted.

139. TREASURY AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2014/15 – 2020/21

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (14/77) detailing the Council's proposed Treasury Strategy and activities and the Prudential Indicators for the seven financial years 2014/15 to 2020/21, and the annual Investment and Property Strategy for 2014/15.

Resolved:

- (i) The seven year Treasury Strategy for 2014/15 to 2020/21, as detailed in Report 14/77 and submitted in accordance with the Council's approved Treasury Management Practices, be approved.
- (ii) The Permitted Investments and Investment Strategy for 2014/15, outlined in Sections 5 and 6 of and detailed in Appendices 3 and 5 to Report 14/77, be approved.

(iii) The Prudential Indicators for 2014/15 to 2020/21, outlined in Section 9 of and detailed in Appendix 5 to Report 14/77, including changing the Authorised Limit for Gross External Debt to £399,000,000, be approved.

140. EMPLOYABILITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (14/78) providing an update on the progress achieved one year on from the approval of the Community Planning Partnership's Employability Strategy and Action Plan (Art. 226/12 refers).

Resolved:

- The progress achieved during the first year of implementation of the Employability Strategy and Action Plan, as outlined in Section 2 of Report 14/78, be noted.
- (ii) The proposed priority actions, as outlined in Section 2.24 of Report 14/78, be approved.

141. CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER ANNUAL REPORT 2013

There was submitted a report by the Chief Social Work Officer (14/79) providing Council with the Chief Social Work Officer's assessment of social work and social care practice within Perth and Kinross in the last year.

Resolved:

The Chief Social Work Officer's Annual Report for 2013, as set out in Appendix 1 to Report 14/79, be approved.

142. FINAL REPORT ON THE FOURTH SCRUTINY REVIEW OF MEMBER OFFICER GROUPS

There was submitted a report by Councillor A Stewart, Convener of the Scrutiny Committee (14/87) setting out the findings of the Scrutiny Committee Review of Member Officer Groups (MOGs) to examine the effectiveness of MOGs and how they could be improved to support the delivery of better outcomes for local communities, based on the scope and terms of reference approved by the Committee on 13 February 2013.

Resolved:

- (i) It be noted that the terms of Report 14/87 had been approved by the Scrutiny Committee on 27 November 2013.
- (ii) It be agreed that reports be submitted to the relevant themed committees as necessary to consider the recommendations of the review as detailed in Section 4.1 of Report 14/87.
- (iii) It be noted that a full progress report on the implementation of the recommendations of the review would be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee in December 2014.

143. DUNDEE, PERTH, ANGUS AND NORTH FIFE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN AUTHORITY (SDPA) – TAYPLAN MAIN ISSUES REPORT

At its meeting on 25 February 2014, the Joint Committee of the TAYPlan SDPA had considered the following documents as a basis for public consultation –

Main Issues Report (MIR) Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Equality Impact Assessment Monitoring Statement

In terms of the Joint Committee's constitution, the MIR and supporting documents required to be ratified by the four constituent Councils by 3 April 2014, to allow public consultation to commence on 15 April 2014. Also, Perth & Kinross Council required to agree to publish the SEA. In terms of the Council's Scheme of Administration, the functions of the Council with regard to the Joint Committee of the TAYPIan SDPA are excluded from the terms of reference of the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee.

Resolved:

- In order to meet the publication timescales, it be agreed to refer approval of the documents and the publication of the SEA to the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee.
- (ii) As this Council has to be the last Council to gain approval, it be agreed that the meeting of the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee scheduled to be held on 26 March 2014 now be held on 2 April 2014 at 2.00pm.
- (iii) It be noted that the consultation period would run from 15 April 2014 until 27 June 2014, and that the Council would have the opportunity to comment during that period.

144. LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND – FIFTH STATUTORY REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Council was advised that the Commission would commence the above review, with proposals on councillor numbers having been published on 21 February 2014. The Commission would be meeting with the Chief Executive, the Leader of the Council and other Group Leaders on 27 February 2014 to discuss the proposals for the Perth and Kinross Council area.

Resolved:

As the statutory 2 month consultation period on the proposals ends on 23 April 2014, and the next scheduled Council meeting is on 7 May 2014, the Chief Executive be authorised, in consultation with the Provost, the Leader of the Council and other Group Leaders, to make arrangements for a special meeting of the Council to be called before 23 April 2014 if required.

145. VALEDICTORY – RETIRAL OF MR DAVID BURKE, DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Provost Grant referred to the retiral of Mr David Burke, Depute Chief Executive and former Executive Director (Housing and Community Care), and paid tribute to his dedicated service he had given to both Perth and Kinross Council during his ten years with the organisation, and local government during his long career. David thanked Provost Grant and elected members for their good wishes and expressed his thanks to all the members of staff and elected members who had supported him throughout his career. Councillors wished David and his family all the very best for the future and an enjoyable retirement.