

# **HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE**

Minute of meeting of the Housing and Communities Committee held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday 23 March 2022 at 9.30am.

Present: Councillors B Brawn, C Ahern, A Bailey, L Barrett, P Barrett, A Jarvis, I Massie, S McCole, T McEwan, C Shiers, F Smith, C Stewart and R Watters.

In Attendance: B Renton, Executive Director (Communities); C Mailer, Depute Director (Communities); E Ritchie, M Dow N Lennon, S Coyle, L Haxton and L Davison (all Communities) and A Taylor, A Brown, M Pasternak and L McGuigan (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Also in Attendance: Chief Superintendent P Davison, Chief Inspector G Binnie, Chief Inspector T Leonard (all up to and including Item 5) (all Police Scotland) and; Area Manager S Wood and Group Commander E Baird (up to and including Item 5) (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service).

Councillor Brawn, Convener, Presiding.

The Convener led the discussion on Items 1-3 and 6-7, and the Vice-Convener on Items 4 and 5.

## **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Convener welcomed all those present to the meeting. There were no apologies submitted.

## **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor C Ahern declared a Non-Financial interest in Item 9 as current Chair of the Community Justice Partnership.

## **3. MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE OF 10 NOVEMBER 2021 FOR APPROVAL AND SIGNATURE**

The minute of meeting of the Housing and Communities Committee of 10 November 2021 was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

Prior to the commencement of the next item, the Convener referenced that this would be Chief Inspector Graham Binnie's last meeting of the Committee before taking up his new promoted post. He paid tribute to the role and substantial contribution Graham had made to the work of the Committee over the last two years and wished him well in his new role. He also welcomed Chief Inspector Tom Leonard to his first meeting.

**VICE-CONVENER TOOK THE CHAIR**

#### **4. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE QUARTER 3 PERFORMANCE REPORT – 1 OCTOBER 2021 TO 31 DECEMBER 2021**

There was submitted a report by Area Manager S Wood, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (22/60) containing performance information relating to the third quarter, (1 October - 31 December 2021) of 2021/22 on the performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

Area Manager Wood and Group Commander Baird answered members' questions thereon. The question and answer session can be viewed via the following **link**.

##### **Resolved:**

The update on operational and community safety engagement activities of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in the Perth and Kinross area during the period 1 October to 31 December 2021, be noted.

#### **5. PERTH AND KINROSS LOCAL POLICING AREA QUARTER 3 POLICE REPORT – 1 OCTOBER 2021 TO 31 DECEMBER 2021**

There was submitted a report by Chief Superintendent P Davison, Police Scotland 'D' Division (Tayside) (22/61) on the performance of Police Scotland against the local policing priorities for the Perth and Kinross area as set out in the Local Policing Plan for the third quarter, 1 October to 31 December 2021.

Chief Superintendent Davison, Chief Inspector Binnie and Chief Inspector Leonard answered members' questions thereon. The question and answer session can be viewed via the following **link**.

##### **Resolved:**

The update on performance of Police Scotland against the local policing priorities for the Perth and Kinross area during the period 1 October to 31 December 2021, be noted.

#### **CONVENER RE-TOOK THE CHAIR AT THIS POINT**

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT P DAVISON, CHIEF INSPECTOR G BINNIE, CHIEF INSPECTOR T LEONARD, AREA MANAGER S WOOD AND GROUP COMMANDER E BAIRD ALL LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

#### **6. COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Head of Culture and Community Services (22/62) providing an update on progress with Community Planning priorities since 10 November 2021.

##### **Resolved:**

The contents of Report 22/14, be noted.

L HAXTON LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

## **7. GYPSY/TRAVELLER SITE TRANSFER REPORT**

There was submitted a report by Depute Director (Communities) (22/63) (1) seeking approval to transfer Double Dykes, one of the two Council owned Gypsy/Traveller sites, from the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), subject to Scottish Government Ministerial consent; and (2) informing that ongoing engagement with the residents at the Council's second site at Bobbin Mill, will continue in order to establish their views and support on proposals to transfer their site to the HRA.

### **Resolved:**

- (i) Subject to the necessary Scottish Ministerial consent, the transfer of the Double Dykes site from the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), be approved.
- (ii) The ongoing dialogue and support as outlined in Section 3.5 for residents at Bobbin Mill and that a future report be submitted to Committee, be noted.

### **Post-Meeting Note:**

Following seeking the necessary Scottish Ministerial consent for the transfer of Double Dykes site from the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). Housing colleagues were advised by the Scottish Government's Housing and Social Justice Directorate that as a travelling persons' site is classed as social rented housing therefore falling within the remit of the general consent and as an appropriate level of consultation had taken place with tenant groups and interested parties there was no necessity to request the consent of the Scottish Ministers for the transfer.